



2025 Spring House of Delegates Meeting Minutes
Piper Bass Hall, Northeast ISD Campus (San Antonio) or remote via Zoom
Agenda
Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 9:00am

Call to order – Mark Parshall, 9:05am

Roll Call – Roll call was completed via voice for those attending in-person and via Zoom. There were 116 registered delegates and 79 were present (41 votes for majority vote (51%) and 53 votes for bylaws vote (67%)).

Jessica Evans congratulated Didi Byerly as the recipient of the South Texas Swimming Outstanding Service Award. Nominees were collected via a form that was published on the STX website, on the LSC social media channels, and via email reminders to clubs, with the final decision being made by a majority vote of the BOD. Didi was recognized for her many years of service to the LSC as a past board member, official, and Times Officer.

Thank you to Bill Spurgeon for allowing the use of the Piper Bass Hall and for setting up the meeting for our use.

Thank you to Age Group Chair Jennie Lou Leeder, for setting up the athlete clinic being conducted at the Josh Davis Pool during the HOD meeting, for 115 athletes representing 17 STX member clubs.

Thank you to Marcy Parshall for setting up the recertification clinic and coach clinics, which are being held around the HOD meeting for STX coaches.

Thank you to Mark Parshall for picking up and providing breakfast for attendees.

Voting delegates may vote and voting today will be via a show of hands in-person and by using the “raise hand” feature in Zoom. Once we get to the required number of votes, we will stop counting. If we need to conduct any votes by ballot, the link will be sent via email to the voting delegates to the email address provided when registering, with a period of three minutes allowed to submit the vote.

Reports of Officers and Committee Chairs

Mark Parshall – General Chair

Mark opened the meeting with a brief financial statement, indicating that the LSC is in good shape financially, but stock market volatility has resulted in a \$100K loss to the LSC's endowment account in just the past few weeks. Our current budget is in the red due to loss of splash fees from championship and Block Party meets. We will be using our reserve to cover losses. The next budget cycle may require cuts to cover our regular operating expenses. He emphasized that no decision was being made but instead was providing notice of decisions that may need to be made to the next annual budget to cover losses.

Mark recognized Jessica Evans for doing an outstanding job of managing the LSC.

Jessica Evans – LSC Administrator

Jessica noted that the LSC has 8,500 members, and we are starting to see a lot of transfers between clubs and as college athletes return home. Please make sure all of your swimmers are registered with USAS, attached to your club, and in good standing. Our list of coaches and athletes not in good standing is growing quickly. Head coaches now receive notices from USAS 30 days prior for athletes that need to take the APT. All USAS members now receive notices from USAS 30 days prior to their certifications expiring. When you get those reminders, please take care of them right away and make sure they updated on your membership card. If it has been more than 24 hours since completion and a course you completed didn't update, please contact me so I can help. Your athletes need to take their APT on their own USAS login. If they take it using their parent's account, it will not count and it cannot be transferred to their athlete membership. If they take it by creating a login account that they didn't attach to their athlete record, please contact me so I can merge the duplicate account and get it fixed.

We are starting to see meet recons with too many kids who are not registered or who have not renewed. All athletes must be registered with USAS to participate in a USAS member club, and all fees must be paid. Coaches and clubs may not excuse anyone from USAS membership. We don't want to start auditing clubs to ensure that all members and staff are registered, but this is what we will do if we continue seeing so many unregistered members.

As a reminder, your USAS insurance is only valid if all members of your program are registered and in good standing. Please don't assume your facility or anyone else will cover your accidents.

Please complete a Report of Occurrence form any time there is an accident that requires more than a band-aid or a bag of ice. Our LSC has had very few reports filed, compared to its size. It is a requirement of your club membership to file accident reports.

If you need help determining who needs to register or renew, please contact me.

Cody Mackall – Safe Sport Chair

Cody conducted a survey of clubs in the fall about Safe Sport principles and guidelines and found there to be moderate confidence in understanding the Safe Sport program. Electronic communication guidelines were updated in October and Cody reminded everyone to review the new policy to ensure compliance. His survey showed that coaches and officials reported a lack of training and understanding of Safe Sport from parents across the LSC. Cody is looking at ways to raise awareness. If anyone has questions or concerns, please contact Cody.

Adoption of 2024 House of Delegates Minutes

The minutes from the 2024 House of Delegates meeting were posted on the STX website in draft form. A motion was made by Scott Brown and seconded by Phil Davis to approve the minutes from the 2024 House of Delegates meeting on October 5, 2024, with no discussion.

Motion PASSES.

