
**EASTERN ZONE SPRING MEETING
FT LAUDERDALE, FL
MAY 10, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am by Director Dellert. In attendance were the following.

ADIRONDACK SWIMMING: JoAnn Faucett, Sean Caron, Jerry Adams

ALLEGHENY SWIMMING: Charles Lersch, Michael Kristufek

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING: Rick Lewis, Ty Seymour

MAINE SWIMMING: Tom Manduca; Leanne Gravel

MARYLAND SWIMMING: Chad Cradock, Tom Himes, Bill Henderson, Bill Kirkner

METROPOLITIAN SWIMMING: John McIlhargy, Denise Byrne, Don Wagner, John Yearwood, Edgar Perez, Amine Boubsis, Monique Grayson, Mary Fleckenstein

MIDDLE ATLANTIC SWIMMING: Amy Steeves, Jon Larson, Jamie Platt

NEW ENGLAND SWIMMING: Ray Grant

NEW JERSEY SWIMMING: Jim O'Neill, Tristan Formon, Kip Hein, Katie Paris, Ed Dellert, Bud Rimbault, Stephanie Crofton, Jim Sheehan, Jim Wood, Gregory Eggert

NIAGARA SWIMMING: Marci Callan, Rick Aronberg, Ryan Callan, Adam Zaczkowski

POTOMAC VALLEY SWIMMING: Bill Marlin, Manga Dalizu, Brad Bowser, Greg York, Tim Husson, Riley Eaton, Marie Beth (Boots) Hall, Miriam Lynch, Merari Chollette, Murphy Freal

VIRGINIA SWIMMING: Steve Hennessy, Scott Baldwin, Kevin McHaney, Kara Morgan McHaney, Mary Turner

USA SWIMMING: Peter Clark

A presentation was made by a representative of the International Swimming Hall of Fame.

A motion was made to approve the Minutes from the September 2013 Annual Meeting. The motion was passed.

Financial Report by Treasurer Hall

As of May 1st there was \$4628.51 in the Eastern Zone account. Yet to be paid is a Director travel bill due Ed Dellert, rebate to Niagara Swimming and order for the regular zone pins. A motion was made to accept the financial report. Motion passed.

A motion was made and passed to approve the agenda.

Zone Championship Coordinator Report: Bud Rimbault

Spring championship meets. To be closed to zone only. Bids: age group Niagara, sectional Star Swimming, Adam's meet, and Christiansburg for southern sectional.

Motion to accept the above meets was made and seconded. Motion passed.

USA Swimming Report: Peter Clark

Peter introduced Debbie Hesse Director of the USA Swimming Foundation along with Mariah Cunnick at which time they shared current programs available to support USA Swimming through the Foundation.

USIC voted to be moved onshore.

Membership up 1 percent.

Zone LSC workshop in Baltimore went well; coaches clinic in Washington DC was a WOW, next coaches clinic is to be the last weekend in September at Lake Placid.

Club business management now an on-line course. Available now. As of June 15, every new club must go through this.

Diversity camp May 1-4; zone select camp at the UMD Baltimore County.

USAS home page. About 85 % changing,

Sports medicine problem. Eating habits of 13-17 year olds. They are not over training, they aren't eating enough.

Directors' Report: Ed Dellert

Up for vote will be a recommendation by the National Team to split short course juniors into East and West competition. Also being consider will be 3 "legends meets" during the long course season held at the same time as LC Juniors. This is intended to fill the gap currently between Sectionals and Junior's. Eastern Zone will be assigned to one of the three which also includes Ohio, West Virginia, North Carolina, and Lake Erie.

Safe Sport presentation with charts and recommendations. Need to set the culture, what type of retaliation action. There should be clarification of the coaches' panel.

Splashmaker 2 coming in 2016. Also a video presentation called Lost Gold.

Make a Splash has added three new partners.

Move to evaluate new clubs to decide which LC the clubs should belong to.

Sanction appeals process. New panel will have official, coach, and athlete. Can't hear anything from their own LSC.

LEAP. New policy and approval change which clarifies times.

National team is working with athletes who have finished competing. Alumnae network.

Age Group Development Report. Bill Marlin

The committee met in Chicago in April for a face-to-face meeting where we finished work on the Progression for Age Group Development document. This document will be sent to several top age group programs around the country for a final review. Then work will begin to make it a "living" document where videos and links will be embedded to make the document much more complete than it was. Projected release date is hopeful for USAS Convention 2015.

The committee also sent out an Age Group Development Survey to each LSC and asked that it be sent to 5 clubs in each LSC (10 clubs for the largest 5 LSC's). The committee is looking for two top age group programs, two growing age group programs and one new start up team to fill out the survey and get it back to USAS AGDC.

We also voted to award the IMX Meet bids to the 2014-15 meets. All sites were renewed except Indianapolis due to poor turnout, lack of growth and a loss of entries this past season.

The AGDC is still looking for fun/alternative meet formats. If you have one, please send it to me (meet event file and announcement). The AGDC is trying to develop a repository for alternative meets that clubs can run where all you need to do is download the event file and announcement then modify them to your needs.

We discussed our educational topics for convention.

Officials Chair Report. Bob Vincent Given by Tim Husson Meet reports will be attached for each meet.

The 2014 Speedo Championship Series Long Course Sectional meet ran very well. The Star Swimming Head Coach (Rick Aronberg), his staff and the Star volunteers were extremely supportive as always.

