

2017 US AQUATIC SPORTS CONVENTION

NOTES – J. ROWLAND

This year I stuck with a combination of Officials workshops and those committees related to pending technology changes affecting SWIMS (and OTS and Deck Pass to a certain extent) with an eye towards how we can take advantage of those changes and where I could help (at National or LSC level) to make those shifts more manageable with respect to existing practices. The relevant sessions have more detail below while governance and Western Zone session comments are more limited due to extensive coverage by other attendees from Pacific.

WEDNESDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER

GOVERNANCE TASK FORCE (1030 – 1200)

This was a somewhat “unplanned” meeting in the sense that the Task Force didn’t really have an agenda for this session. It effectively became a “first round” of the grief they would later receive via the Town Hall format meetings with comparatively senior people getting in their comments here. Interesting comments included “AAU is coming back” relative to new membership categories, “pricing ourselves out of market” and “declining sport.” One other concern of note was people saying that board shouldn’t self-organize and that HOD should still select who fills which positions.

SWIMS TIMES WORKSHOP (1300 – 1450)

Tim Husson (PV) Chair of Times & Recognition

**** Get on his email list / request presentation (via sign-in sheet)*

Larry Herr, Jamie Lewis (Staff)

Brief comment on Times & Recognition Committee Tasks

Introductions (entire room: name, LSC & role)

PC: Laurie Benton & Jay Rowland

SWIMS DATA REVIEW

This was a prepared set of slides / presentation that I have yet to find in the USA-S archive.

Highlights for 2016-2017 Swim Season

10.3M times loaded

9900 meets (includes NCAA & FINA)

SCHOLASTIC ALL AMERICAN

603 M + 555 F = 1158

(180 3x members)

Form is online now

Sean / South Texas Nitro / 4.0 + 4IM national

(various of Larry's charts / graphics – see Twitter)

Certificates to LSCs (#1 Times for Individual Events by LSC)

Records broken: 82 (57 individual + 25 relay)

(Claire Tuggle CC tied for #3 11-12 girls 6 records)

World Junior records "Pending" nonsense (Larry describing FINA situation)

NAG All-Time Top 100 --- automatic updates from SWIMS --> web updates

TIMES: Data Hub: All Time Top 100: show details

last year:

266 meets loaded multiple times -- re-uploads ---> bogus bad stuff (ONDA issue didn't hit top 100 and confirmed fixed in SWIMS)

LARRY H ON WEB SITE:

TIMES :: Times Search :: (can wildcard searches now?) -- top 250 per page (instead of prior 20 row limit) + Exports: print to PDF, [1200 result limit] & export to Excel

Top Times Event Report

(Jay: Data Hub needs a better interface)

World record progressions

Top Times List Generation (can do from web site without SWIMS access)

SWIMS Only: Extra Criteria --

Time Standards

Data Validation

(Feature Requests)

**** Ask Larry about this *** (also USA-S IT Director in meeting & Paul Bloom from Statera)*

3rd party vendor access to SWIMS via API

Membership data via API first

then Times...

OME not going away, just focusing on sectional and above (in response to requests for customization)

3rd party providing access to remainder (9900 meet)

NCAA Adopting FINA/USA Swimming technical rules

observed --> new category of approved meets (proposed legislation)

NCAA meets will still be loaded by staff but will also go into SWIMS (no more observation approvals at LSC level)

Observed Meets -- load swimmers as Unattached (checkbox)

proposed legislation re: Observed Meets, minimum number of _association officials_

Records/Holding Tank

All NAG and American Records go into Holding Tank until manually approved

--- clean out your holding tank: approve it, fix it or delete it

Foreign Meets

... depends ...

portions loaded by FINA person

750 FINA power points or above

send requests to Tim (chair) to get these loaded

CL2 or SD3 great, link to website okay, photocopy

Times Policy Manual (look under data hub)

two site integration with the funky window table stuff

to be fixed at time TBD

DECK PASS ON TEAMUNIFY SNEAK PEEK (1500 – 1550)

Tom Fristoe (TU)

Jim Fox (USA-S, Marketing Director)

Original Desk Pass concept in 2011

USA-S can't really manage need for App Updates

Website redesign included Deck Pass functionality to allow webview-based approach to App

App won't be killed, just simplified

TeamUnify is going to be announced as an official partner of USA Swimming

Registration and Billing on TeamUnify

DeckPass on TeamUnify sites

basically DeckPass pages will also be directly embedded on club TU pages

Immediate updates via webview approach, parent accounts, targeting by person

Combination of iframe / webview and API-based integration between TU and USA-S / SWIMS

