

Eastern Zone Meeting May 9, 2015

The Spring meeting of the Eastern Zone was called to order at 9:10 am by Zone Directors, Paris Jacobs and Ed Dellert. Members in attendance included:

AD: JoAnn Fawcett, Jerry Adams

AM: Brian Blackwell, Michael Kristufek, Patrick Lersch, Scott Wilshire

CT: Maddie Snow, Rick Lewis, Ty Seymour

MA: Kate Scheuer, Mike Siep, Paul Stockett, Jamie Platt

MD: Matt McDonough

ME: John Smith

MR: Amine Boubsis, Brian Hansbury, Edgar Perez, John McIlhargy, Mary Fleckenstein, Monique Grayson

NE: Ali Lie, Carol Healey, Nadine Johnson-Jesionek, Paul Memont, Bob Mench

NI: Adam Zackowski, Jim Bowen, Marci Callan, Michael Switalski, Nicholas Burdo, Rick Aronberg, Will Chidsey

NJ: Bud Rimbault, Deuel Stephens, Ed Dellert, Gabby Werner, Greg Eggert, Jim O'Neill, Mohamed Abdelaal, Stephanie Crofton, Tristan Formon

PV: Bill MarIn, Bob Vincent, Heather Purk, Manga Dalizu, Miriam Lynch, Murphy Freal, Paris Jacobs, Riley Eaton, Tim Husson

VA: Alix Neilan, Art Anthony, George Homewood, Kara McHaney, Mary Turner, Peter Maloney, Steve Hennessy

USA Swimming: Peter Clark, Robert Broyles, Gloria Schultz

The minutes of the EZ Annual Meeting on September 18th, 2015, were amended as follows:

- Steven Boyd's name was added as Eric Community College's Chairman of the Board.
- The report from the Operational Risk Committee was added.
- A notation that the 2015 EZ LC Age Group Championship meet was awarded to Virginia Swimming was added. The dates of the meet will be August 5 – 8 and it will be held in Richmond, VA.
- The word 'Senior' was added to #6 so that it reads 2015 Eastern Zone Senior Championships.

The minutes were approved as amended.

Finance Report: The finance report was presented showing that the Zone has a balance of \$25,944.37. The report was approved as submitted. Finance Committee Chairman, Rick Lewis, provided the following as members of the Finance Committee: John McIlhargy (MR), Scott Wilshire (AM), and Ray Grant (NE). A motion was made and seconded to include the EZ Athlete Rep on the committee. The motion passed. Rick reported that the committee will work on policies and procedures for reimbursement during the next few months and send a draft to the General Chairs in late July so it is ready for approval at the EZ Annual Meeting in October.

Approval of Agenda: Two additional topics were added to the agenda for the meeting: Zone Board of Review Update and nominations for EZ Age Group Coach. A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried.

Report of Directors: Ed and Paris then presented their report which can be found at the end of the minutes.

Technical Report: Tristan presented his report from the meeting held on May 8th, a copy of which can be found at the end of the minutes. He then listed the current members of the Technical Committee and requested that each General Chair provide any necessary updates. Committee members include: Jerry Adams (AD), Luke Modrak (AM), Rick Lewis (CT), Matt McDonough (MD), Jay Morissette (ME), John Yearwood (MR), Jon Larson (MA), Laura Matuszak (NE), Will Chidsey (NI), Manga Dalizu (PV) and Steve Hennessy (VA) with Tristan Formon (NJ) serving as chair.

Zone Championship Report: Bud reported that bids have been received for the Spring 2016 championship meets. A single bid was received for each of the LC Sectional meets as well as the SC Age Group Championship meet. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to grant the meets as follows:

- North Region LC Speedo Champions Meet to be held at Erie Community College hosted by NI/STAR Swimming.
- South Region LC Speedo Champions Meet to be held at Collegiate School Aquatics Center hosted by VA/PSDN Swimming.
- SC Age Group Championship Meet to be held at Webster hosted by NI/FAST Swimming

Two bids were received for the 2016 SC Super Sectional meet:

- NI/SYCH to be held at Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY, and
- VA/HOKI to be held at Christiansburg Aquatic Center, Christiansburg, VA.

A vote was taken and the meet was awarded to NI/SYCH and will be held at Ithaca College.

Because Easter falls on the Sunday of the week when the LC Sectional meets are normally scheduled, a motion was made to host all sectional meets March 31 – April 3 in 2016. The motion was seconded and carried. The SC Age Group Championship Meet will be held March 24 – 26.