Because of the known air quality issues in the warm-up pool area it was decided to open lanes 5 – 8 in the competition pool for a 10 minute warm-up/down after each men's final. Awards were presented on the lane 1 side during these breaks. For Saturday finals breaks were taken after every fourth event to limit the session duration. Similar breaks were added during preliminaries as needed and when requested by coaches. These remedies were effective because the number of swimmers was small.

2014 Eastern Zone Short Course Age Group Championships ran smoothly and without major incident. Four NAG records set at the meet. In addition, 27 Eastern Zone Records were made.

2014 Speedo Championship Series Short Course Northern Sectional. : Overall, the meet ran well. The Syracuse Chargers and Head Coaches, Adam Zaczkowski and Will Chidsey and the facilities staff at Ithaca College were great to work with. We were able to accommodate the number of new officials from Niagara LSC that were requesting evaluations and attracted officials from the northern and central part of the zone.

2014 Speedo Championship Series Short Course Southern Sectional. The Christiansburg Aquatic Center was very accommodating and provided an excellent competition venue for the swimmers.. Time Trials were well run and well attended.

Webmaster Report: Tim Husson. Website up and running and paid for.

Athlete Report:: Nick Smagula (in absentia) Since convention, the AEC has been hard at work on the following topics:

- The Independent Review of Safe Sport
- Preparing for 2014 Convention in Jacksonville
- A new online form to submit committee reports to the AEC after meetings
- Changes to athlete Travel Forms, and an online version/

In addition, we have published another issue of *Athlete's Splash*, the AEC newsletter, in which all the above topics are covered in detail. If you or someone you know are still not receiving the newsletter please e-mail USASwimmingAECnewsletter@gmail.com

You can always stay in touch with the AEC through our year round twitter account @USASwimming_AEC and our Convention specific Twitter account, @AEC_Convention

The Athlete Safe Sport Training is available through USA Swimming's website and we continue to encourage athletes to take advantage of the program. Finally, as this year's convention is an election year, most of the AEC positions are going to be available and we are looking for new athletes to step up and become involved in the

AEC. Thanks so much and I look forward to see you all in September.

Technical Chair Report: Tristan Formon

The following were discussed at the Tech Planning Meeting

2015 Winter Sectional Standards:

- Sunday Relays – should all relays be swum in the morning? Motion **FAILED**
- Sunday Distance – should teams/athletes be permitted the option not to swim with the top heat during finals?
- High Point Eligibility – Stay with existing High Point Awards.
- On Sunday should the EZ consider: Running all relays in prelims. Running all distance events Fast to Slow immediately following Prelims. Starting Finals earlier on Sunday evening. No Time Trials on Sunday. Goal to permit more athletes/teams to stay throughout the conclusion of finals on Sunday versus scratching and leaving after prelims and/or the distance session. Motion **FAILED**
- What is the optimal placement for the potential 2015 EZ Winter LC Super Sectional Meet? LSC EZ Delegates are asked to return to their respective LSCs to get feedback at the local level as to how a winter Senior Zone Meet would be received. This will be discussed at HOD in the fall at the USAS Convention. Each LSC is requested to identify one individual to forward comments and feedback to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com General discussion indicated the most optimal placement may be in March.

2015 Senior Zone Championship Meet Taskforce Update: Should the EZ should seek bids on an EZ Senior Zone LC Championship Meet for the summer of 2015? Motion was made to include a 2015 EZ Senior Zone Championship for 2015 – Motion **PASSED**

2015 Summer Super Sectionals: Given this meet will now occur earlier in the season, should the EZ amend the current entry qualification window. Traditionally for an early August Super Sectional Meet, the entry window has been January 1st of the prior calendar year. Motion **FAILED**

2014 Summer AG Zone Championships: Does the body feel it would be appropriate to move towards a chase format with the 2015 Summer AG Zone Meet for all prelim and timed final sessions to reduce the overall timeline? (Note that athletes arrive as early as 630am for prelim warm up and finals typically end between 900-930pm) Motion to adjust event orders to balance the sessions across days for 2014 – Motion **PASSED**.

Motion to potentially move to chase formats is deemed appropriate following the entry deadline for 2014- Motion **PASSED**.

For consideration at the Eastern Zone Technical Committee Meeting at USAS Convention this fall.

2015 Summer AG Zone Champs

Concerns have been raised regarding 11/12 year old athletes swimming prelims immediately followed by finals with the existing Summer AG Zone Champ Meet format. The Technical Chair has been asked to consider developing alternate meet formats that could allow the 11/12s to swim in the Prelim Session followed by a 10 & Under Timed Final Session, followed by finals similar to the Winter All Star AG Meet.

No Changes, continue to adjust standards as before with a 13&O Prelim Session, 12&U Session then Finals

- Drastically address standards to permit all 11&Os to swim a shorter prelim session.
- Given the Eastern Zone Swimming population has continued to expand year after year, to consider a separate North and South Region Summer AG Zone Champs. This would be similar to Sectionals with North/South Regions in the winter and Super Sectionals in the summer. Benefits to separating the Zone – LSC Teams, Athletes and Families would not need to travel as far to meets. This should promote better attendance within each region. Reduced costs for LSCs opting for Team Travel Trips. Ability to serve more athletes across the Zone. This could come either through expanded time standards and/or LSCs being permitted to enter up to a minimum of 5 athletes per event versus the current 3 for 12&U and 2 for 13&O regardless of the standards.
- Other Options?

