

## DRAFT

### CONNECTICUT SWIMMING, INC.

#### Board of Directors

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

7:30 pm, High Plains Community Center, Orange, CT

*Vision Statement: Connecticut Swimming...better life through swimming.*

*Mission Statement: Connecticut Swimming promotes the pursuit of excellence in swimming and in life through competition and education.*

### MEETING MINUTES

**Call to Order:** General Chair, Ellen Johnston called the meeting to order at 7:50 pm.

**Present:** Graham Bodner, Gordon Brown, Ed Doernberger, Kristen Finnegan, Maddie Haley, David Heller, Ellen Johnston, Susan Lecza, Jen Lyman, Claire Milchek, Duffy Mudry, Matt Pohlman, Dave Reilly, Kaeley Steinnagel, Mark Wollen

**Present via Speaker Phone:** Joan Lynch (late), Meghan Lynch (late)

**Not Present:** Kyle Brown, Todd Gordon, Ken Gray, Rick LaFrenierre, Rick Lewis, Richard Nolan, Jason Paige, Rob Riccobon, Jim Robison, Suzannah Rogers, John Scaldini,

**Also Present:** Greg Pinchbeck, Nan Cooper

#### **Approval of Agenda/Additions to Agenda**

Amendments put forth:

1. USA Swimming Lifetime Memberships
2. Swimposium Update
3. T-shirt vendor for championship meets.

**MOTION** made to accept the amended agenda. Passed unanimously.

#### **Adoption of Minutes from April 30, 2019 Meeting**

Amendments put forth:

Housekeeping spelling corrections and club affiliations.

Remove Nominating Committee attendance comments.

**MOTION** made to adopt the minutes as amended Passed unanimously.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Review of Board of Directors Statement of Principles**

Mark Wollen expressed his concerns that CSI is in violation of the #4 guideline (below) by reimbursing hotel accommodations for Senior and Age Group Championship meet referees/officials.

4. Gifts, cash, travel, hotel accommodations, entertainment, or favors are neither to be given nor received, except those of nominal value exchanged in the normal course of business. Gifts and favors of more than one hundred dollars (\$100) value should not ordinarily be accepted. If circumstances render it awkward to refuse such a gift, the donor should be thanked and told the gift is being accepted on behalf of and will be delivered to USA Swimming/CSI.

Mark also stated that meet referees are accepting hotel accommodations, gift cards, etc. from club meet hosts. Concern was expressed that if the host is paying or providing gifts to a meet referee it may appear as a conflict or the referee could be perceived as biased. Ellen Johnston convened a task force to review CSI's Statement of Principles. Members are Ed Doernberger, David Heller, and Mark Wollen.

#### **USA Swimming Flex Membership – Ellen Johnston**

Ellen Johnston updated the Board regarding USA Swimming's FLEX membership. The USA Swimming software is in place. The fee is \$40 (\$20 to USA Swimming and \$20 to CSI). The expectation is the members paying "premium" membership (full year; no limitations) will opt for FLEX with limitations (max of 2 CSI sanctioned meets, championships excluded, no recognition programs.) A straw poll was taken at the May 2019 House of Delegated meeting indicating club support. Ellen reminded the Board that FLEX membership will be optional to clubs.

**MOTION** made to adopt FLEX membership type. Passed unanimously.

#### **Governance Committee and Governance Seminar Update – Ellen Johnston**

Jane Grosser, USA Swimming LSC Governance Consultant, will hold a workshop for the Board of Directors on the afternoon of Saturday, September 21, 2019. Location TBD. The Official's annual meeting will be held that morning. Ellen asked that all Board members attend.

#### **Meet cancellation procedure/policies/penalties – Mark Wollen**

Mark Wollen, Program Operations, expressed concern about the cancellation of meets due to low entry numbers and/or projected low host revenue. Under the current policy, the penalty for meet cancellation without Program Operations approval is a maximum of \$300 (sanction deposit). Proposed changes:

- After 5 years offenses will disappear
- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense – Surrender \$300.00 deposit and fine of additional \$1700.00 Total \$2000.00
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense – Same fine as above & Organization will not be able to submit any bids the following season
- Any additional Offenses will be handled in same manner as 2<sup>nd</sup> offense
- Program Operations will be responsible for tracking and removing offenses after 5 years.

After discussion the following clarifications and changes were made to the original proposal:

- Offenses will remain on an organization's record for 3 years instead of 5 years.
- 1st offense was changed to \$300 sanction deposit surrender and a fine of an additional \$700. Total \$1,000.
- 2nd offense financial penalty was changed to \$300 sanction deposit surrender and a fine of an additional \$1700 (Total \$2,000) and the organization cannot submit a bid for the following 2 consecutive seasons.
- No change: Program Operations will be responsible for tracking and removing offenses.
- Clarification: the current cancellation policy will remain unchanged except for the penalty.
- Meets published on the final CSI sanctioned and approved meet calendar are subject to the penalty.

**MOTION** made to adopt the proposed penalties the CSI sanctioned and approved meet cancellation policy with changes and clarifications. Passed unanimously.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Wesleyan July 5-7 weekend update – Jen Lyman**

Jen Lyman, Program Development, reported that a CSI-sponsored 1500M Distance qualifier will be held July 6. CSI is offering a training opportunity to clubs by making Wesleyan LC pool lanes available for

rental on Friday evening, Saturday afternoon, and Sunday. Masters Swimming has indicated interest in renting lanes under this program.

