



2020 House of Delegates Meeting  
Saturday, October 10, 2020 – via Zoom  
Approved 10/9/2021

**Call to order** – Chris Kjeldsen 9:05 am

**Roll Call** – Mindy Donofrio

The following teams were not present for the HOD meeting. As per South Texas Swimming Policies and Procedures, these teams may not host a sanctioned or approved meet until the 2021 House of Delegates meeting: ATAC, CLAN, CLUB, COTA, FHD, GLAA, HEAT, MMA, PRGN, RUSH, SAS, WWW.

**Adoption of 2019 Minutes** – Mindy Donofrio

Jessica Evans moved that the minutes from the 2019 HOD meeting be adopted as presented on the website. Motion **PASSED**.

**Audit approval** – Jessica Evans

Jessica Evans presented the internal financial review for the period January 2020 to June 2020. Everything was in order and no recommendations were made. Jessica moved to approve the review as presented. Motion **PASSED**

**Reports of Officers**

**Chris Kjeldsen – General Chair**

Chris attended several USA Swimming leadership meetings via Zoom over the past eight months. South Texas has also conducted several coach meetings via Zoom. USA Swimming is offering health insurance for coaches who apply. 21 teams applied for rebate assistance through South Texas Swimming, as part of the LSC's financial support to teams as a result of the pandemic closures. Mark Parshall was recognized for his service to South Texas Swimming with a Life membership.

**Mary Evelyn Bowling – Safe Sport Chair**

South Texas has 19 teams that have become Safe Sport recognized. South Texas Swimming currently ranks eighth overall out of 59 LSCs for the number of teams recognized in the LSC and third overall for the percentage of teams recognized. In 2021, USA Swimming will require all clubs to become Safe Sport certified. Mary Evelyn will continue her efforts to get all South Texas teams to complete the requirements to attain Safe Sport recognition.

**Mindy Donofrio – Secretary/Membership/Sanction Chair**

USA Swimming is offering a discounted Zoom enterprise license to all teams. South Texas will collect names and send them to USA Swimming for processing. South Texas will invoice the \$120 fee to each team's account.

In 2020, there were a total of 46 clubs and 8,712 members (6,386 year around athletes, 1,781 Flex athletes, 0 Seasonal athletes, 319 coach non-athlete members, 207 official non-athlete members, and 44 other non-athlete members). The LSC's total membership decreased overall, compared to 2019. Registration for the 2021 membership year began early, on June 1, 2020. USA Swimming is planning on conducting online registration for all members at some point during 2021; registration fees will be paid directly to USA Swimming and not to individual clubs or to the LSC.

As of October 1, 2020, there were 46 sanctioned meets for 2020, with 15 meets being canceled due to COVID-19. USA Swimming is allowing unsanctioned meets to be loaded into a separate part of the SWIMS database. All athletes must be members and results for unsanctioned meets should be sent directly to USA Swimming.

## **Proposed Legislation**

### **Proposed Legislation: Flat Rate reimbursement for National Competition - PASSED**

**Proposal:** Simplify the National Competition Reimbursement program to provide a flat rate of travel reimbursement for participating members. The rate would be the sum of the Lodging and Meals & Incidental Expenses rates for the meet location. No receipts would be required. No reimbursement would be given for other expenses (like airfare or entry fees). No other daily 'cap' would be imposed.

Restrictions on member types, days eligible for reimbursement and LSC registration history are unchanged.

#### **Change X.B.f from:**

*Expenses eligible for reimbursement and associated documentation requirements are listed in the table in section I. below.*

#### **To:**

*Members will be reimbursed a flat rate per day equal to the published federal GSA per diem rates for lodging AND M&IE for the meet location. First day/last day limitations will apply for the M&IE rate. No reimbursement will be made for other expenses including transportation, parking and entry fees.*

...and amend comments in the table in Section I accordingly.

#### **Rationale:**

The current National Competition Reimbursement program imposes requirements for significant documentation, calculation and review by the submitting member, sometimes the member's club, and LSC accounting staff. After all that work, the actual reimbursement amount is typically set by the daily cap established by LSC. This change would eliminate most of that documentation effort.

This change has the additional benefit of providing members and the LSC with a predictable fixed amount of reimbursement for planning.

This change has the additional benefit of automatically scaling to provide more assistance at more expensive locations and less assistance at less expensive locations, as well as automatically scaling year-over-year with inflation.

For example, the 2021 rate for Santa Clara, California in June would be \$307 per day. The rate Indianapolis in the same month would be \$184 per day.

Change to Policies and Procedures Section X.