LSC EZ Delegates are asked to return to their respective LSCs to get feedback at the local level. This will be discussed at HOD in the fall at the USAS Convention. Each LSC is requested to identify one individual to forward comments and feedback to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com

Future Winter All Star AG Zone Championships

Does the body feel that the EZ All Star AG Champs is the appropriate venue for 15 & Over athletes or would it be appropriate to move towards a 14&U Zone format? A Senior Zone Meet would first need to be developed to accommodate the displaced 15 & Over athletes. The meet could have time standards with a minimum number of participants per event per LSC similar to the current Summer Zone AG Champs.

LSC EZ Delegates are asked to return to their respective LSCs to get feedback at the local level as to how a winter Senior Zone Meet would be received. This will be

discussed at HOD in the fall at the USAS Convention. Each LSC is requested to identify one individual to forward comments and feedback to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com Discussion revolved around a 10 year moratorium on discussion of this matter from 2007. This will be discussed at USAS if discussion is felt warranted.

Each LSC is asked to provide contact details for each of their respective LSC EZ Technical Appointees to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com at your earliest convenience.

Diversity Report: Miriam Lynch

Quarterly meetings by phone and letter. Diversity camp every other year, not just for swimmers, but also for coaches to learn from others. 2015 Diversity camp will be at UMDBC June 25-28. Athletes that have been to zone diversity camp have later been to the national diversity camp. The National Camp is to be expanded.

Unfinished Business

Open Water By-Laws. Delay until September.

Zone Board of Review is under development. More will be learned in September. Swimmers with asthma. There are problems legislating this. Decision to leave it to the referee if swimmer with attack can be substituted for. Motion made by Adam Zaczkowski that substitutions in relays could be permitted up to 30 minutes prior to the start of the event rather than before warmups. Motion seconded and passed.

Elections. The following were nominated. Elections will be held in September.

Director: Ed Dellert

Treasurer: Boots Hall announced she is not running for another term. Mary Turner and Mary Fleckenstein were nominated.

Zone Safe Sport Coordinator to serve until September 15. Then every 2 years and new vote. Riley Eaton and Brian Hansburg were nominated. Riley Eaton was elected.

New Business:

Location of May 2015 Meeting. Mary Turner offered Virginia Beach, Va for the meeting. Offer accepted.

Financial Affairs : Rick Lewis. Board of Review is being made a Zone business which will require new funding. Also Colorado Springs is cutting funding for Diversity and expects the zone to pick it up. Directors' travel needs to be covered for zone events. Safe Sport and Meet Support also need added funds. In examining the fairest way to raise this money a motion was made to change the ways the zone dues are assessed. A motion was made to charge each LSC \$0.25 for each athlete that was registered on

December 31 of the previous year. The motion was made, seconded and passed. The number of athletes will be obtained from headquarters.

Question: Is there a relationship with a meet host and vendor representative. Yes Speedo for Sectionals. No Zone specific representation is allowed.

Motion was made to split the \$40,000 for sectional meets 4 ways rather than 3. Made, seconded and passed.

Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and passed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20

Eastern Zone Technical Planning Meeting
EZ Spring Meeting – May 9th 2014
Fort Lauderdale Beach, FL

The meeting was called to order by Tristan Formon, EZ Technical Chair at 7:15 pm

In attendance were the following:

ADIRONDACK SWIMMING: JoAnn Faucett; Sean Caron; Jerry Adams

ALLEGHENY SWIMMING: Charles Lersch, Michael Kristufek:

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING: Rick Lewis

MAINE SWIMMING: Tom Manduca, Leanne Gravel

MARYLAND SWIMMING: Chad Cradock, Tom Himes

METROPOLITIAN SWIMMING: John McIlhargy, Denise Byrne, Don Wagner, John Yearwood, Edgar Perez, Amine Boubsis, Monique Grayson, Mary Fleckenstein

MIDDLE ATLANTIC SWIMMING: Jon Larson, Jamie Platt

NEW ENGLAND SWIMMING: Ray Grant

NEW JERSEY SWIMMING: Jim O'Neill, Tristan Formon, Ed Dellert, Bud Rimbault, Jim Sheehan, Gregory Eggert

NIAGARA SWIMMING: Marci Callan, Rick Aronberg, Ryan Callan, Adam Zaczkowski

POTOMAC VALLEY SWIMMING: Bill Marlin, Manga Dalizu, Brad Bowser, Greg York, Tim Husson, Riley Eaton, Marie-Beth Hall

VIRGINIA SWIMMING: Steve Hennessy, Scott Baldwin, Mary Turner

Motion to accept the agenda was made, seconded and passed.

Additions and corrections to the minutes to be posted on the Eastern Zone website:

1. Eastern Zone Age Group Championship Bid Information; 2. Eastern Zone Bid Sheet.

2014 EZ Winter Championship Meets

2014 South Region Sectional Meet – Mary Turner / David Strider

We had 744 athletes entered according to OME. We ran the meet in one pool using ten lanes in prelims and eight lanes in finals. I think sessions were pretty reasonable in length with the exception of Saturday but that is due to the 500s. Warm-ups did not seem to be overly crowded. Ready Room and Awards presentations went well, as did the new Athlete Hospitality this year...Some adjustments on the meet invitation, I think. Air quality was very good, a bit stuffy with some eye watering the evening of the last night, but overall very good air quality. Well organized time trials.

The statement that relays will be scratched if not positively checked in needs to be removed from the meet announcement. I do not know if this is in the Region 1 announcement as it seems to be a particular desire for Virginia Swimming meets, but generally positive check-ins are to be seeded, not to swim. So, the proposal is for relay events to be like individual events – teams must be positively checked in to be seeded.

