



**Minutes  
Board of Directors  
Wednesday December 11, 2019**

<b>Board Members in Attendance:</b> Jim Anderson, Morgan Fuller-Kolsrud, Megan Hansley-Robins, Krista Karwosky, Erin King, Ginny Jasontek, Jennifer Jarboe, Chris Leahy, Linda Loehndorf, Lori Zabel	
<b>Staff Members in Attendance:</b> Adam Andrasko	
<b>Excused:</b> Mariya Koroleva, Michele Kraus, Margaret Mahoney	
<b>Called To Order At:</b> 9:03 PM ET	<b>BY:</b> Linda Loehndorf

Topic	Competitive Operations	Presented by	Chris Leahy
<b>Discussion</b>	<p><b>Item 1 from Convention – to allow 19 year old athletes to compete at Nationals if not yet 19 by start of meet.</b> Those that are not 19 at event, but turns later that year can compete in junior team or combo</p> <p>The championship management committee was unable to come to any consensus on changes to the item. The item now goes back the board. Since there were no changes, the item and BOG recommendation stand as is.</p> <p>There was discussion against the proposal that it will be different from FINA and the wording does not include all 19 year old athletes, just those that are not 19 at the meet.</p> <p>Note: it is probably worth discussing the 2021+ plan for Collegiates, JR/SR, and 12&amp;U/13-15 meets, as the plan to combine JR/SR probably alleviates some of the need for this rule change.</p> <p>Ginny wants to ask for it for it to come up again next year.</p> <p>It was asked if this would this help athletes if meets were combined or do they still want to swim in junior category? Morgan and Megan spoke that they felt the athletes wanted to be able to swim in junior.</p> <p>Since there is no firm proposal this goes back to the Championship committee, and we cannot do anything this year. There will need to be a new proposal from committee.</p> <p><b>MS 1.1</b></p> <p>The masters committee recommends (unanimously) that "who are no longer engaged in USSS competition" be dropped from MS 1.1 to allow masters swimmers the opportunity to compete in senior events, and to make it easier for collegiate/senior athletes to compete (and transition) in masters events.</p> <p><b>Motion: Chris Leahy moved in MS 1.1 to delete the phrase "who are no longer engaged in USSS competition." Megan Hansley-Robins seconded the motion. Vote unanimous. Motion passes.</b></p> <p>Note: this was discussed on the last call. The board requested the master committee to discuss and give feedback on the change. In addition, the committee was asked to survey the masters about competing in the senior division Summary of the survey is below:</p>		

	<p>Two clubs expressed interested in competing in seniors. Both indicated that trying to get all 5 levels in would not be possible, and that travel/time for zones and US Nationals would be a problem. Other masters clubs thought levels should be required, but the requirement phased in similar to how it was done with the initial level roll-out. Those clubs also felt like the athletes should have to qualify through the zone meet.</p> <p>Chris's recommendation: A waiver for masters athletes *without levels*, for levels *1-4*. They would still need to pass level 5. I think this would be better than trying to phase in levels. A waiver for zone qualifications for clubs that ask for it *in advance* of their zone meets, if the zone has open qualification places. Waiver will be handled by Chris Leahy.</p>
--	--

<b>Topic</b>	Education VP	<b>Presented by</b>	Krista Karwosky
<b>Discussion</b>	Krista reported that Shari is working on using foundation grant to help train more judges. LTAD working on level 6 with a planned soft release in April .		

<b>Topic</b>	Olympic International VP	<b>Presented by</b>	Ginny Jasontek
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Ginny reported that we have our big National Team trials coming up in January for 12&amp;U and 13-15; which will be held in Arizona.</p> <p>Senior National Trials will be held April 5 also in Arizona. Things are progressing along for all trials.</p> <p>Our Senior National Team will be competing at the following international meets this year; Olympic qualifier, French Open (March), Egypt Open (March), US Open (June), duet only to Spanish open (May). Some of the Junior athletes may be sent to an Open meet in addition to some of these World Series events.</p> <p>Betty is working very hard to assign our FINA judges in strategic competitions around the world. They have separated the judges from the evaluations (one cannot be both). Linda Loehndorf and Irene Hawes were selected to be evaluators from the USA.</p>		

<b>Topic</b>	Marketing and Membership	<b>Presented by</b>	Adam Andrasko
<b>Discussion</b>	Adam reported that the online survey about changing the name to artistic swimming and the change process received 1,130 responses. These will be reviewed.		

