

Board/Swim Rep Meeting – April 10th at Somerton Springs Swim Club

[minutes recorded by Ann Prime-Monaghan, notes by Kevin Mogee, clarifications by Daryl Riegel]

Board Attendance:

President - Donna Lee

Swimming Vice President – position was vacant - Jeffrey Short voted in, but on professional travel

Assistant Swimming Vice President – Elena Spearing

Diving Vice President – Felissa Lane – absent – personal schedule conflict

Recording Secretary – Ann Prime-Monaghan

Operating Secretary – Daryl Riegel

Treasurer – Colleen Figart

18 Teams in Attendance

1. President's Welcome – Donna
2. Attendance Taken – Ann
3. Announcement of new Diving Vice President appointment; Felissa Lane
4. Nomination of Jeffrey Short requested by Donna
 - a. 1st - Phoenix
 - b. 2nd - Eddington
 - c. Brought to vote (unanimous nomination)
5. Application for NAC (Newtown Athletic Club) to join the LBSL
 - a. James Borda (head coach) from NAC introduced and invited to present information about the potential new team
 - i. It is a small team ~40 swimmers
 - ii. They do not *currently* have the ability to hold home meets (indoor pool; 5 lanes with 4 "old" blocks)
 - iii. They have good parent interest and support and parents understand the need for "officials" and "meet" duties.
 - iv. While their 'normal' team is a USA Swimming program, the summer program would be completely separate and optional. Currently, any USA swimmers on their existing team, attend USA meets "unattached" and not as part of their team ie. they do not attend USA meets as a team
 - v. They would encourage swimmers in the aquatics program they already have to join the summer program
 - vi. They would be also inform their summer camp attendees of the availability of the summer team
 - vii. They understand they would potentially start in the LBSL Blue Division
 - viii. They understand they would be on "probation" at least one year
 - ix. They understand they would be responsible for all fees
 - x. James volunteered that he is already familiar with the league since he swam with the Brookside team
 - xi. James was asked to wait outside during debate of the acceptance of the application

- b. Somerton – asked if they followed the formal process outlined in the bylaws? “Yes”, per Daryl, and he established (according by Bylaws) that NAC -
 - i. Had provided LBSL with notification of their intent to join before the 2nd Monday in April (required by Bylaws)
 - ii. Was attending the Board Meets to present their application
 - iii. Would start in the Blue Division
 - iv. Would be on probation for the first year
 - v. Application would be discussed and voted on the 2nd Monday in April
 - vi. Would need to send a representative to all meetings
 - vii. Would need to pay all fees of membership
 - viii. Cannot vote while on the first year of probation
 - ix. At the September meeting, a vote would take place and they would need a 2/3 vote of members in attendance to be granted full membership.
 - x. Could be asked to do another probationary year.
 - xi. Would not be able to recruit any swimmers from other existing LBSL swim teams for a period of three years (this includes probationary time).
- c. Donna added that if voted in, their probationary status would allow that they would be able to fully participate in swim “events” (dual, invitationals, champs, finals) and also that they can attend LBSL meetings, but cannot vote.
- d. Richboro shared that they felt, in a historical perspective, that LBSL might want to consider NOT letting an indoor facility team be part of the LBSL and also at admitting another club might negatively affect the membership of other swim clubs. They raised concern that if LBSL allowed an indoor club to join, then this could allow THY and Rock to request to join? At least, one other club voiced a similar concern. A comment was made asking why those club would want to join LBSL (the intent of the comment was oriented to the fact that they already have established leagues to which they belong). Donna emphasized that the league should attempt to adjust to changing times especially since the league has lost several teams over the past several years due to club closings, etc.
- e. Newtown Crossing – raised a concern that such a small team could have a problem running a meet. A reply was made some teams that some existing teams may have as few as 25 athletes this year. Donna – replied that James understands how many people he needs to run an away meet.
- f. Richboro – asked if this team really is a fit for the league and if the league would be changing the nature of this league by admitting NAC. Again, Donna emphasized that the league should attempt to adjust to changing times especially since the league has lost several teams over the past several years due to club closings, etc.
- g. Ann – asked if the bylaws state that teams needs to have an outdoor pool facility. Daryl – no it does not say in the bylaws that team have to have an outdoor facility and It was noted by another team rep that Bensalem is not an outdoor facility. Upon review of the bylaws there are specific requirements for team pools, but it is noted that exemptions can be made by the council and it was already established that NAC would not immediately be able to host a meet. Review on the Bylaws and Operating Procedures did not result in any requirement for a team to host a meet.