#### **Wesleyan proposed donation/BioOx air cleaners – Mark Wollen**

In an effort to improve air at Wesleyan University and improve the environment for CSI members, Mark Wollen, Program Operations, is proposing a \$13,000 purchase of BioOx air cleaners to be installed at Wesleyan University. Wesleyan would support/maintain the units. \$13,000 would include 6 units, delivery and training, etc. BioOX allows 30 days to evaluate. Negative anecdotal feedback was received from some attendees at the Junior National meet held at University of Tennessee where BioOx cleaners were on deck. Discussion included whether Wesleyan has had an airflow study, UV system as another option, and to speak with locations currently using BioOx units. The Board asked for more information and to review the proposal from BioOx. Mark will send out all the information he has to the Board and follow up on suggestions.

#### **Lifeguards for non-championship meets – Duffy Mudry/Jim Robison**

Duffy Mudry, Operational Risk, reviewed the recent Board decision to require Age Group and Senior Championship meet venues to provide lifeguards. Regarding a lifeguard requirement at other meets, it was decided that lifeguards would not be required (unless required by the venue) and meet hosts are obliged to be sure that coach members in attendance at meets have up-to-date Coach Safety Training.

#### **House of Delegates fall meeting date – Ellen Johnston**

The fall meeting of the House of Delegates will be held 7:30pm, Tuesday, September 24, 2019. Location TBD.

#### **United State Aquatic Sports (USAS) Convention – Ellen Johnston**

Ellen Johnston, General Chair, spoke to the importance of the USAS Convention. Ellen, Greg Pinchbeck, Graham Bodner, Matt Pohlman, Davide Mendonca, and Kathleen Mendonca plan to attend. Interested but pending availability are Jen Lyman and Sue Lecza.

#### **Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy (MAAPP) update – Greg Pinchbeck**

Greg Pinchbeck, Safe Sport Coordinator elect, updated the Board re his early transition to Safe Sport Coordinator due to June's rollout date of MAAPP. This was announced to the clubs via email and website postings. Greg has recently reminded clubs of deadlines and to review the MAAPP changes affecting club travel policies. In addition to review, clubs will have to adjust their handbooks, etc. 18 and older athletes are required to take Athlete Protection Training (ATP) in addition to acknowledging MAAPP. Deadline for 18/older athlete ATP is July 23, 2019. Greg reviewed with the Board: ATP can be taken early and before becoming a USA Swimming member; non-members can take the training; there are expectations that USA Swimming and US Center for Safe Sport will come forward with more changes and; meets held the weekend of June 21-23 will not be affected. Regarding meets, briefing for all volunteers or some way of communication to applicable adults that they are aware of and have acknowledged MAAPP. Greg has met with a few clubs/coaches and continues to field questions.

#### **CSI Financials – Sue Lecza**

Sue Lecza, Treasurer, reports current fiscal year finances are strong. Revenues continue to be higher compared to previous FY because Wesleyan required advance deposits of pool rental, an elite senior training camp was held, and SC Zone Team travel assistance was paid out. 2019 membership income is up due to increased fees; number of athlete members is down. Surcharge remains similar to previous FY.

#### **Lifetime USA Swimming membership – Ellen Johnston**

Ellen Johnston, General Chair, reviewed the USA Swimming Lifetime membership which is a way LSCs may honor individual members. Lifetime memberships are presented annually at the USAS Convention and the one-time cost is \$1,000. Ellen would like to create an ad hoc committee to review lifetime

memberships as a form of recognition and establish criteria. She suggested Henk Jansen and Rick Lewis serve on this committee.

### **Swimposium Update – Matt Pohlman**

Matt Pohlman, Coach at Large, is organizing a Swimposium with a tentative date in spring of 2020. CSI is eligible to have a USA Swimming Swimposium whereby USA Swimming largely subsidizes the event, establishes the workshop curriculum, and secures presenters. There are tracks for coaches, officials, parents, and athletes. Matt asked board whether they (CSI) would like to host its own Swimposium independent of USA Swimming or go with USA Swimming. Concerns were expressed about whether USA presenters will be independent of USA S or will be presenting USA's ideas only. Concern was noted about the Spring 2020 date because of the pending Olympic Trials interfering with speaker availability. The Board indicated it leaned toward an independent Swimposium with CSI selected presenters. Graham Bodner will work with Matt Pohlman.

### **Championship T-Shirt Vendor – Ellen Johnston**

Ellen Johnston was approached by Fine Designs. The Board decision was to continue working with vendor Northwest Designs for CSI championship meets t-shirts.

### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

*Reports given:*

Age Group Committee Chair – Gordon Brown: Gordon reported that the Age Group Championship meet announcement is done/posted. His committee will be again soon to discuss the 2-meet format for 2020 SC Age Group Championships.

Technical Planning Committee Chair – Kaeley Steinnagel: Kaeley reports that the technical suit ban for 12/U athletes is posted on ctswim.org. She is unable to find a list of banned suits on usaswimming.org

Program Operations Co-Vice-Chair – Suzannah Rogers/Mark Wollen: Mark reported that he has begun to form a Program Operations Committee commencing September 1, 2020. Proposed members are Dave Pite, Jim Robison, Luis Tejeda, and Yolanda Jahan. Mark will present the committee to the General Chair and Board in September.

Meeting was adjourned at 10pm.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Nan Cooper*