There seems to be confusion as to how teams add relay only swimmers using OME. Information should be added to the meet announcement that explains the process. (We have such info in VA meet announcements for meets that use OME so it is readily available.)

The Sunday Relay Rule is a problem because teams never remember to mark their preference even though they are reminded. This year we accommodated their wishes by moving teams around a bit but it did cause a slowdown of regular meet functions.

Two possible solution:

(1) Swim all relays in the morning session on Sunday only.

(2) Strictly enforce the rule – if you don't mark a preference, you swim where you are seeded, no changes are made.

The admin team's preference is the first one. If that is not the desire of the Zone, the wording of the meet announcement needs to be changed. It currently states "All Sunday relays will be asked to indicate a preference for swimming with preliminaries or with finals, when that relay is positively checked-in at the Clerk of Course." This is a very polite and gentle way of stating the requirement and implies that teams will be verbally reminded to mark that when checking in. Because teams check in at all times during the meet including when they are signing in at the beginning of the meet, it's very difficult to know that each and every team was reminded about marking their am/pm preference.

A question. What age group is eligible for the individual high point award? Currently, I believe it there is no upper limit but is it the desire of the Zone that college age or older athletes receive that award?

Motion was made to have the option of using chase starts for 13 and older preliminary session. Seconded and passed.

2014 North Region Sectional Meet – Adam Zaczkowski

We had 730 +/- athletes. Meet was very manageable. Friday and Sunday prelims were about 3h. Saturday a bit longer at 4h15m. Finals were all about the same, 2.5h. Our largest session was Sat AM (525 athletes). Pool was not stressed and everyone had sufficient warm up and space (20 lanes from 6:30-8:30a, then 10 lanes until 1:30p).

2014 Super Sectional LCM Meet – Rick Aronberg

Our meet went well. The size was exactly the same as last year within a few numbers. The sessions were quick so we added the 10 minute breaks in the main pool. Our small pool was only an issue on Saturday evening otherwise all the other sessions it was not too bad. The meet was fast just like last year even though Carmel, North Baltimore and Berkeley were not there.

2014 EZ Age Group Champs – Deborah Burke

The meet ran quite smoothly with no significant delays of any sort. Several eastern zone and national age group records were broken, and Metro is the overall team champion.

I'd like to continue discussions with the three LSC's who did not attend - Virginia has not attended for the past 2 years, and Maryland and New England have not attended in about the past 10 years. I'd like to see some re-working of the Record-Breaker and Participant Certificates. Both are rather bland, and really not in alignment with the achievement of the swimmers.

Marci Callan will be asked to address the Record Breaker and Participant Certificates at the General Meeting on behalf of the 2014 Meet host.

2015 Winter Sectional Standards

The EZ Technical Chair has developed standards based upon our current criteria for the 2015 EZ Winter Sectional Meets assuming all two/three meets will once again have identical time standards. These have been shared with Peter Barry, former EZ Technical Chair for his review. Recommendation is that the North Meet be closed to North Region Teams, the South Meet be closed to South Region Teams and the Winter Super Sectional LC Meet be open to teams from within and outside the EZ. 2015 Winter Sectional Standards will be finalized following the EZ Spring Meeting taking into consideration facility limitations (# lanes etc.)

- Sunday Relays – should all relays be swum in the morning? See Mary Turner's comments above.
- Sunday Distance – should teams/athletes be permitted the option not to swim with the top heat during finals?
- High Point Eligibility – see Mary Turner's question above
- .
- NEW AGENDA ITEM (5/7/14) – On Sunday should the EZ consider: Running all relays in prelims. Running all distance events Fast to Slow immediately following Prelims. Starting Finals earlier on Sunday evening. No Time Trials on Sunday. Goal to permit

more athletes/teams to stay throughout the conclusion of finals on Sunday versus scratching and leaving after prelims and/or the distance session

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- NEW AGENDA ITEM (5/7/14) – What is the optimal placement for the potential 2015 EZ Winter LC Super Sectional Meet? LSC EZ Delegates are asked to return to their respective LSCs to get feedback at the local level as to how a winter Senior Zone Meet would be received. This will be discussed at HOD in the fall at the USAS Convention. Each LSC is requested to identify one individual to forward comments and feedback to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com

2015 Senior Zone Championship Meet Task Force Update

Members: Ray Grant, Adam Zackowski, Jerry Adams, Peter Barry and Tristan Formon Dean Ekeren, USA Swimming, has confirmed that there is \$10,000 in funding. The EZ may set the format, standards with both bottom and top end if necessary.

The other Zones do currently run Summer Senior Zone Meets in addition to Summer AG Zone Champs: Southern July 29 – Aug 2 2014, Central Aug 1 – Aug 3 2014, Western July 30 – Aug 3 2014.

EZ Goals – to provide an end of season Senior Elite competition for EZ Athletes who do not qualify for USA Swimming Nationals or Junior Nationals.

EZ Target Dates for 2015 - first or second weekend in August.

Location – To Be Determined. The meet would go out to bid if the Eastern Zone determines it will move forwards with this meet

EZ Format - 3.5 day or full 4 day

EZ Standards – Discussions thus far have surrounded the current EZ Summer Super Sectionals standards

From the USA Swimming April 28th General Update Email:

Long Course Season: In terms of addressing needs for the long course season, the Senior Development Committee is proposing the creation of the Legends Championship Series. This proposal suggests adding a layer of meaningful and motivating season-ending long course championship meets to bridge the gap between Sectionals and Junior Nationals. Some key aspects of the concept include:

- 1) Meets would have no age limit.*
- 2) The concept would likely start with three meets and an additional meet (or meets) could be added as performance and demand dictates.*

3) LSCs would be assigned to participate in specific Legends meets each year. Assignments would ensure quality competition and meet sites. In order to provide variety and create interest, meet assignments could rotate from year to year.

