

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
March 16, 2021
7:30 PM

Call to Order/Roll Call: General Chair, Rick Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

Board Members: Rick Lewis, Jeff Sargent, Nick Cavaturo, Kaeley Steinnagel, Lauren Lazar, Maddie Haley, Mark Wollen, Duffy Mudry, Dave Pite, Kathleen and Davide Mendonca, Emily Fox, Rob Bouchey, Susan Lecza, Dave Modzelewski, Dennis Flores, Kristen Finnigan, Ronnie Vaughan, Thomas Dupont, David Heller, Greg Pinchbeck, Jen Lyman, Claire Michalik, Ellen Johnston, John Scaldini

Absent Board Members: Finn Henry, Meghan Lynch

Other Present: Nan Cooper

Approval of Agenda

MOTION made to adopt the Agenda as distributed

Passed unanimously

Adoption of Minutes from February 16, 2020 Board Meeting

MOTION made to revise the Minutes from February 16, 2020 meeting, as distributed.

General Chair Announcements, Rick Lewis

USA Swimming Updates

- Everything is moving forward as scheduled. No changes. Looking forward to Olympic Trials, Tokyo and Futures meets.
- Eastern Zone meeting coming up
- Ellen reported that sectionals will be held in Virginia. The open water championships hopefully will be solidified next month.
- Reverting to original time standards for sectionals- The qualifying standards are easier.

CT Swimming Updates

- Governor Lamont is lessening the restrictive guidelines. It was formalized that looking at swim teams- don't need to have 4 person co-horts anymore.
- Need to maintain tight attendance for contact tracing (and who is in what lane)
- Masks and social distancing still mandatory
- Still recommended to run from both sides of the pool, not to have 6/7 swimmers on one end.
- Must maintain 6 feet in the pool, especially at the wall.
- Rules for outdoors are different from indoors- but have to maintain distance
- Rules might change as of May 1st.

OLD BUSINESS

- Scholar Athlete Meet Participation Requirement for 2020-2021- tabled for future meeting. Suggestions are welcome. Please e-mail the suggestions to the board. We should honor our athletes from 2020-2021.

- Governance committee appointments not complete yet. No athletes on committee as of today. Nan put a blurb on the website to try to get athletes interested. As of today there is one athlete interested. He is a junior in high school and appointments are for 3 years. Should stagger the appointments to each year of the 3 years that way they don't all expire at the same time. There will be less turnover. Need slate of nominees for HOD meeting in May.
- Motion to the redesign of the CT Swimming logo was approved by email vote on February 26, 2021. The motion was approved with a 2/3 majority vote. Greg Pinchbeck reported that the logo redesign committee has met a couple of times with the creative team at USA Swimming. Went through pros and cons of the current logo. Went back to USA Swimming but it is a busy time so it will take 8 weeks to come back to us with some options. Then will set up a meeting to hear their input and then will come back to the board for a review and a vote. Will take cost into consideration as well- website etc. The logo redesign committee members are Greg Pinchbeck, Jen Lyman, Maddie Haley (athlete), Dennis Flores, Emily Fox (athlete), Dave Modzelewski, and Jeff Sargent.

NEW BUSINESS-

- Addressing inclusion and needs of CT Swim low resource clubs. It has been a different and difficult. Low resources doesn't always mean no officials. It can mean they have little or no access to water. Might not have a pool or maybe a few lanes. Now that CT is less restrictive- some places have many programs that use the pool, so it is difficult to have pool time for a meet. They can't cancel their programs to lose that revenue. Some places- management won't allow outside teams inside their facility. Getting more requests to run multiple team meets. Need to come up with parameters or tentative dates emerging out of RTC. We also need technical planning to come up with a plan to come out of RTC into meet schedule for the upcoming season. Don't know what it will look like. SC, LC, combination of the two. Will there be championship meets or a leaderboard maybe if can't hold that. There are still restrictions at different facilities for the number of swimmers that is allowed which makes it challenging.
 - Jen Lyman- hoping to have a plan for the upcoming season and distributed at April Board meeting. Hoping to have some options. The LC season usually starts around May 1st. It would be nice to start a schedule around Mother's Day.
 - Mark Wollen- more input and more thoughts the better. Would like to have a LC season, and having some deadlines in place would be helpful. Inquiries are out to some facilities, but it is tough to make commitments. At least it is not a "no".
 - Wesleyan has confirmed that the pool is closed until the fall.
 - Some teams still have no water and can't hold RTC meets. Some teams are displaced and some teams are not happening at all. Some teams like MAC, SOCO are still out of the water. Some are in the water but not in their facility. Jeff suggested to send a survey out to the teams in CT
 - Dave Pite- Some of the LC season will be swum as SC. Hopefully come May 1st- could be a target date and waiting for the health department. Once we get more guidance from USA Swimming and State of CT then we can lift restrictions. Have to wait for the health department- hopefully by May 15th.
 - Uptick in COVID in CT- up to 5%, might have a surge in April.
 - As of March 19th- Restrictions are lifted- still need to social distance, stay 6 feet apart. No more co-horts. Coaches should be taking attendance and know what lanes their swimmers are in to trace if need be.
 - Nick- Opportunity for teams to go to meets at other facilities might be limited. Maybe putting a cap on RTC meets might be premature. Maybe we should evaluate every board meeting.

Financials: Treasurer Sue Lecza reported minimal activity and expenses vs income are about even.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND COORDINATORS:

General Chair Report- Rick Lewis

Administrative Vice Chair- Jeff Sargent

Treasurer- Susan Lecza- There has been minimal activity. Registration and Admin expenses.

Finance Vice-Chair- vacant

Age Group Committee Chair- Dave Modzelewski- joint committee meeting coming up for next season.

Senior Committee Chair- Rob Bouchey-week from tonight- emergency age group and senior meeting.

Technical Planning Committee Chair- Kaeley Steinnagel

Program Development Vice- Chair- Mark Wollen- surcharge question.

Officials Committee Chair- Dave Pite- RTC meets are going well. Slight uptick in re-registration for officials. Planning for April- to have virtual/live clinics for new stroke/turns. Survey shows that people are interested. Hopeful that by the end of April will be able to shadow on deck.

Operational Risk Coordinator- Duffy Mudry

Coach Representatives- Kristen Finnegan/Ronnie Vaughan

Athlete Representatives- Claire Michalik/ Emily Fox- will start working on elections for the next round of reps.

Safe Sport Coordinator- Greg Pinchbeck

Coach-at-Large- Nick Cavataro- continuing to work with the task force.

Registration/Membership Coordinator- Kathleen/Davide Mendonca- importance of timing your flex registrations. If you swam in a meet in 2020- it counts towards their 2 meets for flex. USA Swimming adjusting registration dates so 2020 dates don't count towards 2021 flex meets.

Zone Team Coordinator- John Scaldini

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion- Dennis Flores- meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

DISCUSSION

Rule books question -Every team gets a rule book. \$13/each. You can download the rule book. Meet refs should have access to a rule book. Around 40 meet refs in total.

The next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20th at 7:30 pm via Zoom.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Lazar

Secretary