Metro Swimming submitted a bid for 2016 LC Zones. Because all LSCs were not aware that bids for that meet would be considered at this meeting, the following motion was made: all LSCs in the Zone will be notified that bids for the 2016 LC Age Group Championship Meet will be accepted until noon, Tuesday, May 19th. At that point, the General Chair of each LSC will be notified of the bids that were submitted and asked to indicate to whom the meet should be awarded. All votes must be returned by noon on Friday, May 22nd. The motion was seconded and carried.

Zone Board of Review: Bud distributed a draft copy of the Eastern Zone Board of Review Basic Guidelines. He also reminded the body that there is a section on the EZ website that provides all of the policies, procedures and job descriptions of the ZBOR and asked that each LSC put a link to that page on its website. He noted that an LSC will not be notified about actions before the ZBOR unless it is a party in the complaint. He plans to set up a conference call with the LSC appointees to the ZBOR to review procedures. A filing fee is required with any complaint and it was suggested that a deadline for submitting the fee be established and any complaint will be dropped if payment is not received by that date.

Athlete Representative: Ty reported that a new system has been developed to obtain reports from athlete representatives serving on national committees. The Athletes Committee has also submitted some legislation to the Rules & Regulations Committee for consideration at the House of Delegates in the fall.

Diversity & Inclusion: Miriam reported that she has received a good number of applications for the camp that will be held June 25 - 28 at the University of Maryland. Many activities are planned for those attending.

Officials: Bob presented his report which is attached at the end of the minutes. He also stated that he will continue to request recommendation for Meet Referees for Zone meets from LSC Officials Chairs.

Old Business: There was none.

Nominations:

- **Non-Coach Zone Director:** John McIlhargy, MR
Mary Turner, VA
- **Technical Chair:** Tristan Formon, NJ
- **Age Group Chair:** Edgar Perez, MR

Reports from National Committees:

- **Age Group Development:** Bill Marlin presented his report and a copy is available at the end of the minutes. Topics included in the report are an update on the Progressions for Age Group Development document, the status of IMX meets, the request to propose legislation to ban technical suits for 12 & younger athletes.
- **Convention Education:** Tristan Formon reported that the committee will be hosting three workshops at Convention this year and also now have a Facebook page. His full report is can be found at the end of the minutes.
- **Occupational Risk:** Mike Seip reported that the committee will hold a workshop in Denver on June 25 – 26. Each LSC has been contacted to send a representative. The committee has proposed legislation concerning backstroke starts. It was also mentioned that a new law in Pennsylvania requires all volunteers working with children to pass an FBI background check.
- **Registration/Membership:** Carol Healey reported that, beginning with the 2016 registration year, each LSC can decide if it wants to print non-athlete cards for Officials or allow them to use the certification card available through OTS to verify membership.
- **Times and Recognition:** Tim Husson reported that Scholastic All American applications will be available on June 1. Olympic Trial Qualifiers from the Eastern Zone are on the website. He has also posted a Zone Top 10 list on the website and requests feedback on this new feature.
- **Diversity/Inclusion:** Peter Maloney reported that the NCAA has updated information on transgender and gender neutral athletes. USA Swimming policy will follow state and national guidelines.
- **International Relations:** Greg Eggert reported that legislation is being proposed for FINA that would change the term limits for the president from two the three terms. If the legislation passes, this would allow the current president to serve an additional term.

New Business:

- The proposal to change wording in the Zone Meet procedures concerning the dates of the Age Group Championship meets and the proposal to amend the Zone Manual to include pre-meet appeals/protests/special entry exceptions were withdrawn. These will be included in Policy updates that will be distributed this summer for consideration at the Annual Meeting.
- **Eastern Zone Hall of Fame:** Ed has created a task force to set policies and procedures for this. The individuals on the Task Force are: Scot Wilshire (AM), Mike Seip (MA), Bill Marlin (PV), Paris Jacobs, and Peter Clark. Ed asked that General Chairs begin considering those who should be nominated from their LSC.