Target driving traffic

DeckPass Perks

TU will have "Live API Feed" and will be able to do times verification on entries – sounds like the TU meet setup

app will start getting more attention from USA-S

Showing mockups during this workshop

SSO issues

45 of 59 LSCs currently use TeamUnify, partnership includes LSCs

Timing-related API work is currently underway, should be done by end of year (2017)

TU: purchased by Sports Engine 16 months ago (MN-based)

then they were bought by NBC Sports (acquires and keeps amateur sports tech)

Technically autonomous with a big checkbook

TU CMS Rewrite

Responsive, with unique looks / skinning for clubs (and LSCs)

"Social Media" Feed with modular widgets for pages (captive / secure social effectively)

System-wide management tools, all responsive

*** Late 1Q18 Availability ***

New TU calendar already "secretly" launched and available (TAB_New_Calendar)

"Mashup" of Events / Calendar functionality with unified view, saved views, sub to views etc

MainSet Structured Workouts

Communication Tool / Hub now

Scrapbook

Private Social Feed driven by coaches for athletes and parents

TeamFeed for all users

Targeted

Public & Private messages

Stickers

*** Facebook, Twitter & Instagram integrations with automatic push (but deletes are not)

Aside: Flex IT implementation not until September 2018

THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE MEETING (0800 – 0950) REUNION F

Omega Timing guy (owned by Swatch)

Limited-time discount on Omega start system (separate volume for tone vs. mic)
(go to booth for details / place orders)

Carol Zaleski -- FINA fun...

first olympics, assigned to timing room

C created timing position

Swimming Congress in July in Budapest

relatively short -- just verbiage / clarification

see FINA web site for details

Tokyo Olympics -- adding 3 medal events: M 800 FR, W 1500 FR, Mixed MR

Dan McAllen (singing Good Morning To You)

Nationals: Columbus, Dave Coddington MR

Jr Nationals: West Iowa City

Summer Nat & Jr: Irvine

US Open Water: Tempe Clinic May 10, Meet May 11-12

Futures:

Richmond

Cary, NC

Rochester

Santa Clara

Pro Series

Austin

Atlanta

Mesa

Indy May

SC June 14-17

Columbus OH, July

New National Team Director very soon

Sandy Drake Open Water

Budapest, Hungarian vacation spot: 16 days, water no viz, divers at finish. 25k event on zodiac 7h+

Jay Thomas, Rules

21st September Medley Freestyle rule date

Butterfly redundant wording removed by FINA (not in our rules)

27 R Items, 4 Part 1 -- block wedge, starting grip, seeding distance fix Y, OW wetsuit, strobes at start --
colored lights for prep & long whistles (OK, Educate coaches)

Bill Rose, Testing

Joe Woo is on his subcommittee

Ref re-cert is 100 questions (instead of all the others)

April 15 testing shutdown for updates
check Qs missed > 25% : reviewed
NCAA tests 2y ago -- 10 bad Qs

Melissa Hellervik-Bing,

We Are Mentors Workshop: added mid-year, expected low attendance (30-40), got 90 to show
treating officials as customers; appreciation, respect
how to inspire volunteers
1st Week of June this year
? speaker -- hospitality management
re-invigorate: #officiallyawesome

Zone Workshops for N3 Evaluators
?? who do we have as Evaluators in PC ??
website redesign input on layout
eval survey limit to 60 characters (why?)
Nationals & Jr Nationals -- every official is evaluated
Pro Series & Futures -- evals optional (strongly encouraged)

Forms Section: hytek closeout, electronic forms, Wayne Shelby timeline form

Ann Lawley, Education

Mythbusters input from Education team to Jim H
Vetting Calls -- Training Arena level, trickle down -- CJ/DR Training
"Share Site": coming soon
Wayne Shelby (NC) National AR Renewal Q

Jamey

FB Live Q&A
Learned about Tinder talking with coaches last night
Quarterly Calls
Effectively communicate, committee to field --> education is primary focus,
?? Mike D -- disseminate this info ?? zone chairs or ??
--> I've never heard about these things coming in
*** "All Officials" call idea?
Next Call Oct 4 1700 PDT

Tim Husson Q: officials appreciate getting newsletter, spotty of late

Officials Newsletter, trying to get back to 2mo schedule

Patrick Hunter & Andrew Tang, athlete members
Patrick lead for preparing lotsa dox / pres

Patrick

athlete-centrism
officiating --> consistency most important, both within LSCs and across
S&T teaching plan
SR teaching plan

situations & resolutions WIP, next few months
req for newsletter content / articles
recruitment, retention and reciprocity docs, updated and will be published RSN
guidelines related to athlete reps on LSC Officials Committees

Acknowledging Gina (also: ask her about credit for Convention 2016)