4) Time standards for the Legends meets would provide a stepping stone from Sectionals to Junior Nationals. The current time standard projection is 2.5% slower than the 2013 Junior cuts. Based on 2013 performances, that cut would produce an estimated 2950 eligible participants.

5) Time standards would be the same for all Legends meets. The short course standards would be converted from the long course times.

6) These meets would be conducted the same week as the Long Course Junior Nationals. This timing provides a season-ending championship racing opportunity for athletes who do not qualify for Juniors or Nationals (as opposed to concluding the season at Sectionals in mid-July).

7) USA Swimming would provide funding for these meets in a similar manner to the funding provided for current Zone Championships. The projected funding level for the Legends series is \$15,000 per meet. The current funding provided for the Senior Zone Championships would be maintained for those Zones that chose to conduct a Senior Zone Championship.

8) It is recommended that these meets be implemented in 2015.

9) Oversight of these meets will belong with the Senior Development Committee.

- Does this body feel the EZ should seek bids on an EZ Senior Zone LC Championship Meet for the summer of 2015?

2015 Summer Super Sectionals

Standards for the 2015 EZ Summer Super Sectional Meet will be developed following the 2014 EZ Summer Super Sectional Meet? Larry Herr at USA Swimming is providing the top end, no faster than, standards as presented and passed the USA Swimming Senior Committee at the 2014 USAS Convention.

- Given this meet will now occur earlier in the season, should the EZ amend the current entry qualification window. Traditionally for an early August Super Sectional Meet, the entry window has been January 1st of the prior calendar year.

2014 Summer AG Zone Championships NEW AGENDA ITEM (5/7/14)

Following discussions at 2013 USAS Convention with Mary Turner, VA Swimming, Mary adjusted the meet template as follows:

- Swim the 13/14 800 Free and the 15/18 1500 Free on Wednesday. Prelim session ends at 12:43

- *Swim all 200 Free Relays on Wednesday. Finals session lasts 3 hrs 15 min (this incorporates change in distance free)*
- *Swim all 400 Medley Relays on Thursday. Finals session lasts 2 hrs 50 min*
- *Swim all 400 Free Relays on Friday. Finals session lasts 2 hrs 50 min*
- *Swim the 13/14 1500 Free and the 15/18 Free on Saturday. Prelim session ends at 12:42*
- *Swim all 200 Medley Relays on Saturday. Finals session lasts 2 hours. This incorporates change in distance free.*

So, if nothing else, these changes balance out the length of the finals sessions a bit as well as the prelims sessions that include the distance freestyles. I have attached copies of the session reports that I ran as well as a meet backup in case you want to play with it a bit. Please note that I did not update the QTs and remove any ineligible swims as I think our swimmers will rise to the occasion so the changes won't have a significant effect on the timelines.

I have also run session reports for this modified order of events using a -15 sec interval between heats. This is the interval that we have found is appropriate for timelines when using chase starts. I only checked this for the morning prelim sessions. Here are the resulting finish times:

- Wednesday: 11:58 (12:43pm without a chase format)
- Thursday: 11:08 (11:42am without a chase format)
- Friday: 10:59 (11:47am without a chase format)
- Saturday: 11:57 (12:32pm without a chase format)

So – some things for everyone to consider. Please realize that I only looked at this from a numbers standpoint. I do not know anything about coaching so I do not have a feel for the effect that the changes I'm suggesting will have on the athletes. I look forward to your comments on these suggestions and hope that we can get approval at next weekend's meeting for some of the modifications.

- Does the body feel it would be appropriate to move towards a chase format with the 2015 Summer AG Zone Meet for all prelim and timed final sessions to reduce the overall timeline?
(Note that athletes arrive as early as 630am for prelim warm up and finals typically end between 900-930pm)

2015 Summer AG Zone Champs

Concerns have been raised regarding 11/12 year old athletes swimming prelims immediately followed by finals with the existing Summer AG Zone Champ Meet format. The Technical Chair has been asked to consider developing alternate meet formats that could allow the 11/12s to swim in the Prelim Session followed by a 10 & Under Timed Final Session, followed by finals similar to the Winter All Star AG Meet.

Options:

- No Changes, continue to adjust standards as before with a 13&O Prelim Session, 12&U Session then Finals
- Drastically address standards to permit all 11&Os to swim a shorter prelim session.
- Given the Eastern Zone Swimming population has continued to expand year after year, to consider a separate North and South Region Summer AG Zone Champs. This would be similar to Sectionals with North/South Regions in the winter and Super Sectionals in the summer. Benefits to separating the Zone – LSC Teams, Athletes and Families would not need to travel as far to meets. This should promote better attendance within each region. Reduced costs for LSCs opting for Team Travel Trips. Ability to serve more athletes across the Zone. This could come either through expanded time standards and/or LSCs being permitted to enter up to a minimum of 5 athletes per event versus the current 3 for 12&U and 2 for 13&O regardless of the standards.
- Other Options?

LSC EZ Delegates are asked to return to their respective LSCs to get feedback at the local level. This will be discussed at HOD in the fall at the USAS Convention. Each LSC is requested to identify one individual to forward comments and feedback to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com

Future Winter All Star AG Zone Championships

Following discussions with the EZ Coach Director, Ed Dellert.

