

DRAFT

Connecticut Swimming Program Development Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2011 7:30 pm via Teleconference

In Attendance: Jeff Gray (Chair), Bill Ball, Chris Hug, Dan Mascolo, Kaeley Steinnagel, King Lee, Bob Shearer, Lexi Koukos, John Spadafina

Absent: Peter Boucher, Mike Huffman, Cooper Kearns, Joanne Lindberg

Also in Attendance: Nan Cooper, Jo Ann McCaffrey, Kaz Takabayashi, Tak Takabayashi

Meeting called to order @ 7:35 PM

- Approval of Agenda: motion made, seconded, motion approved.
- Approval of Minutes April 11, 2011: motion made to approve second; motion approved.

Committee Reports:

Senior Committee

- Committee recently met and discussed SC 2012 time standards. The 2012 standards will remain the same as they were for 2011.
- Discussed 2012 SC Championship meet dates. The dates Wesleyan provided are too close to the sectional meet assuming sectionals are the third week in March. The committee would like Senior Championships to be ~2.5 weeks prior to sectionals. The committee will look for another venue and in parallel Nan will contact Wesleyan and inquire about an earlier weekend. This possibly would put Age Groups in the middle of March, after Regionals. It was agreed to determine a championship schedule at the June 7th Program Development Committee meeting.

Age Group Committee

- The Committee met May 9, 2011 via teleconference. The review of the zone policy was tabled until the June meeting.
- LC Regional Championship time standards and meet announcement. No third site for LC 13/18 Regional Championships is available. This leaves 2 meets and the time standards will be adjusted to accommodate 2 meets. It was decided to approve minimum qualifying times for 200 events and longer. 12/U Regional Championships will be held at 3 sites and there will be no minimum qualifying times for the 50 and 100 events, 200 free, and 200 IM events. The Regional meet announcement will be updated to include housekeeping changes, uniform session times for all 12/U meets, and updated minimum time standards.
- 2012 SC Age Group Championship time standards were tabled until the June meeting.

Technical Planning Committee

- Kaeley has nothing new to report. Technical Planning will meet next week to discuss the direction it will go so as not to overlap with other committees' planning.

Old Business

- Diversity camp update: 2 coaches and 9 athletes have applied. Response has been good and CSI will attend with the Diversity/Outreach Chair, 2 coaches, and 2 athletes.

- Search continues for Adapted Swimming Committee chair. Several contacts have been made but none agreed to serve. No other contacts were brought forth at this meeting.
- Technical Planning request for ideas regarding championships: None made.

New Business

- LC Regional Championship Time Standards: Time standards are based on 3 meets for 12/U athletes resulting in no minimum qualifying times for 50M events, 100M events, 200M free, and 200M IM. Time standards are based on 2 meets for 13/18 athletes resulting in minimum qualifying times for all 200M events and longer. The minimum time standards were reviewed (attached). Motion made, seconded, and approved.
- LC Regional Meet Announcement: Changes are housekeeping items: locations, updated minimum time standards (see above), and host clubs. No meet policy changes except the 12/U sites will all begin with a 7 am warm-up and 8 start. Motion made, seconded, and approved.
- 2012 SC Championship Meet Schedule: Tabled until June meeting due to the unavailability of the Eastern Zone sectional meet date.
- 2012 SC Age Group Time Standards: Tabled until the June meeting. Age Group Committee will develop standards for its June 1 meeting and bring to Program Development.
- 2012 SC Senior Championship time standards will remain the same as 2011 SC Senior Championship meet. Motion made, seconded, and approved.
- Championship meet proposal for SC Age Group Championships was discussed.
 - Experiencing growth and looking for ways to handle increasing numbers of athletes.
 - Change Short Course Age Group Championships to a 14/U meet.
 - Keep meet smaller for the parents of 10/U athletes.
 - 11/12 could rest before finals.
 - Proposal passed Age Group Committee but contingent on Senior Committee endorsement. Senior Championship meet would absorb the 15/18 group. Senior cuts would be revised.
 - Concerns about the senior meet growing too large.
 - Suggestion to move 15/18 to a timed final in the afternoon with the 10/U.
 - Significant enough change that if passed, the Board of Directors, would likely need to review and approve also.
 - Senior and Age Group Committees will try to meet soon to discuss jointly.
 - Review numbers of 15/18 athletes with qualifying times in both meets.
 - Proposal will come back to Program Development's June meeting. Senior Committee will review numbers, compare to time standards, and develop time standards if proposal goes through. Age Group Committee has previously approved the proposal and invites the Senior Committee to join their June 1 meeting.