Active Items

- * New Uniform for National 3* and above: Black pants, socks & shoes
(no impact for sectional or zones: Jr Nat (3), Pro Series (4), Nat / US Open (5)) [Khaki was 2004 change]
(??? Irvine Summer Nat / Jr in black shorts, socks and shoes)
- * 2018 Cards -- Deck Pass OK
- * National Meet Applications:
 - winter, east coast meets close very quickly (3.5 day)
 - Q: when do they go up?
 - A: generally at 6mo or so
 - rec: can we make it consistent?
 - rec: publish date on when it will be available?
 - rec: notify LSC officials chairs immediately
 - also doing social media?
- * 2 zone workshops, details tbd
- * New Officials (Ref) Workshop in Denver in 2 weeks

COACHES VS. OFFICIALS (1500 – 1550)

Moderated discussion between three coaches and three officials with prepared questions. Just some comments here...

Jim Holcomb: if he had **any** question about a call (as DR) then he wouldn't have accepted it in the first place

Scrivener's error example (also in burning issues / mythbusters)

Dave Coddington: "What **drew your attention** to the infraction?" (He said the same when discussing CJ skills during evaluation at Spring FW)

"The kids are on the stage, not the official(s)." – Coach comment

Call of the day issues (including a club-specific admonition at some meet? Wtf)

Let the coach ask their question

Take a breath

Have a conversation

Respect, no yelling (Cecil G)

Hold the swimmer pending notification – there is no “possibly disqualified”

WESTERN ZONE BUSINESS MEETING (1600 – 1800)

Tom A. is staff liaison for now (until Bill K. replacement hired)

AG Champs

- 4 days

- ~53 officials

- 682 athletes

- \$400k economic impact to community

Senior Champs (Coach John McGough)

- 53 officials (again? Seems suspect)

- 1055 athletes

- host making ~ \$25k

- Hospitality cost ~ \$17k

Teri White, Zone Officials Chair

- Mentor / Mentee Program at AG meet

- 11 LSCs sent officials

- program at 50% capacity – send more officials

- Officials Reimbursement Program (for working all sessions)

Haley, Disability Coordinator

WZ All-Star Team to Black History Meet in DC

D&I Camp at SDSU

Open Water: Zones to promote

- Zone Open Water Championships to “grass roots” feel for Open Water

- 4 page sanction application (simplified?)

WZ Non-Coach Rep Candidates

- Dale Ammon (CO Admin VC, Business Exec)

- Denna Culpepper (SN ED)

- Jim Patterson (CC var)

2019 Meets

- AG Oregon

- Senior Clovis

- OW Castaic

FRIDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER

BURNING ISSUES FOR OFFICIALS, 2017 EDITION (0800 – 0950)

* Uniform Change Natl Deck (same as yesterday 3*) [??? black shorts, black socks and black shoes in Irvine next year ???]

? Mixed relays at LSC champs -- not many

? Why no penalty for deck changes -- culture change

? Transgender deck entries?

there is a ~two day process for gender changes in SWIMS (times go with athlete)

* Decertification process documented on web site (somewhere)

? Proof of "OK to be on deck" for apprentice officials -- (under supervision of certified ref/official therefore OK)

* FL alternating kick: passing is OK, it is concurrent motion in opposite directions that's infraction

* Medley FR leg: must be on breast prior to stroke/kick
slip: still on other, same: >25%

Heart-rate monitor

? can you find anything (doc, etc) that supports position? if no, then you're probably out there

* OK as long as no competitive advantage

* jury isn't secret

MELISSA H-B: EVALUATE THE EVALUATOR RESPONSES + OTHER MISC. TOPICS

Mentoring Swim Officials Webinar (find)

three positive things

? too many evaluations on one evaluator? -- how many is a good target? (Jim says 6-8 but he's good, M says good to split evals by position)

*** get eval requests up front!

*** set a deadline (day-of requests are difficult and put evaluator at a disadvantage)

--> Mike: zone vs LSC view, what does LSC need?, evaluator status, clinic sessions (Omega at SR?)

also: "new ref" meeting in October

N2 vs. N3 evaluations -- how "minimal" is the N2 (really)

3 skills to work on: easiest to hardest

NCAA stuff

Times Policy manual

? YMCA official reciprocity (their test must include some core value "C" aspects)

REGISTRATION WORKSHOP - TECHNOLOGY UPDATES (1030 – 1150)

Mark Brown (SN) Chair

Pre-Meeting:

Safe Sport Activity Book (Susan Webster, Director of Safe Sport USA-S)

APT Change

New, philosophical change: Library of courses, self-hosted

(Part of website changes)

USA Swimming Learn

Platform for Courses

Launched ~2 weeks before convention

usaswimming.org/protect

*** Course Evaluation REQUIRED to complete the course ***

Eric (committee member?) asking good questions

maybe Eric Stimson (Niagara)

John Burbidge (USA-S IT Director) <jburbidge@usaswimming.org>

Online Membership Services (OMS)

Paul Bloom (Statera, IT / Website Consultant)

Current Process

SDIF → LSC Registrar (via email)

to Membership Holding Tank

(they need to add User to Notification & Fields)

Streamline SDIF Submission

Vendor System validation in SWIMS

with feedback loop

*** Need to get a copy of the flowchart slides ***

(post-meeting John indicated Pam Lowenthal needs to approve)

(She is IL Admin. Dir. – head of some subcommittee?)