- Does the body feel that the EZ All Star AG Champs is the appropriate venue for 15 & Over athletes or would it be appropriate to move towards a 14&U Zone format? A Senior Zone Meet would first need to be developed to accommodate the displaced 15 & Over athletes. The meet could have time standards with a minimum number of participants per event per LSC similar to the current Summer Zone AG Champs.

LSC EZ Delegates are asked to return to their respective LSCs to get feedback at the local level as to how a winter Senior Zone Meet would be received. This will be discussed at HOD in the fall at the USAS Convention. Each LSC is requested to identify one individual to forward comments and feedback to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com

2015 Winter Sectional Standards

Sunday Relays – should all relays be swum in the morning?

- Sunday Distance – should teams/athletes be permitted the option not to swim with the top heat during finals?

High Point Eligibility

- On Sunday should the EZ consider: Running all relays in prelims. Running all distance events Fast to Slow immediately following Prelims. Starting Finals earlier on

Sunday evening. No Time Trials on Sunday. Goal to permit more athletes/teams to stay throughout the conclusion of finals on Sunday versus scratching and leaving after prelims and/or the distance session.

- What is the optimal placement for the potential 2015 EZ Winter LC Super Sectional Meet? LSC EZ Delegates are asked to return to their respective LSCs to get feedback at the local level as to how a winter Senior Zone Meet would be received. This will be discussed at HOD in the fall at the USAS Convention. Each LSC is requested to identify one individual to forward comments and feedback to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com General discussion indicated the most optimal placement may be in March.

Tech Planning Recommendations:

Motion to move all relays to prelims on Sunday – Motion FAILED

Motion to incorporate a Sunday Distance Scratch Rule – Motion FAILED

Stay with existing High Point Eligibility for Awards

Motion to amended events/sessions for Sunday at Winter Sectionals – Motion FAILED

LSC delegates to acquire feedback from their respective LSCs for discussion at USAS this fall re placement of the Winter LC Super Sectional Meet. Rick Aronberg, NI Swimming, EZ Winter Super Sectional LC Meet Host stated he felt the placement of the 2014 Winter LC Meet was well appropriate.

2015 Senior Zone Championship Meet Task Force Update

Does this body feel the EZ should seek bids on an EZ Senior Zone LC Championship Meet for the summer of 2015?

Tech Planning Recommendations:

Motion to include a 2015 EZ Senior Zone Championship for 2015 – Motion PASSED

2015 Summer Super Sectionals

- Given this meet will now occur earlier in the season, should the EZ amend the current entry qualification window. Traditionally for an early August Super Sectional Meet, the entry window has been January 1st of the prior calendar year.

Tech Planning Recommendations:

Motion to amend the qualification window for Summer Super Sectionals – Motion FAILED

2014 Summer AG Zone Championships

Does the body feel it would be appropriate to move towards a chase format with the 2015 Summer AG Zone Meet for all prelim and timed final sessions to reduce the overall timeline?

(Note that athletes arrive as early as 630am for prelim warm up and finals typically end between 900-930pm)

Tech Planning Recommendations:

Motion to adjust event orders to balance the sessions across days for 2014 – Motion PASSED.
Motion to potentially move to chase formats is deemed appropriate following the entry deadline for 2014- Motion PASSED.

Mary Turner indicated that these adjustments could lead to a time saving of up to 45 minutes per day.

· Swim the 13/14 800 Free and the 15/18 1500 Free on Wednesday. Prelim session ends at 12:43

1. Swim all 200 Free Relays on Wednesday. Finals session lasts 3 hrs 15 min (this incorporates change in distance free)
2. Swim all 400 Medley Relays on Thursday. Finals session lasts 2 hrs 50 min
3. Swim all 400 Free Relays on Friday. Finals session lasts 2 hrs 50 min
4. Swim the 13/14 1500 Free and the 15/18 Free on Saturday. Prelim session ends at 12:42
5. Swim all 200 Medley Relays on Saturday. Finals session lasts 2 hours. (this incorporates change in distance free.)

For consideration at the Eastern Zone Technical Committee Meeting at USAS Convention this fall.

2015 Summer AG Zone Champs

Concerns have been raised regarding 11/12 year old athletes swimming prelims immediately followed by finals with the existing Summer AG Zone Champ Meet format. The Technical Chair has been asked to consider developing alternate meet formats that could allow the 11/12s to swim in the Prelim Session followed by a 10 & Under Timed Final Session, followed by finals similar to the Winter All Star AG Meet.

1. No Changes, continue to adjust standards as before with a 13&O Prelim Session, 12&U Session then Finals
2. Drastically address standards to permit all 11&Os to swim a shorter prelim session.
3. Given the Eastern Zone Swimming population has continued to expand year after year, to consider a separate North and South Region Summer AG Zone Champs. This would be similar to Sectionals with North/South Regions in the winter and Super Sectionals in the summer. Benefits to separating the Zone – LSC Teams, Athletes and Families would not need to travel as far to meets. This should promote better attendance within each region. Reduced costs for LSCs opting for Team Travel Trips. Ability to serve more athletes across the Zone. This could come either through expanded time standards and/or LSCs being permitted to enter up to a minimum of 5 athletes per event versus the current 2 for 12&U and 2 for 13&O regardless of the standards.
4. Other Options?