New Business, Resolutions, and Orders

Sean Barry (TST) submitted a request to Mark via email two days prior to the meeting, which was not included in time to be included on the agenda.

Annette DuVall made a parliamentary point of order about allowing new business at a special meeting of the HOD. Clarification was provided that the meeting was called as a regular meeting and not a special meeting, and that new business items are valid.

Sean explained that he is asking the STX HOD to release TST, PLAT, and Bell and Milam counties from the jurisdiction of South Texas Swimming to Gulf Swimming under USAS 602.4. This is his third such request.

A motion was made by Sean Barry and seconded by Doug Ellett to release Bell and Milam counties from the jurisdiction of South Texas Swimming. Several coaches support the release. There were some concerns about Sean's claim that the counties can be divided by a "direct line" to the facilities instead of the entire county being released, because there was no prior documentation submitted to support this information. Members requested verification on the "line" from USAS and also so they could see how the line would change the geography of South Texas Swimming. There were additional concerns about giving up territory, especially along densely populated areas in the current geography of South Texas Swimming. There was general support for the teams leaving but less support for giving up territory.

Sean noted that he would not leave South Texas Swimming under USAS 604.1 to release just the teams because this would mean that his facility would still be in STX. The first motion is to release Bell and Milam counties from the geography of South Texas Swimming. **Motion FAILS.**

A second motion to release TST and PLAT from South Texas Swimming under USAS 604.1 was pulled. Sean indicated that he would continue his request with USAS and legal avenues.

Trey Prinz, Governance Committee Chair, presented the proposed updates to our current LSC bylaws. These changes have already been vetted with USAS and no issues were noted as being disallowed. These changes were included on the meeting notice and agenda.

Proposal to update the bylaws dated and approved 11/11/2024 by USAS as follows:

- i. Add a provision for determining the number of Group Member Representatives for teams formed each year after August 31, regardless of size, to appoint two Non-Athlete members and one Athlete member as voting delegates, with immediate effect. (4.1.1, Page 3)
- ii. Change the date of the annual meeting of the House of Delegates of STSI from the fall to the spring. (4.4.6, Page 4)
- iii. Add an effective date of 11/1/2025 that all positions expiring at the 2026 annual meeting are considered full terms. (4.4.6, Page 4)
- iv. Remove the reference to “Executive Secretary” as this position no longer exists within the organization. (12.4, Page 19)

There was a question about whether the election of officials would move to the new schedule and it was noted that the elections for all positions (including athlete reps) would move to the new spring election cycle.

Mark Parshall made a motion that was seconded by BJ Allenstein to vote on the changes as a block. **Motion PASSES.**

A motion was made by BJ Allenstein and seconded by Phil Davis to vote on the block. **Motion PASSES.** Trey will send the revised bylaws to USAS for approval. Trey noted that the changes will become effective when USAS approves the changes, per USAS policy.

Review of reorganization and housekeeping updates to the South Texas Swimming Policies & Procedures as approved by the BOD. Motion TABLED.

Mike Witt – Questions related to Outreach Athlete policy

Mike Witt explained that as a school district, AAAA is not able to submit additional information about students swimming as Outreach Athletes other than living in the district, which qualifies all residents for the free lunch program. AAAA is not able to ask for individual financial need due to confidentiality concerns. There were concerns about a motion from the DEI Committee made

at the February 2025 BOD meeting that the BOD approved, which excluded residency in a free lunch district as the only verification of individual financial need, under the STX Outreach Athlete policy for swim meet reimbursement fees from the LSC.

Mike Witt made a motion to allow documentation from the school district or coach, whether general or specific, as acceptable documentation of financial need. Second from Nicol Schriner. **Motion PASSES.**

Phil Davis – Boundary lines for Championship Meets

Phil had concerns about the boundary lines for zoning teams to championship meets and understood from the 2024 HOD meeting that 1604 would be the line between north and south, and teams only voted on meet bids according to their zone. BJ Allenstein clarified that the zoning was determined by the Championship Meet Committee, and that all teams voted on all championship meet bids and there was no segregated vote on bids based on team locations.

BJ offered that the Championship Meet Committee would present the zoning prior to meet bids for the 2026 season.

Mark Parshall noted that the zoning for 2025 was spot-on, and the meet sizes between the south and north were equitable.

2025 House of Delegates Meeting Date

A motion was made by Mark Parshall and seconded by Phil Davis to schedule the HOD annual meeting for Sunday, October 5, 2025, in San Antonio, with the provision that the date would be moved only if it conflicted with the USAS Annual Business Meeting. **Motion PASSES.**

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Cody Mackall and seconded by BJ Allenstein. **Motion PASSES.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:48am.