Automatic Queue into Registrar Holding Tank + email to Registrar (? Confirm)

Status Check Available

Submitted files sorted by month in queue

source TU & Active

archive old files, sort by date etc

Reformatted Holding Tank view with Side-by-Side (diff view)

Old method will remain available (but will **not** go into the same queue with the current implementation)

Amounts owed are outside the scope of this effort (will still just get a PDF)

Next phase will add non-athlete members

Web Site Discussion

Search query persistence (currently none)

search improvements are a priority (but still broken two-site window thing)

“Favorites” feature on USA Swimming Site

apparently can not bookmark a Page (tied to Content Only – CMS thing?)

Zone Workshops

Issues with Google Search (seems likely to be user / dev error to me – need to ask what the issue is)

TIMES & RECOGNITION COMMITTEE BUSINESS MEETING (1330 – 1520)

CTO@1330

Tim H. PV Chair

* Program Operations Report (Handout) -- Summary given to Dan for board meeting

SAA Statistics (same as previous meeting)

??? does SAA info get sent to the LSCs?

can we run a report to generate a list of athletes to send to clubs to get them to check?

1 time that qualifies for current [Winter Juniors] for the current academic year -- (takes advanced work into account for GPA calc)

NTV -- Suzanne Heath (confirmed: she is North Carolina at table, was in Tech update mtg raised 25y event question)

SWIMS

Records -- Isabelle Frazier (couldn't be here)

82 broken, stats from previous mtg

7 world records, 2 indiv 5 relay

Old Biz:

Mixed Relays -- Bad Data in SWIMS

HyTek (? TU Touchpad)

HyTek Mixed Event Designator -- doesn't necessarily indicate vvvvvvvv

USA-S Mixed Relay Strict Def (2F / 2M 101.7.3, also FINA) ---- need to cleanup data to just these

??? AG (Kyle & Vern): are we interested in true mixed (2+2) relay being a recognized event (ie

NAG record)

--> approved to add them

New Business:

NCAA rule change: no need to observe, proposed legislation to create a new category of approved (just listed as NCAA Meets) -- [R.6]

Additional information for Policy manual for dealing with these

Kinesio Tape -- adding a checkbox to record application to stipulate that KT was not used

* all 3 divisions

Adding 9th Grade to SAA – Approved

motion to add: issue for the "3y recip" ack -- eventually makes

Committee Members

one athlete couldn't attend

4 other members couldn't (FL, WI, KY, PN)

Isabelle's Last Year (2 full terms)

Lyle's First term (therefore eligible for reappointment)

---> at least one opening on committee

Joyce Lanphere (Founding member of SAA, PC) -- (Husband Marvin also involved)

** 25Y Events as Official Events

Flex Membership September 2018 Two Sanctioned Competitions, wouldn't track 25Y events correctly -- need to modify SWIMS to account for the fact that they swam without entering times

Larry: trial code -- didn't go well, mostly due to 8u not triggering pads = bad times

SAA Strategy: Banner rotation on front page, extensive social media, club development resources, Coach newsletter (links & all) -- CINDY REQUEST COACH NEWSLETTER COPY (for office), reward program for submitting SAA apps?,

Something happening November 25th???

WESTERN ZONE MEETING (1630 – 1730, CONTINUED FROM YESTERDAY)

Q & A for Candidates

Brandon asking the D&I question

Patterson at a loss

Governance Changes

Dale good response

McGough: North Scoreboard replacement, sponsorship

Senior Meet @ Clovis: Mary Jo S. & Mike D. are meet refs

AG @ Roseville: refurb & new blocks, Vicki Martin MR

ZBOR: 3 complaints – 304.3.17 (check PC reps to WZ BOR)

Change to allowed dates for WZ AG champs

57% attendance for individual entries based on 400 / LSC Max target

HOUSE OF DELEGATES (1900 – 2100)

Hinchey, In Memoriam, Lifetime Memberships (Veronica)

SATURDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER

HOUSE OF DELEGATES (0900 – 1400ISH)

Voting (see other discussion), Followed by Sixth Floor Museum (JFK)