- h. Bustleton – asked if the probationary season would vet these concerns out? It seems to be a common acknowledgement from the attendees that it would and that was the intent of the probationary year as stated in the Bylaws.
 - i. A gentleman from LMT asked for the vote
 - j. Vote resulted in acceptance of application (15 yes, 3 no)
 - k. James brought back into the meeting and informed of outcome
6. Richboro asked if they could bid for Finals. Donna informed them that they did not have enough space to accommodate the parking or the teams. Richboro mentioned that the club was getting more stands. Donna asked that the discussion take place after the schedule was finalized.
 7. Daryl – informed coaches and swim reps that if they are not getting LBSL mailing list mails and LBSL has confirmed to have correct email address that they please check their spam folders. Yahoo and Gmail have been a problem with their practice of blocking mailing lists by default. If coaches or swim reps use Gmail or Yahoo and LBSL mail is going to spam or just not being received, that they should go to their “cog” (settings) and whitelist the group (emails from @lbsl.org). If they need help with this, they should contact Daryl.
 8. Daryl – emphasized the need for division representatives for all the divisions. The primary responsibility for this role is to make sure that all meets results are being reported within the articulated timelines and processes outlined in the bylaws.
 9. Update on Operating Procedures as vote in at the September meeting
 - a. Swimmer age cut off is June 15.
 - b. Forfeited meets are a loss for the team forfeiting. If both teams forfeit, they both receive a loss.
 - c. Swimming at two duals meets will make swimmers eligible for championships/finals.
 - d. Top 16 relays will qualify for finals
 - e. There will be penalties for reporting dual meet scores late; a tiered penalty process
 - f. All teams need to use Meet Manager software for all meets
 10. Donna stated Jeffrey Short volunteered to set up a training schedule for Meet Manager software
 11. There was a question asked of the board if there were processes and penalties for “ineligible” swimmers (ex: swimmers on more than one team or violating eligibility age requirements).

Operating Procedures, Article II: Dues, Team, and Divisions, Section II: Teams:

#1, first paragraph: *All teams shall be comprised of boys and girls of age 18 or under who are not college rostered swimmers. Swimmers who are age 19 but are graduating high school seniors during the current swimming season shall be exempted from this provision.*

#4: *A swimmer who is on the roster of any LBSL team and is also rostered by any other dual meet team in any organized league during the same summer season shall be declared ineligible to swim in the LBSL during that season. The summer season shall start with the first official league competition of that season and will extend through championships. The ineligibility of any swimmer can be declared at any time during the season that it is discovered. The normal league protest procedure is not required.*

Additional comments from Operating Secretary: While there are no penalties specifically listed, if there is a violation, forfeiture of the swimmer’s points and exemption from the team/league are the implied consequences. It should also be noted that USA Swimming Teams are not considered “dual meet summer league teams”.