**Sponsor:** Marc Digby

**Proposed Legislation: Limits for reimbursement for National Competition held locally - PASSED**

**Proposal:** The revision of the Policies in 2019 inadvertently omitted the limitation on National Competition Reimbursement held in Texas. This proposal returns those omitted limits.

**Add X.B.g:**

*For competition held within the state of Texas, the flat reimbursement rate will be reduced to half the GSA published rates specified in X.B.f. Members will not be eligible for any reimbursement for competition within 50 miles of their home address.*

**Rationale:**

Competition in Texas will likely still incur travel expense, but overall member expense should be less due to lower transportation cost. Minimal or no travel expenses should be incurred attending competition within 50 miles of home.

Change to Policies and Procedures Section X.

**Sponsor:** Marc Digby

**Schedule of Bid Meets Jessica Evans**

**Jessica Evans made the following motion concerning Short course Championships. – PASSED**

I motion for the House of Delegates to suspend our Policies and Procedures related to championship meets for the 2021 short course season, and assign the Championship Meet Committee with the task of evaluating the current public health conditions, pool availability throughout the LSC, and interest by hosting clubs, and to recommend a plan for conducting the 2021 SC championship meets throughout the LSC in a virtual format. The committee shall establish the event order and set some basic parameters for competition, including how results can be combined for the purpose of awards, the meet format (prelims/finals vs timed finals), the time standards, and the time frame in which meets shall be conducted. The recommendation of the committee shall be submitted to the Board of Directors by December 1 for discussion at the December 8 BOD meeting.

Jessica Evans moved to suspend the rule to post Short Course Championship meets on the ST website by November 15. –**PASSED**

Note: Long Course championship meet information will still need to be posted by April 15.

SC B champs – Assigned to committee  
 SC STX Champs South – Assigned to committee  
 SC STX Champs North – Assigned to committee  
 SC STAGS - Assigned to committee  
 LC STAGS - July 15-18, 2021 – AAAA at Bill Walker Natatorium - **PASSED**.  
 LC STX Champs N/S combined– July 23-25, 2021 – AAAA at Bill Walker Natatorium – **PASSED**

**Treasurer Report** **Marc Digby**

Marc presented the budget report for 2020; South Texas is financially sound and is projected to operate within the BOD’s amended budget as a result of COVID-19. The BOD has instituted multiple points of oversight to ensure accuracy and transparency for the LSC’s finances. The transition to the new Treasurer (Mindy Donofrio) was successfully completed effective January 1, 2020. The transition included development of new LSC Accounting Procedures manual. The outgoing Treasurer’s (Marc Digby) work underwent audit/review in Q1. Two reviews have been completed since the 2019 HOD meeting, both resulting in no issues or discrepancies identified.

Key Items:

- Zones Team Stay at \$500 co-pay (50 athletes)
- Open Water Zones Stay at \$400 co-pay (32 athletes)
- Open water Festival stay at \$400 co-pay (32 athletes) if funded
- Texas Select Camp stay at \$150 co-pay (32 athletes) if funded

National meets eligible for support will include:

- US Olympic Trials (including OW qualifier), Nationals, Junior Nationals, Pro-Series, US Open, USA-S OW Champs, US Paralympics National Champs, Futures, Pro Series, and NCSA Spring & Summer champs
- When one of the above-listed meets is conducted at multiple sites, STSI will only support the site that is most geographically/financially practical for STSI members.

Marc moved to approve the 2021 budget as proposed, including the key items listed above. Motion **PASSED**

**ST Swimming Board of Directors Elections**

The election was done electronically and monitored by Marc Digby.

The following members were elected to the Board of Directors and committee positions.

**General Chairman**

**Chris Kjeldsen FISH**

**Senior Vice Chair**

**Randy Teeters NTRO**

**Junior Coach Representative**

**Mike Witt AAAA**

**Junior Athlete Representative**

**Harold Christianson WAVE**

**Safe Sport Chair**

**Mary Evelyn Bowling**

**UN**

**Admin Board of Review**

**Non-athlete member– Trey Prinz – ASC**

**Non-athlete Member – Alternate – Roric Fink - ASC**

**Athlete member – Abigail Hardy - NTRO**

**Athlete member – Alternate – Abigail Oliphant - SRG**

Jessica Evans moved to destroy all ballots. Motion **PASSED**

**Old Business**

None

**Additional New Business**

Jessica Evans recommends considering an expansion to the STS BOD to include a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) position. The HOD desired to postpone this item for discussion until the 2021 HOD meeting.

A motion was made by Chris Kjeldsen for the next HOD meeting to be conducted on Saturday, October 9, 2021 at the Blossom Athletic Center in San Antonio. The planning meeting will begin at 8am and the general meeting will begin at 9am. The motion **PASSED**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion **PASSED**

Meeting adjourned at 11:51am.