LSC EZ Delegates are asked to return to their respective LSCs to get feedback at the local level. This will be discussed at HOD in the fall at the USAS Convention. Each LSC is requested to identify one individual to forward comments and feedback to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com

Future Winter All Star AG Zone Championships

- Does the body feel that the EZ All Star AG Champs is the appropriate venue for 15 & Over athletes or would it be appropriate to move towards a 14&U Zone format? A Senior Zone Meet would first need to be developed to accommodate the displaced 15 & Over athletes. The meet could have time standards with a minimum number of participants per event per LSC similar to the current Summer Zone AG Champs.

LSC EZ Delegates are asked to return to their respective LSCs to get feedback at the local level as to how a winter Senior Zone Meet would be received. This will be discussed at HOD in the fall at the USAS Convention. Each LSC is requested to identify one individual to forward comments and feedback to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com

Ed Dellert had requested that the agenda item be added and was asked to address the potential removal of 15&Overs from the existing Zone meet. Discussion revolved around a 10 year moratorium on discussion of this matter from 2007. This will be discussed at USAS if discussion is felt warranted. Jerry Adams of AD raised the 10 year moratorium.

Each LSC is asked to provide contact details for each of their respective LSC EZ Technical Appointees to Tristan Formon tr1stan@juno.com at your earliest convenience.

Motion to adjourn made, seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:05



**Eastern Zone Officials
Chair**
Spring 2014 Report
April 9, 2014

Please accept my apologies for not being present at the meeting. My daughter Mandy is graduating from TCU and our family is there to celebrate.

Zone and Sectional Meet Reports

Zone and Sectional Referee's Meet Reports are attached. I visited both the SC Zone Meet at Webster and the LC Sectional Meet in Buffalo. Both meets ran well and were staffed appropriately with officials. Both of these meets had Assistant Admin Referees and mentoring was provided. We are recommending this approach at all of our meets so that we can continue to develop strong Championship Meet Admin Referees. The other two meets were also staffed appropriately with officials. All four meets were Official Qualifying Meets (OQM's).

While there were no "officiating issues" during any of the four meets, there was some discussion about identifying roles and responsibilities for the leadership teams (Meet Referee, Lead Evaluator, and Team Lead Starter) at all of our meets. This will help with consistency throughout the Eastern Zone. These roles are being developed, reviewed, and edited by a committee of Eastern Zone officials and upon completion will be posted on our website for the benefit of the Meet Referee, Lead Evaluator, and Team lead Starter. A draft copy is enclosed with this report.

Upcoming Zone and Sectional Meet Assignments

2014 Speedo Championship Series LC "Super Sectional"

July 24-27, Erie Community College, Buffalo, NY (Hosted by Star Swimming)
The Meet Referee for this meet will be Tim Husson.

2014 LC Age Group Championships (Zones)

August 6-9, 2014, Richmond Virginia (Hosted by Poseidon Swimming)
The Meet Referee for this meet will be Bob Vincent.

Request for Travel Support from the Eastern Zone

As my predecessor did so well, I try to work on the Leadership Team during a Zone or Sectional Meet to help offset the travel expense associated with the meets. This method did not work for my visit to the Zone meet as it was during the LC Sectional Meet. It would be nice to have some travel money to be put toward visiting Zone and Sectional Meets.

Respectfully Submitted

Bob Vincent
Eastern Zone Officials Chair



MEET REPORT

2014 Speedo Championship Series Short Course Southern Sectional
Christiansburg Aquatic Center
595 North Franklin St., Christiansburg, VA 24073
March 20-23, 2014

Leadership Team: Meet Director: David Strider
Meet Referee: Trish Martin
Admin Referee: Jamy Pfister
Lead Evaluator: Bob Griffiths
Team Lead Starter: Mike Hoffer
Team Lead CJ: Kevin Hogan

Number of Officials: 42

Number of Evaluations: 9

STN2: 1 STN3: 3 CJN2: 1 CJN3(I): 1 DRN3 (E): 1
DRN3(R): 1 STN3(R): 1

Number of Teams: 91
Number of DQs: 66
Number of NSs: 29

Number of Swimmers: 749
Number of DFSs: 36
Number of SCRs: 98

Number of JNATS Qualifying Times: 10

Number of NATS Qualifying Times: 0

Top Women's Team Scores

Eagle Swim Team 549
Central Bucks Swim Team 410
Nation's Capital Swim Club 309

Top Men's Team Scores

Nation's Capital Swim Club 514
Duke Aquatics 430
Eagle Swim Team 335

Combined Team Scores

Eagle Swim Team 884
Nation's Capital Swim Club 823
Duke Aquatics 668

Comments: The Christiansburg Aquatic Center was very accommodating and provided an excellent competition venue for the swimmers. The host team, H2Okie Aquatics, did a top notch job with hospitality and volunteers. Virginia Swimming turned out in force to direct the meet and officiate. Admin, headed by Jamy Pfister, was expertly run. Mike Hoffer managed a strong deck team, particularly the starter team. Bob Griffiths provided extensive mentoring to the entire crew and pitched in as a starter when needed. Time Trials were well run and well attended. All in all, it was a successful and enjoyable sectional event.