June 7, 2011 Agenda Items:

- 2012 SC Championship meet schedule (review of available dates, alternative venues and sectional dates; final confirmation of 2012 CSI championship dates).
- Zone Policy
- 2012 SC Championship meet time standards (Age Group)
- CSI SC Age Group Championship Meet Proposal (All)

Motion made, seconded and approved for meeting adjournment at 10 PM

Submitted by,
Nan Cooper, Administrator

Attachments:
Regional LC min time stds
Championship proposal

2011 LC Regional Championship Minimum Time Standards (proposed)

10 & under Girls				10 & under Boys		
SCY	SCM	LCM		SCY	SCM	LCM
6:09.99	6:52.94	7:02.36	500 free	7:39.99	6:42.24	6:56.24
11-12 Girls				11-12 Boys		
6:39.99	5:49.95	5:59.70	400/500 free	6:44.99	5:54.32	6:06.51
23:59.99	23:55.68	24:36.91	1650/1500 free	24:59.99	24:55.50	25:54.39
3:07.99	3:29.81	3:39.36	200 back	3:19.99	3:43.20	3:55.56
3:29.99	3:54.36	3:59.17	200 breast	3:39.99	4:05.52	4:16.40
3:22.99	3:50.41	3:50.41	200 fly	3:29.99	3:54.36	4:02.48
6:09.99	6:52.94	7:02.36	400 IM	6:19.99	7:04.10	7:19.29
13-14 Girls				13-14 Boys		
SCY	SCM	LCM		SCY	SCM	LCM
2:23.49	2:37.99	2:40.09	200 free	2:24.74	2:41.49	2:47.24
6:04.49	5:18.89	6:27.78	400/500 free	6:08.49	5:22.49	5:30.49
12:39.99	11:15.99	11:42.99	800/100 free	12:39.99	11:15.99	11:30.99
21:29.99	11:15.99	11:42.99	1500/1650 free	21:44.99	21:41.09	22:32.32
2:43.49	3:02.47	3:10.77	200 back	2:53.24	3:13.49	3:24.24
3:04.99	3:26.46	3:30.69	200 breast	3:12.99	3:35.49	3:44.99
2:59.99	3:20.88	3:24.30	200 fly	3:00.99	3:21.99	3:29.44
2:40.99	2:59.68	3:03.19	200 IM	2:42.49	3:01.35	3:04.63
5:34.99	6:13.87	6:22.41	400 IM	5:38.99	6:18.49	6:32.24
15 -18 Girls				15 -18 Boys		
SCY	SCM	LCM		SCY	SCM	LCM
2:20.49	2:36.80	2:35.99	200 free	2:15.99	2:31.77	2:37.21
5:57.49	5:12.76	5:21.48	400/500 free	5:39.99	4:57.45	5:07.68
12:09.99	10:49.49	11:27.99	800/100 free	11:49.99	10:31.99	11:01.49
20:52.49	20:48.74	21:24.61	1500/1650 free	20:54.99	20:51.24	21:40.51
2:41.49	3:00.24	3:08.49	200 back	2:38.99	2:57.49	3:07.49
3:04.99	3:26.46	3:30.69	200 breast	2:55.99	3:16.42	3:25.12
2:49.99	3:09.72	3:12.95	200 fly	2:44.99	3:04.14	3:10.52
2:39.99	2:58.56	3:04.53	200 IM	2:34.99	2:52.98	3:00.85
5:29.99	6:08.29	6:16.70	400 IM	5:20.99	5:58.24	6:11.09

CSI Championship Meet Proposal

Goals:

- Conduct fun, LSC level championship meets conducive to excellent swimming.
- Promote a sound and logical championship progression from Age Group to Senior swimming in CT.
- Prepare CT swimmers for Senior Level swimming beyond the LSC (Zones, Jr./Sr. Nationals, Olympic Trials, US Opens, College, etc.)
- Obtain long-term alignment with top ranking LSCs (defined by virtual club championship rank)

