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Connecticut Swimming

Program Development Meeting
Minutes of October 13, 2010
Teleconference
7:00 pm

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

Absent: Dan Mascolo and Mike Huffman

Also present: Nan Cooper

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm

Chair Jeff Gray asked for additions to the agenda. None presented.

Chair Jeff Gray asked members to review the minutes from the May 11, 2010 meeting.

Committee Reports:

Senior Committee:

Christian Higgins was named Athlete of the Year.

Athlete Travel has been approved by the Board of Directors for 2010.

Proposed changes to the 2011 SC Senior Championships were presented (attached) and discussed.

- the meet should “mirror” the spring sectional meet. The events should be contested in the same order as those at the spring sectional meet.
- the 400 IM and 500 free be contested in accordance with the national meet suggestions. For ex. The top 4 heats be swum slowest to fastest (pyramid seeding the final 3 heats), followed by the remaining heats fastest to slowest while alternating women and men.
- change the format of finals in order to promote faster preliminary swimming and create more excitement in finals. The top 3 heats for finals will be swum in the following format:
 - C Final-Athletes 14-22
 - B Final-Athletes 5-13
 - A Final-Athletes 1-4The scoring will be the same (top 16) but points can be awarded in every finals heat not just the A and B Final. The committee determined by only allowing 4 swimmers in the A final that we are fostering a “swim off” type of environment.

It was decided that analysis and athlete/coach feedback of the proposed changes to the finals

configuration be sought and presented at the November 9 Program Development meeting. Comments will be solicited using the CSI website and email to coaches. Additionally, athletes would be asked to comment. Bill Ball will follow up with USA Swimming Rules and Regulation Chair regarding a waiver to USA Swimming technical rules to permit the contestation of finals in the proposed fashion. Jeff Gray also requested approval by the Board of Directors since this is a major policy change to a championship meet and involves the elimination of athletes from finals.

At this time, a motion was made, seconded to approve the agenda. Approved.

Motion made, seconded to approve the minutes from of May 11, 2010 meeting. Approved.

Age Group Committee: Derek Ferrar and Jim Robison are new committee members. The Age Group Committee is in support of and is researching inter-LSC Age Group competition with NE Swimming. Finally, the committee has reviewed the coach responses to the Technical Planning 2011 LC Age Group Championship proposal.

Technical Planning: Kaeley reported her committee will meet soon. New members are Rob Bouchey, Mike Ferraro, and John Burr.

New Business:

Program Development goals: Committee members will email Jeff Gray from 0-5 goals for the 2010-2011 season. These goals will be discussed at the November 9 meeting.

2011 LC Championship schedule was approved.

- July 8-10, 2011 LC Regional Championship
- July 14-17, 2011 LC Senior Championship
- July 21-24, 2011 LC Age Group Championship

Time Standards:

- The Senior Committee presented 2011 SC Senior Open Championship time standards as unchanged from the 2010 SC Senior Open Championship time standards. Approved.
- Age Group Committee will present Age Group and Regional Championship time standards at the November 9, 2010 Program Development meeting.
- Committees were asked to present 2012 SC championship time standards at a spring 2011 Program Development meeting.

Technical Planning Age Group Championship Proposal: This proposal (attached) is for the 2011 Long Course Age Group Championship. The major complaint has been the length of the 13/19 preliminary sessions. A goal is to promote faster swimming in this meet. This proposal includes maximum time standards for 15-19 year olds based on the 20th place finish from the previous year's LC Senior Championship. Swim Info's conversion chart would be used for a direct conversion for SCY and SCM qualifying times. Motion was made to cap the LC Age Group Championship 15-19 age group time standards using the 20th fastest time from the previous LC Senior Championship meet results. Swim Info's conversion chart would be

used for a direct conversion of SCY and SCM standards. Motion seconded. The motion was amended by adding the words “using the 20th fastest CT time.” Seconded and discussed. The vote was taken. 4 no, 1 yes, 2 abstained. Motion failed. It was suggested by some Program Development committee members that Technical Planning look into maximum time standards for all age groups as well as eliminating the 15/19 age group from LC Age Groups.

Appointment of Time Standards Chair: Motion made and approved to appoint Joanne McCaffrey as Time Standards Chair.

Appointment of Adapted Swimming Chair: no recommendations. Committee members were asked to think about recommendations for the November 9, 2010 meeting.

Preliminary agenda items for November 9, 2010 meeting:

- SC Championship meet announcements (Regionals, Age Groups and Seniors) including Senior Committee proposal to change the finals configuration.
- Technical Planning LC Age Group Championship proposal
- Age Group and Regional Time Standards
- Program Development committee member goals.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Submitted by Nan Cooper
Administrator

ATTACHMENTS

October 2010 Senior Committee Report
Bill Ball and Bob Shearer, Senior Committee Co-Chairs

1. 2009-2010 CT Athlete of the Year: Christian Higgins (ranked 68th in the world 200 breast)
2. The Senior Committee approved the athlete travel requests.
3. 2011 Short Course Senior Championships
 - A. Senior Committee recommended that the format of the meet should “mirror” the spring sectional meet. The events should be contested in the same order as those at the spring sectional meet.
 - B. The senior committee is also recommending that the 400 IM and 500 free be contested in accordance with the national meet suggestions. For ex. The top 4 heats be swum slowest to fastest (pyramid seeding the final 3 heats), followed by the remaining heats fastest to slowest while alternating women and men.
 - C. Senior Committee is recommending that we change the format of finals in order to promote faster preliminary swimming and create more excitement in finals.
 1. The top 3 heats for finals will be swum in the following format

The scoring will be the same (top 16) but points can be awarded in every finals heat not just the A and B Final. The committee determined by only allowing 4 swimmers in the A final that we are fostering a “swim off” type of environment.

4. 2011 Long Course Senior Championships

A. Senior Committee Recommends having the Long Course Senior Championships on July 14-17, July 2011. We had to push back the dates 1 week because of the renovations to Wesleyan University. This date seemed most beneficial because it is 2 weeks before the Nationals and 3 weeks before Juniors.

5. LSC Dual Meet/Joint Competition

A. The senior committee feels that the creation of a senior circuit of meets between the New England, Metro, & CT LSC's would be in the best interest in promoting high level senior swimming. Currently most LSC's have a significant number of entry level meets for all swimmers, but there is a need for higher level meets for senior swimmers. We were not favor of an “All Star” type of meet.

TO: Age Group Committee

FR: Technical Planning Committee

DT: 6/2/2010

RE: Proposal for 2010 LC Age Groups

Goals: Manageable timeline for 13/over sessions. Keep Age Groups for the “Age Group” level swimmer. Gives said Age Group swimmer a better opportunity to swim in finals.

Proposal: To cap the 15-19 year olds COT for LC Age Groups by using the previous year's 20th place time from LC CT Seniors. Use Swim Info's conversion chart for a direct conversion for SCY and SCM COT.

Benefits:

- Makes LC Age Groups a “TRUE” Age Group level meet.
- This proposal has no affect on LC Regional meets, which in our opinion are too long, too big and unsafe due to the number of swimmers on deck.
- No affect on CT Seniors
- May allow AGC to loosen the 15-19 cuts a tad.
- Age Groups can now be a stepping stone between Regionals and Seniors for 15-18 year olds.
- Allows for a true progression in the summer.

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