MEET REPORT

2014 Speedo Championship Series Short Course Northern Sectional
Ithaca College
Ithaca, NY
March 20-23, 2014

Leadership Team: Meet Director: Adam Zaczkowski
Meet Referee: Jamie Cahn
Admin Referee: Tim Husson
Lead Evaluator: Paul Jones
Team Lead Starter: Paul Memont
Team Lead CJ: Rich McMillan

Number of Officials: 34	Number of Evaluations: 16			
STN2: 1	CJN2(R): 1	SRN2: 1	DRN2: 1	ARN3(F): 1
STN3: 4	CJN3(I): 1	SRN3(I): 1	DRN3(I): 2	
	CJN3(F): 1	SRN3(R): 1	DRN3(R): 1	

Number of Teams: 97	Number of Swimmers: 738
Number of DQs: 21	Number of DFSs: 41
Number of NSs: 12	Number of SCRs: 197

Top Women's Team Scores
Seacoast Swimming Assoc. - 601
Upper Valley Aquatic - 448
Albany Starfish - 393

Top Men's Team Scores
Phoenix Swimming - 598.5
New York City Aquatic - 373
Tonawanda Titans - 317

Combined Team Scores
Seacoast Swimming - 857
Central Jersey Aquatic - 681
Phoenix Swimming - 659.5

Comments: Overall I believe that the meet ran well. The host club Syracuse Chargers and Head Coaches, Adam Zaczkowski and Will Chidsey were great to work with as well as the facilities staff at Ithaca College. All worked hard to make the meet special for the athletes. We were also able to accommodate the number of new officials from Niagara LSC that were requesting evaluations. Thanks to Jim Stromski for his efforts to staff the meet with officials. We were able to attract officials from the northern and central part of the zone. Additional thanks to Tim Husson and the Admin Staff, Rich McMillan and the CJ team and all of the Syracuse Charger Volunteers for a terrific job.



MEET REPORT

2014 Eastern Zone Short Course Age Group Championships
Webster Aquatic Center
875 Ridge Road Webster, NY 14580
March 27-29, 2014

Leadership Team: Meet Directors: Doug Evans and Marci Callan
Meet Referee: Brooks Howard
Admin Referee: JoAnn Faucett
Lead Evaluator: Gloria Schuldt
Team Lead Starter: Sean Caron
Team Lead CJs: Walt Dixon and Dave Mosier

Number of Officials: 49 **Number of Evaluations: 18**

STN2: 7 STN3: 3 CJN2: 1 CJN3: 1 SRN2: 5
SRN3: 1

Number of Teams: 9 **Number of Swimmers: 673**
Number of DQs: 33 (27 Ind and 6 Relay) **Number of DFSs: 1**
Number of NSs: 37 (1st Round only) **Number of SCRs: 2 (finals)**

Number of JNATS Qualifying Times: 0 **Number of NATS Qualifying Times: 0**

Top Women’s Team Scores
Metropolitan LSC - 810
Niagara LSC - 657.50
Middle Atlantic LSC - 628.50

Top Men’s Team Scores
Metropolitan LSC - 837
Allegheny Mountain LSC - 660.50
Niagara LSC - 610

Combined Team Scores
Metropolitan LSC - 1647
Niagara LSC - 1267.50
Middle Atlantic LSC – 1220

Comments: The meet ran smoothly and without major incident. The host club FAST and Head Coach (Marci Callan) were great to work with as always. The awards ceremonies during timed finals went faster than anticipated leading to additional “music” before competition restarted to maintain the rest period in the timeline. The coaches were respectful of each other and the rules the venue requires for safety. It was great to have Gloria Schuldt at the meet, she was very accommodating to evaluation requests and very helpful providing instruction on the filing of paperwork for the 4 NAG records set at the meet. In Addition 27 Eastern Zone Records were broken - 22 Individual and 5 Relays.



MEET REPORT

2014 Speedo Championship Series Long Course Sectional
Erie Community College, Oak Street, Buffalo, NY 14203
March 27 - 30, 2013

Leadership Team: Meet Director: Sherry Benedict
Meet Referee: Paul Maker
Admin Referee: Peter Lagow
Lead Evaluator: Paul Memont
Team Lead Starter: Donna Westermeier
Team Lead CJ: Bob Menck

Number of Officials: 33

Number of Evaluations: 12

STN2: 3 STN3(R): 1 CJN3(F): 1 SRN3(1): 2 DRN3 (I): 1
STN3: 1 CJN3(R): 1 SRN3(R): 1 DRN3 (R): 1

Number of Teams: 67

Number of Swimmers: 342

Number of DQs: 12

Number of DFSs: 27

Number of NSs: 16

Number of SCRs: 219

Number of JNATS Qualifying Times: 61

Number of NATS Qualifying Times: 14

Top Women's Team Scores

Bluefish Swim Club 589
Univ. of Denver Hilltoppers 437
The Fish 414

Top Men's Team Scores

Bluefish Swim Club 783
Upper St. Clair Swim Club 282
Eastern Express Swim Team 254

Combined Team Scores

Bluefish Swim Club 1,372
The Fish 606
Upper St. Clair Swim Club 463

Comments: The meet ran very well. The Star Swimming Head Coach (Rick Aronberg), his staff and the Star volunteers were extremely supportive as always.

Bob Menck's officials' briefings were friendly and effective and proper deck protocols were observed throughout. The assigned team worked well together at all times. Rich McMillen was an excellent addition as Assistant AR and is recommended for the position in the future. Paul Memont and Bob Menck were able to accommodate all requests for evaluation.

Because of the known air quality issues in the warm-up pool area it was decided to open lanes 5 – 8 in the competition pool for a 10 minute warm-up/down after each men's final. Awards were presented on the lane 1 side during these breaks. For Saturday finals breaks were taken after every fourth event to limit the session duration. Similar breaks were added during preliminaries as needed and when requested by coaches. These remedies were effective because of the small number of swimmers in the meet. I haven't heard any complaints about the meet from coaches and many said how happy they were with the way things ran.