- **Policy Changes:** Tristan reviewed the decisions made at the Technical meeting held the previous night and proposed the following changes:
 - EZ Age Group Championship Meet Regulations and Procedures: Section 10
 - D. Pre-Meet Host Responsibilities
 - 6. Shall state the entry deadline and method by which entries should be submitted; it is strongly recommended that entries be submitted electronically by the respective LSC. **The procedures for late entries will be specified in the meet announcement.**
 - EZ Manual Appendix A – Order of Events – Eastern Zone SC Age Group Championship:
 - *The fastest heat of the Girls 13-14 1000 Free and the Girls 15-18 1000 Free will be swum at finals. The fastest heat of the Girls 13/14 1000 Free will be swum as the first event of finals. The fastest heat of the Girls 15/18 1000 Free will be swum as the final individual event of finals prior to relays. All other heats of the 1000 Free will be swum as the last events in the preliminaries. The remaining heats of the 1000 free will be swum as follows: the next fastest heat of 13-14 girls, then 13-14 boys, 15-18 girls, 15-18 boys until all heats have been swum.**
 - **The fastest heat of the Boys 13-14 1650 free and the Boys 15-18 1650 free events will be swum with finals. The fastest heat of the Boys 13/14 1650 Free will be swum as the first event of finals. The fastest heat of the Boys 15/18 1650 Free will be swum as the final individual event of finals prior to relays. All other heats of the 1650 Free will be swum as the last events of the preliminaries. The remaining heats of the 1650 shall be swum as follows: the next fastest heat of 13-14 girls, then 13-14 boys, 15-18 girls, 15-18 boys until all heats have been swum.**
- A motion was made and seconded for each of these proposals. Each motion passed.
- **2016 Spring Meeting:** Metropolitan Swimming submitted a bid to host the meeting in Atlantic City and Virginia Swimming submitted a bid to host the meeting in Virginia Beach. Metropolitan Swimming was awarded the bid by a vote of the delegates.
 - **Combined Sectional Meet Results:** Ed and Tim Husson are working to combine the meet results from the two short course sectional meets. Once completed the results will be posted online.

The meeting adjourned at 12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Turner

Eastern Zone Board of Review Basic Guidelines

1. To file a complaint it must be sent to the EZBOR Chair. The complainant may use email or written correspondence to file their complaint.
2. The complaint must contain the alleged infraction, name the individuals involved and cite the rule(s) that are in question.
3. Complaint is to be filed within 90 days of occurrence of the alleged infraction. This may be waived at the discretion of the EZBOR Chair.
4. A filing fee of \$100 must accompany the complaint, to do so please include the number of the check with the complaint. The filing fee check is to be made out to Eastern Zone Swimming and sent to the EZ BOR Chair at 407 Berkshire Road, Ridgewood, NJ 07450 no later than five days after the complaint is forwarded to the EZBOR Chair.
5. The EZBOR Chair will review complaints that upon receipt. If the complaint falls under the responsibility of the National Board the check will not be cashed and the complaint will be referred to the National Board of Review.
6. If the complaint is accepted the filing fee check will be cashed and the fee is non-refundable.
7. The accepted complaint will then be handed to a review panel for their consideration and decision.
8. EZBOR hearings will be conducted through a conference call funded by the Eastern Zone.
9. Once a decision is reached the affected parties will be informed of the outcome.
10. If either side is unhappy with the decision of the EZBOR they may appeal the decision to the National Board of Review.

Eastern Zone Technical Report for the Spring EZ General Meeting – May 9th 2015

Respectfully submitted by Tristan Formon, EZ Technical Chair

tr1stan@juno.com www.easternzoneswimming.org

2015 EZ Winter Championship Meets

Each of the meet hosts were asked to provide comments/feedback for each of their respective meets in written and/or oral form.

2016 Winter Sectional Standards

Once USA Swimming publish the 2016 “No Faster Than” Time Standards, the draft standards will be reviewed for compliance and adjusted as necessary before posting on the Eastern Zone Web Site.

2015 Senior Zone Championships

Standards are posted online. The meet will follow a full four day traditional Summer Super Sectional Event Format for 2015.

2015 Summer Super Sectionals

Standards are posted on the Eastern Zone website. The meet will follow a full four day traditional Summer Super Sectional Event Format for 2015. The EZ Technical Chair will work in coordination with the Meet Host and EZ Technical Committee to review the standards for 2016. 2015 marks the first year that the Zone has been required to comply with the USA Swimming Senior Committee requirements both in relation to time standards and timing of the meet. The impact of the earlier weekend upon club and athlete participation for 2015 in comparison to the prior years will be taken into consideration when developing standards moving forwards.

2015 Summer AG Zone Championships

The EZ Technical Planning Committee considered proposed wording below for inclusion in the EZ Policy Manual to provide a mechanism to address acceptance of first time qualifiers from LSC Championship Meets falling after the Summer Zone entry deadline.

