

**Connecticut Swimming, Inc**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday June 13, 2012, 7:30pm**  
**Teleconference**

**Call to Order/Roll Call:** Chris Hug Called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

**Present:** Ed Becker, Hilary Berger, Jordan Berger, George Bradner, Ed Doernberger, Jeff Gray, Todd Gordon, Chris Hug, Rick Lewis, Dave Reilly, Mark Sedlak, Ty Seymour, Judy Snow, Kaeley Steinnagel, Tak Takabayashi

**Not Present:** Bill Ball, Molly Condon, Ed Heath, Lexie Koukos, Coral McNory, Kaz Takabayashi, Mary Wescott

**Also Present:** Lauren Bullock, Jeff Scobee, Nancy Wargo, Nan Cooper

**Agenda:** Chris adds a report on the Eastern Zone meeting. Todd Gordan adds an item on Long Course Venues and Violations. A motion is made and seconded to approve the agenda as amended to include the above items.

**Minutes:** Motion is made and seconded to approve the minutes from April 18<sup>th</sup> 2012. Motion passes.

**Announcements:** Chris is retiring from active involvement in swimming and is thankful for the last 11 years. He has seen progress and has made advances in CSI. He expressed that every good organization makes changes carefully and slowly as a result of caring. There is a wonderful energy from this board to see athletes have better opportunities to swim and to grow. He adds that the change to age groups is a positive change. He is pleased to see the controls in place to be financially viable and careful. There has been a change of mindset to look at the budget process and how we can help clubs to flourish where budget is a planning tool which is good trend. He added that Program Development has been taken to a new level under Jeff Gray's leadership. Chris makes a special thank you to Nan Cooper for the smooth running office that she runs with Ginger McCurdy. Chris thanks Judy Snow for her service and contributions.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**

**Olympic/Para Trials Coach Reimbursement**

A motion is made to support George Bradner's proposal to reimburse coaches who are bringing athletes to Olympic Trials and Para Trials up to a total of \$8500 for non-reimbursable expenses. Per Coach funding is limited to \$500 dollars per club per meet for unreimbursed expenses not covered by the club for a maximum line item of \$8500 for Para and Olympic trials. Motion is made and seconded and approved unanimously. Chris Hug abstained.

The discussion on this topic included:

\*George Bradner suggests increasing the maximum dollar amount from \$300 to \$500 for unreimbursed expenses for coaches which would cover expenses from this fiscal year and include Olympic Trial and Para Trials expenses.

\*This change would increase the budget from \$7500 to \$8500 in total that CSI would allocate to this and to move the budget per club from \$300 to \$500 for unreimbursed expenses. It is also pointed out that for this year, approving 8500 could possibly put us in the red at this time since this is not budgeted but rather is an extraordinary expense.

\*Jeff Gray mentions that we did a last minute responsive action years ago but it wasn't institutionalized into the budget process at that time (2010). There is a problem in approving funds off cycle not during the budget process. We try to be responsive but he wants to know where the people are to get on the phone during the budgeting process. We need to make it part of the budget process!

\* Additional Questions are asked.... What is an unreimbursed expense? Is it for coaches who are unreimbursed from all other sources. At this time we use the honor system. A problematic scenario is for example, "What if a club says we will reimburse a coach all costs minus 500.00 (problem)?" It is suggested that we can ask for receipts which can be part of the implementation. We need to build it in to Todd's work with the Treasurer to verify expenses and have people to turn in receipts and build a process to do so.

**OMNI Surcharge:** Tim Wise requests that the CSI Board of Directors waive the sanction fee of \$894.75, (15% of the visiting team's entry fees) because OMNI was financially harmed as a result of him running his annual meet on an alternate weekend. He claimed that his team forfeited 40-50% in revenues then he would normally take in for this meet due to the fact that he hosted it on an earlier weekend. The background of this discussion is that OMNI runs a meet each April at the same time and has become an important source of revenue for the program. CSI was asked by USA Swimming not to hold a meet that day, leading Tak Takabayashi to request Tim Wise not to bid on a meet for the weekend of April 21. A motion is made, seconded and approved to reimburse Tim Wise for the \$894.75 with the understanding that it is a unique situation and not to be made a precedent.

