

**Minutes of the
North Texas Swimming, Inc.
House of Delegates Meeting
June 10, 2008
Teleconference**

Attendees

John Rieff	General Chair, Records Chair, Top 16 Tabulator
Gloria Schuldt	Administrative Vice-Chair, National Times Chair
Brian Dangelmaier	Age Group Vice-Chair
Shannon Gillespy	Technical Planning Chair, Disability Swimming Chair
Karen Rourke	Registration & Membership Chair, LSC Forms
Bill Christensen	Coaches Representative
Mike Eubanks	Sanction Chair
Bill Nixon	Officials Chair
Jeanne Manikowski	Finance Chair, Review Section Chair
Mike McDonald	Secretary

Open questions/comments

Karen raised a concern that, with recent construction, the Tyler pool might no longer be 50m in length. John questioned whether the length of any pool in the LSC is accurate. According to Bill N., the only pool in North Texas that is registered with USA-S as being the correct distance is the Tom Landry Center. He further reminded everyone that the length of any pool with a removable bulkhead must be measured before the start of a meet hosted at that pool.

1. John called the meeting to order at 8:08 pm.

2. **Item**

Prioritize meeting agenda

Summary of discussion

John Rieff set the meeting agenda to the following:

- Convention, including awards
- Meet reviews
- Technical planning
- Meet host responsibilities
- Zones
- Future teleconferences

3. **Item**

2008 US Aquatic Sports Convention
09/23/08 - 09/28/08

Atlanta, GA

Summary of discussion

Gloria requested that anyone going to the Convention email her their personal contact information, hotel information, the dates that they plan to fly in and out. Information should be emailed to her by July 1st.

Related to Convention, Gloria also requested that all LSC chairpersons recommend at least 1 senior and 1 junior athlete representative for their area of responsibility. Please provide names, email addresses, and phone numbers to Gloria by July 1st. She must submit final athlete rep information to USA Swimming by July 15th.

John stated that, at the Convention, USA Swimming will hand out two awards—the Humanitarian Award and the USA Swimming Award. USA Swimming is seeking nominations for these awards from the LSC. Names must be submitted to John by the following dates:

- Athlete Humanitarian Award – Aug 15th
- USA Swimming Award – Aug 30th

4. Item

Meet reviews, Technical planning

Summary of discussion

1. Regarding the Tyler meet cancelation, why did it happen and how can the LSC avoid such cancelations in the future? Some reasons given for the cancelation:
 - Gas prices (all meets are being impacted)
 - Short season leading to higher frequency of meets
 - Distance to Tyler
 - Damon McCoy meet held on the same weekend
 - “A” meet being held the following weekend
 - Poor participation at the “BB” level (common throughout the LSC)
 - Late school year finish/graduation/finals

Shannon suggested that an open-water meet be held on Memorial Day weekend and that the following weekend not have any meets scheduled. Bill C. suggested that the LSC use smaller geographic areas to help ease the distance that people must travel to meets. John directed Shannon, Bill C., and Bill N. to add this discussion to the agenda for the next Technical Planning meeting; findings will be reported at a House of Delegates teleconference within the next month.

2. Gloria explained that the June 20th Frisco Aquatics sanction had been withheld for a few weeks because of their previous meet problems. The primary cause of these problems was too many inexperienced running the meet. As an example consequence, numerous times were invalid and over 40 hours were required to correct them before they could be added to the SWIMS database. Gloria and

Mike E. clarified that their concerns were eventually addressed, and they did approve the June 20th sanction.

3. Gloria added that too many sanction submissions are not following the LSC's Policies & Procedures document; for example, most requests do not list names for key meet personnel such as the meet director and referee. The LSC has been at times lax in enforcing the Policies & Procedures. Mike E. recommended that the Request for Sanction form be updated to more closely match the requirements outlined in the Policies & Procedures, and that the new form be posted to the NT website. Also, Mike E. agreed to send an email to the meet personnel listed in the sanction request if he needs more information from them.
 4. Gloria raised a concern that meet referees are sometimes not aware of the information published for their meet. According to Bill N., requiring meet referees to sign off on the meet information prior to submitting a sanction request would necessitate a formal change to the Policies & Procedures document. Mike E. noted that the change would be required only the desired "punishment" would be withholding a sanction. Alternatively, a less formal approach, which would not require a process change, could be that failing to respond to a request is implicit approval of the meet information. John directed that the latter approach be implemented before the start of the next short course season.
 5. Bill N. stated that issues such as teams setting up meets incorrectly argue for establishing a permanent LSC office. John agreed but tabled the discussion until after Trials.
 6. Karen suggested that each meet host be evaluated after the meet, and the evaluation taken into consideration before sanctioning another meet for that host. Shannon questioned who would do the evaluation, because most coaches won't give feedback when asked to evaluate a meet. Karen argued that the information used in the evaluation should be objective and should come from a group of experienced people such as the meet referee, the administrative referee, and the Sanction Chair. Gloria encouraged more dialog of the meet evaluation process offline, and John tabled further discussion until later.
5. **Item**
Zones

Summary of discussion

Brian stated that team preparations for traveling to the Southern Zone meet are going well, but that the team could use more money. Airfare costs alone will total \$23,000, and the cost to the individual athlete has been increased from \$350 to \$400. To meet budget, some staff positions have been cut. Sponsorships from teams (e.g., T-shirts, dinner, and equipment) would be helpful, but it might be too late for this year. Because the team must be chosen before TAGS, the application deadline is July 13th.

Karen suggested that to help mitigate this cost, as well as others throughout the year, the LSC could receive donations from parents or other sources. Gloria recommended that the idea be brought before the LSC Treasurer to determine the feasibility. John tabled further discussion until review by the Treasurer.

6. **Item**

Future teleconferences

Summary of discussion

John would like to hold teleconferences every two weeks, if possible. The next teleconference will be held on Tuesday, June 24th, at 8pm.

7. John adjourned the meeting at 9:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike McDonald
Secretary