Connecticut Swimming Inc. has seen significant growth in athlete membership over the past 10+ years. This growth has been a great boost for the sport of swimming in CT. This growth however, presents challenges to conducting LSC level championship meets, in particular a single meet that can serve all levels (10/U, 11-12, 13-14, and 15/18 year olds) of swimming at the LSC, namely the current Age Group Championship Meet. The most recent SC Age Group Championship Meet was once again a great meet, but the crowding on the deck and in the stands and parking lots was at times bordering on unsafe and certainly an annoyance to spectators, athletes and coaches. The crowding and timeline issues that it brings take away from the true focus of the meet which should be fun and excellent swimming.

With this in mind as well as an overall desire to produce an age group program that educates and prepares swimmers for Senior Level swimming in CT and at Zone and National level meets, the following comprehensive proposal for the Championship Meets is being made:

Regional Championships: *Changes proposed by others yet to be implemented*

There does not seem to be much of a consensus that additional changes are needed at the Regional Championship Meet Level. Recent acceptance of time standards and the addition of a third location for LCM is an attempt to solve issues of overcrowding. These changes should be given 2 years before looking at them again.

Age Group Championships: *Comprehensive Changes*

1. Change the meet to a 14 and Under meet. With the following Sessions:
 - Thursday Night 14/U Distance Events
 - Fri, Sat, Sun Mornings 11/12 and 13/14 Preliminaries
 - Fri, Sat, Sun Afternoon 10/U Timed Finals
 - Fri, Sat, Sun Evenings 11/12 and 13/14 Finals
2. Prepare a plan to evaluate and adjust qualification times for 11/12 and 13/14 year olds (likely tightening progressively) to establish a balance between timeline, opportunities for

swimmers, and the desire for a highly competitive meet. These proposed changes are intended to due the following:

- Promote morning/evening pattern of championship meets earlier in the athlete's progression.
- Allow 11-12 year olds to receive adequate rest and nutrition between prelim and finals sessions, currently only 30 min-1 hour between the end of prelims and the start of Finals warm up.
- Allow 10/U to use the full 9 lane course with the addition of breaks, which could include medal ceremonies where the athletes are stepped up on the podium or blocks for their awards.
- Reduce overcrowding on the pool deck, in the parking lot and in the stands, especially during the transition from morning to afternoon session.
- Put CT in line with more successful LSCs (defined by virtual club championship rankings).
- Define Age Group Swimming in CT as 14/Under.
- Eliminate delays in producing the evening finals meet program, which would be finalized during the 10/U session.

Senior Championships: *Changes to times standards to accommodate a transition*

The recent adoption of the 4 swimmer championship final format appeared to increase competition during prelims. This format or a modified version (if a new pool configuration is possible after Wesleyan upgrades) should be continued.

However, the following changes should be instituted at the Senior Championships in order to accommodate swimmers that will no longer be eligible to compete at Age Groups:

1. Change the 2012 SC Senior qualification times to the easier of either:
 - a. The current Senior qualification time; or
 - b. The current 15-18 Age Group qualification time
2. Prepare a plan to evaluate and adjust qualification times (likely tightening progressively) to establish a balance between timeline, opportunities for swimmers, and the desire for a highly competitive meet.

These proposed changes are intended to due the following:

- Allow swimmers that are currently making a transition from AG to Senior swimming the opportunity to improve with the Senior Championship time standards and not be alienated from an LSC level championship meet due to the changes proposed for AG Championships.

Summary

Elements of this proposal have been discussed previously dating to many years ago with varying levels of support. CSI is at a point now however, where we need to take a long term approach to the planning of the championship meets. We have been reactionary, but I feel it is now time to be proactive. This proposal is submitted with the intent of working toward a full quadrennial plan for CSI following the 2012 Olympics to align with USA Swimming and other successful LSCs.

It is my belief that if we implement this plan in the near future and continue with this format through 2016 we will increase the number of swimmers CSI has qualifying for Jr/Sr Nationals, US Opens and Olympic Trials. A shift in the conventional way of thinking is sometimes hard to accept. However, our membership has never been so high and we are coming up to an Olympic year when we can once again expect our numbers to grow.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan Mascolo