

**STSI Board of Directors Zoom Meeting**  
**Tuesday January 12, 2021**  
**9:00 p.m.**  
**Approved 2/9/2021**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order 9:09 p.m.

**Board Members Present:**

Chris Kjeldsen, Jessica Evans, Randy Teeters, Mindy Donofrio, Mike Witt, Harold Christiansen, Mary Evelyn Bowling, Marc Digby, Mark Parshall, Thomas Wu

**Board Members Absent:**

Kyle Valdez, Bill Spurgeon

**Others present**

Jason Schmeltzer

**Verify Quorum**

A quorum was verified.

**Approval of Minutes**

Chris Kjeldsen moved to pass the December 2020 BOD meeting minutes as posted. Motion **PASSED**.

**Report of BOD Officers**

**General Chair – Chris Kjeldsen**

**(notes from LSC leadership meeting Dec. 10)** Joel Shinofield – Do not violate local laws, USAS is not above local authorities, LSCs enforcement measures-disallow sanction or not allow times in swims. Work to make it feel like a season. Micro-meets appear the way to go.

From Abby Howard Safesport Leaderboard

- |              |                     |               |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1. MD 69.57% | 5. UT 41.94%        | 9. BD 37.50%  |
| 2. FL 52.04% | <b>6. ST 41.30%</b> | 10. PC 37.29% |
| 3. PV 48.00% | 7. SN 39.22%        |               |
| 4. NC 43.75% | 8. IA 38.71%        |               |

What is the closure schedule and that mailbox for LEARN "rescue"?

From Abby Howard to Everyone: 11:43 AM

<https://usaswimmingbrandstore.com/products?s%5Bf%5D%5Bc%5D%5B%5D=%2FSafe+Sport>

Mike Unger-Olympic Trials tickets- Bronze \$65 prelims and finals, group tickets of 20. Goal is Omaha-one site.

1/2 of LSC submitted Bylaws update. New LEAP program being tested right now.

From Cherita Gentilucci to Everyone: 11:58 AM

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/101Zd3EhEYZ6vcwDhafbw93Oo6lymXuGU/view?usp=sharing> LEAP schedule

All notes for USAS since March

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1IMPbWXzXrg2BtzuvE56OFIAIaEbe2TgJ>

Mindy will be setting up BOD zoom meetings. B champs was well attended. 13 teams and approximately 220 athletes participated in the South meet and eight teams and approximately 250 athletes participated in the North meet.

### **Safe Sport Chair – Mary Evelyn Bowling**

Six teams from South Texas have started Safe Sport certification but have not completed it.

### **Old Business**

#### **Logo Redesign**

Chris has yet to receive a response concerning the South Texas logo redesign.

#### **2021 Championship meets**

The board continued to discuss the 2021 Short Course Championship meets and decided to keep the same meet locations for the STX and STAGS meets, with these meets being hosted at three separate sites to continue the goal for smaller sessions and social distancing.

Mark Parshall moved to include 22 and younger athletes at the 2021 Short Course STAGS meet with a qualifying “A” time for the 17-18 age group, so that South Texas athletes training at home could participate. Athletes ages 19-22 must be registered with the South Texas LSC to participate. Motion **passed**.

### **New Business**

#### **Budget**

Marc Digby moved to amend the 2021 budget to the ‘Plus-Up’ version presented in October at the 2020 HOD meeting. The Plus Up budget includes additional funding for some programming (such as the Texas Select meet). Motion **passed**.

#### **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator**

The Governance Committee recommends Jen Smetana, WAVE, for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator. The Board approved this recommendation.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM.

#### **Next BOD Meeting**

February 9, 2021 at 9:00 p.m. via Zoom.

### **Email Vote 1/20/21 from Mindy Donofrio – PASSED**

USA Swimming has passed authority back to the LSCs to make the decision about allowing deck entries during Covid. Mindy moved to approve allowing deck entries at South Texas meets for January and February.

### **Email vote 1/25/21 from Jessica Evans - PASSED**

I want to make sure that there is transparency and it's clear that these recommendations are being made with discussion and collaboration with Surge, the meet host, the Senior Vice Chair, the general chair and the sanction chair, and on a case-by-case basis, as the LSC works through the challenges of hosting champs meets during a pandemic.

Here are the issues:

1. SRG stepped up to host the meet to help the LSC. To make the ST meets financially viable for them, based on their facility expenses and in the context of an unknown number of teams and athletes participating, they need to also host a separate meet in the afternoons.
2. SRG would like to host the STX meet in morning sessions only, age and gender combined, by event, to facilitate their timelines.
3. SRG was expecting to only host this meet over two days (instead of 2.5 days). Upon further discussion, they have worked it out with the rec center so they can run the 1650 on Friday night. The other two distance events (400 IM and 10&U 500 FR) will be held on Saturday and Sunday.
4. The max number of swimmers they agreed to host is 250, so that will be the session limit sizes. (See data below.) If they have more than 250 in a session, they are able to manage the meet in two sessions, if necessary, in the early morning and then later in the morning, and still provide warmups for both groups and cleaning between sessions.

Per SWIMS, the maximum number of athletes from the South teams who could potentially enter this meet is approximately 1740. Per our LSC portal, approximately 20% of these athletes have BB times. Per our data from last year, in terms of the number of athletes actually attending this meet, the percentage is approximately 14% attendance. Based on this data, we estimate that a meet size for the South teams would be somewhere between 250-350 athletes, at the maximum. The number of athletes actually attending could potentially be smaller, but should not be bigger, based on available data (and also based on pretending to have a crystal ball, which we don't really have).

Randy and I would like to move forward with the meet format change, as presented by SRG, so that we can ensure that the athletes in the South are provided with meets. Comments from the South teams attending B Champs at SRG indicates that they ran a successful meet, using this same format.

We would like to sanction the STX South meet, as described, with the BOD's consent, and would like to reassure everyone that the safety of the athletes and the flexibility needed to host these meets to provide that safety are of paramount importance for the end goal of providing opportunities for the athletes to compete.

Our motion (from Randy and me) is to move forward with STX South and STAGS South, as described herein, so these meets can be sanctioned and posted without further delay.

If this motion fails, then the BOD will need to locate another South club to host STX and STAGS South, ASAP.