Recommended Motion by the EZ Tech Committee to be considered relating to EZ Summer AG Championships at the EZ General Meeting (INITIAL MOTION FAILED AT THE EZ TECH MEETING, NEW MOTION BELOW PASSED AT THE EZ TECH MEETING):

Section 10 EASTERN ZONE AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIP MEET REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

D. Pre-Meet Host Responsibilities

6. Shall state the entry deadline and method by which entries should be submitted; it is strongly recommended that entries be submitted electronically by the respective LSC. **The procedures for late entries will be specified in the meet announcement.**

2016 Winter AG Zone Championships

In reviewing the 2015 Winter AG Zone Championships and comparing to the EZ Policy Manual it is noted that the fastest heat of the girls 1000 and boys 1650 have been traditionally swum with finals in a similar manner to the LC Summer AG Zone Meet. The EZ Manual specifically states as such in the order of events for Summer LC Meet. There is no such statement in the Winter SC Meet events in the EZ Manual.

Recommended Motion by the EZ Tech Committee to be considered relating to EZ Winter AG Championships at the EZ General Meeting (MOTION PASSED AT THE EZ TECH MEETING):

The addition / insertion of the wording below into the EZ Manual Appendix A - Order of events – Eastern Zone SC Age Group Championship:

***The fastest heat of the Girls 13-14 1000 Free and the Girls 15-18 1000 Free will be swum at finals. The fastest heat of the Girls 13/14 1000 Free will be swum as the first event of finals. The fastest heat of the Girls 15/18 1000 Free will be swum as the final individual event of finals prior to relays. All other heats of the 1000 Free will be swum as the last events in the preliminaries. The remaining heats of the 1000 free will be swum as follows: the next fastest heat of 13-14 girls, then 13-14 boys, 15-18 girls, 15-18 boys until all heats have been swum.**

****The fastest heat of the Boys 13-14 1650 free and the Boys 15-18 1650 free events will be swum with finals. The fastest heat of the Boys 13/14 1650 Free will be swum as the first event of finals. The fastest heat of the Boys 15/18 1650 Free will be swum as the final individual event of finals prior to relays. All other heats of the 1650 Free will be swum as the last events of the preliminaries. The remaining heats of the 1650 shall be swum as follows: the next fastest heat of 13-14 girls, then 13-14 boys, 15-18 girls, 15-18 boys until all heats have been swum.**

Collegiate Athlete Eligibility

At the 2014 EZ Fall Technical Committee Meeting at USAS, a concern was raised by Jamie Bloom (NE Swimming) regarding collegiate athletes attending the EZ Summer AG Zone Championships. Purpose: To provide the appropriate venue for any 18 year old Eastern Zone athletes who have competed collegiately as athletes at the club or varsity levels. **MOTION FAILED**

Futures – EZ Manual

John Morse, USA Swimming Senior Development Committee Chair, confirmed that all matters pertaining to the Futures Meets will be handled by USA Swimming rather than at the Zone level. Thus there is no necessity for the EZ to develop wording to the EZ Manual.

Age Group Development Committee:

The AGDC HAS ONLY MET TWICE SINCE SEPTEMBER. At our most recent meeting we were asked by the Rules & Regs. committee our opinion if there needed to be a rule added to the rule book about LSC's running combined Championship meets. We felt that no new rule was needed and that the language currently in the rule book covers it and allows for it.

The AGDC was also asked to submit legislation to the R&R committee to ban High Tech swim suits for 12&U age group defined competition. The driving force behind this request to our committee was not the material the suit is made out of, but one of affordability. Economically disadvantaged families cannot afford the high tech fast suits therefor putting them at a competitive disadvantage with their peers. The AGDC did not feel we had enough information to put forth any legislation before the May 15th deadline for submittal. A meeting with the suit manufactures may be needed as well as talking with other NGB's to see what type of things some of them have done to even the equipment playing field.

The IMX meets across the country have continued to grow with the exception of the Greensboro, NC meet. The northeast meet was again, the largest of the 6 funded IMX meets with 1305 athletes entered. The next largest meet was in Mesa, AZ at nearly 600 athletes. Peter Clarke and I have had several conversations on what the next step may be for IMX. Currently 2 more male and 2 more female IMX athletes have been added to the National Select Camp. One of the ideas we have briefly discussed was to run an IMX National Championships in the LC format. We are not sure of the qualification process but it could consist of the top 16 finishers from from each single age group from each of the 6 funded meets.

The AGDC has finished our re-write of the Progressions for Age Group Development document. We are currently waiting on three individuals to get back to us with their input (2 from the USOC and 1 nutritionist). Once we receive that, it will go out one final time to some select coaches for their practical review then we will send it to the USAS people form them to add their links and videos. I believe that Tom Avischous will present it at convention.

New reports and charts /graphs on club portal page on USUS website. Check them out and try to use them.

Bill Marlin
Age Group Development Committee