Passed

### **USAS Convention**

It was suggested that those interested in attending the Convention in Greensboro, NC on September 11 contact Nan. Board members are strongly encouraged to attend and are considered first. Non-Board members, Christine Pelham and Ellen Johnston, who frequently attend the convention have requested that CSI fund their participation for travel expenses. Chris points out that we send representatives to collect information and bring it back to the running and operation of CSI and was concerned that this return would not be there in this instance. It was suggested that they apply for a coach's educational grant to receive funding. Motion is made that the request from Christine Pelham and Ellen Johnston that CSI fund their participation for travel expenses for the USAS Convention is not granted this year. Jeff Gray makes the motion, Kaeley seconds it. Unanimously approved, Chris Hug abstained from vote.

**Ad Hoc Committee for Volunteer of the Year:** Chris requests that we have a member of Senior Committee, Age Group Committee or Technical Planning on this 3 person committee. Names of 2 people should be brought to the first board meeting. Kaeley Steinnagel and Dave Reilly volunteer.

**Eastern Zone Meeting:** Questions are raised about proper use of our LSC funds and questions why the Eastern Zone has so few controls. The amount of money that was needed to run the Eastern Zone meeting at the International Hall of Fame pool was \$3500 less than what they collected. It was retained by the International Hall of Fame because checks were made out to them rather than the Eastern Zone. The Eastern Zone board has promised to get more detail on that. Chris wants to send a letter on behalf of CSI that expresses that the funds paid far exceeds the expenses we used to be there. He wants to also send a letter to USA Swimming to take issue with this and to request that the \$3500 be put back into the zone budget. Rick Lewis and Ty Seymour share update.

### **Long Course Venues and Violations: Todd Gordon:**

**Violations: Todd Gordon** He questions the overall equity and availability to swimming at our LSC and questions whether it is fairly distributed and asks whether our policies with bidding, the structure and running of meets are what the policies says it should be. He observes that there is contention to enter meets and further that they are closing after 3 days of trying and asks why are teams in Connecticut shut out and out of town teams getting in? He is concerned that our clubs should follow our own policies and rules and claims that currently CSI policies have no teeth. He wants to levy financial sanctions on clubs who don't follow meet announcements. Jeff Gray points out that no one has ever filed a protest or complaint for being closed out of a meet, Tak reminds the board that similar complaints about any team in our LSC may be filed with the board of review. Tak Takabayashi is currently working to improve the situation. Further Todd Gordon's suggestions will be considered by Program Operations and/or Program Development to see if further proposals should be made. Nan will send the 2003 proposal that was defeated to Tak Takabayashi.

**Long Course Venues:** Kaeley has done much work on this in past and Program Development will continue to do so. Kaeley expressed that their focus has mostly been on Short Course and that Long Course does requires more attention with regards to finding more venues. East Hartford pool can now be rented by anyone for a meet.

Jeff Gray wants to see all of the above addressed in committee, not at board meeting.

### **Reports of Officers;**

General Chair Report – Chris Hug –none added

Administrative Vice Chair – Rick Lewis – none added

Treasurer: Mary Wescott - absent

Finance Vice-Chair – Todd Gordon –none added

Age Group Committee Chair: Dave Reilly- done with age group championships, passed to bring 2 heats of finals back to LC

Senior Committee Chair – Bill Ball -absent

Program Development Vice-Chair – Jeff Gray none added

Program Operations Vice Chair – Tak Takabayashi – mentions the Zone IMX meet

Technical Planning Committee Chair – Kaeley Steinnagel – none added

Coach Representatives: Matt Hurst/ Mark Sedlak –none added

Athlete Representatives – Kaz Takabayashi/Ty Seymour/Jordan Berger/Coral McNary - none added

Coach-at-Large – George Bradner none added

Safety Committee Chair – Ed Heath none added

Officials Committee Chair- Ed Becker none added

Registration/Membership Coordinator – Judy Snow none added

Meeting Adjourned at 10:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Hilary Berger