12. Colleen will send out an email to all teams for LBSL fees and invoicing for the summer. Her address remains the same as last year if teams are mailing payment. If teams need her address, they should email her.
13. Schedule discussion (proposal to move Champs and Finals one week later than what was originally proposed at the Sept 2016 meeting)(R/W/B Champs 7/29, 8U 7/30, Finals 8/1) (*Dual meets conclude 7/25)
 - a. Northampton stated they do not want the schedule to extend into August
 - b. Donna - General Topic: Stating the reason for contemplating moving champs and finals
 - i. There will not be enough board members available during the week prior to and on champs weekend to run champs (and finals) if the original schedule is used – last year, preparation for champs and finals required board members to take leave from their professional work (keeping in mind board positions are completely volunteer) – this year, there will only be 3 of the 6 swim board members available in total
 - ii. If champs and finals dates were extended, there will be an additional week available for make-up meets which may be needed due to in climate weather – noting that last year 2 dual meets could not be made up due to the schedule being too compressed
 - iii. The dual meets themselves cannot start earlier in the season, because some school districts do not end their school years until the week of June 20
 - iv. There are a number of swimmers who will not be able to attend Champs and Finals if they are members of USA Swimming clubs and wish to attend the 14&U Junior Olympics summer long course meet and this is a growing concern and is adversely affecting enrollment in clubs since due to the schedule overlap, they could would not be able to attend all dual meets, champs or finals.
 - c. Newtown Crossing did not think that the league should adjust the schedule to accommodate swimmers who are part of USA Swimming clubs and wish to attend the 14&U Junior Olympics summer long course meet
 - d. Northampton stated they would “lose kids and coaches” (meaning officials, athletes, and coaches may not be available in the first week of August) if the schedule continued into August
 - e. There was a general comment/concern about families who may have already scheduled vacations to start and continue into the week of August, although this was countered that this would be the same type of family decision as swimmers contemplating attending USA JOs vs LBSL Champs.
 - f. Donna - reiterated that only the finals meet was in August and it was the first day of August (8/1), and that champs was still in July and the regular season (dual meets) would not be stretching/moving into the first week of August – All dual meet dates remain as is, only Champs and Finals would be delayed one week from the original proposed schedule from Sept.
 - g. It was commented that in the past, that champs and finals would typically extend into the first week of August, sometimes up until the 3rd or 4th.
 - h. Unilaterally decided to vote to approve revised schedule: approved; 13 Yes, 3 No.
14. Bids for Championship Meets

- a. 8 and under
 - i. Oreland
 - b. Division
 - i. Red
 - 1. Richboro
 - ii. White
 - 1. Warrington
 - 2. Torresdale
 - iii. Blue
 - 1. Oxford Valley (not present, but in the process of being confirmed)
 - c. Finals (according to Operating Procedures should be Yard pool in odd years (this year) when possible – alternates Meter/Yard every year as per Bylaws)
 - 1. Oxford Valley (not present, but in the process of being confirmed) If Oxford Valley cannot host, other yard pools may be reconsidered or a meter pool with converted times may be used.
 - d. Bids are open for hosting Champs and Finals until the end of the week, Friday April 14.
15. Invitationals for the Summer
- a. July 15th – Odd Age Invitational Meet (Somerton)
 - b. July 8th and 9th – Aqua Pentathlon Meet (Richboro)
 - c. June 23rd and June 24th – Cold Water Classic Meet (Warrington)
16. Officials Clinic dates will be set for June and discussed at the next meeting
17. Motion to Adjourn @ 8:32 pm –
- a. 1st – Oreland
 - b. 2nd – LMT

Team	In Attendance	Vote on approval of Jeff Short for the VP Position	Vote on whether or not the NAC should be granted a probationary year membership in the LBSL	Approval vote on if the second schedule which has finals on August 1 st Unilaterally decided to vote.
		1 st – Somerton 2 nd - Phoenix	1 st – LMT 2 nd - Richboro	1 st – 2 nd -
Bensalem	N	n/a	n/a	n/a
Brookside	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bryn Athyn	Y	Y	Y	Y
Bustleton	Y	Y	Y	Y
Eddington	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hatboro YMCA	Y	Y	Y	N
LMT A	Y	Y	Y	Y
LMT B	Y	Y	Y	Y
Newtown Crossing	Y	Y	N	N
Northampton	Y	Y	Y	N
Oreland	Y	Y	Y	Y
Oxford Valley	N	n/a	n/a	n/a
Phoenix	Y	Y	N	Y
PSC High Point	Y	n/a	Y	Y
Richboro	Y	Y	N	Y
Somerton	Y	Y	Y	Y
Spring Mill	Y	Y	Y	Y
Torresdale	Y	Y	Y	Y
Warrington	Y	Y	Y	Y
Winchester	Y	Y	Y	Y
	18 teams in attendance (some late arrivals and early departures)	16 = yes 0 = no	15 = yes 3 = no	13 = yes 3 = no