<b>Topic</b>	2019 Budget	<b>Presented by</b>	Jenny Jarboe and Adam Andrasko
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Jenny reported that based on the databases sent out before this conference call she hopes that the new format will articulate more clearly where our funds have been spent and where they will be spent in 2020</p> <p>Budget Draft Dashboard – this budget gave as close as possible the amount budgeted for 2019, and actuals for 2019 as well as a 2020 budget. Tried to provide as much clarity as possible to each line item.</p> <p>Jenny reported that she is looking closely at any dramatic increases or decreases between the 2019 and 2020 budgets. For example, an increase of over 100K in competitive operations – this is going to be the type of increase we should see based on stay to play, better attendance and better contracts for the meets to increase our revenue and we'll have less expenses. Adam is confident that this will happen. There is a dramatic increase in spending on National Team next year because its an Olympic year. She was happy with the explanations to her questions about</p>		

	<p>the areas she saw dramatic increase or decreases. Overall she is satisfied with this budget and it should put us in a good position next year.</p> <p>There will be an email vote on 2020 budget in about a week.</p>
--	--

<b>Topic</b>	Emails on website	<b>Presented by</b>	Adam Andrasko
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>The BOD is repeatedly getting scammed via email so we should consider removing our emails from the website. We can set up a contact form for people to use and can then route questions to the correct person. We can also set up a separate email for athletes to use to contact the athlete representatives. Adam will try and make something happen for the athletes to have a direct line for the athletes to the athlete reps.</p> <p><b>Motion: Jim Anderson to take our emails off the website to prevent being scammed. Seconded by Krista Karwosky. Vote unanimous. Motion passes.</b></p>		

<b>Topic</b>	Ted Stevens Act Reform	<b>Presented by</b>	Adam Andrasko
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Adam wanted to draw attention that Congress is going to propose changes to the Ted Stevens Act (originally written in 1978) to make changes. This is what governs all amateur athletics. An example is that they are looking at raising athlete representation to 33%.</p>		

<b>Topic</b>	Russia Ban	<b>Presented by</b>	Adam Andrasko
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>It was recently reported that Russia will be banned from the 2020 Olympics. Here is how it will likely affect Artistic Swimming.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">The World Series Event scheduled for Russia will likely be cancelled</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">They will likely compete at the Olympic Games under the Olympic flag.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">It is probably unlikely that Russia will compete at international events in 2020 prior to the Olympic Games because they will be targeted for testing by other entities (i.e. USADA).</p> <p>We don't know if any artistic swimming athletes have been specifically banned.</p>		

<b>Topic</b>	Stay to play	<b>Presented by</b>	Adam Andrasko
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>This is going to help the budget and the office is working on rolling it out in a positive way. Rooms already getting booked with the new operating company make sure we have enough rooms for all teams. It is the operating company's responsibility to establish a good price and service all of our teams.</p> <p>Stay to play is standard practice in nearly all athletic governing bodies. Adam and Bailey will make sure the new company provides a superior service.</p>		

<b>Topic</b>	Live stream	<b>Presented by</b>	Adam Andrasko
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>We are working on a new platform for live streaming our competitions which can bring the operation in house and save a lot of money to the membership. Adam has begun working with a contractor to set up the proper equipment to provide what the same service we are used to with Take It Live. Hope to have it set up for spring competitions.</p>		

<b>Topic</b>	LA Progress	<b>Presented by</b>	Adam Andrasko
--------------	-------------	---------------------	---------------

<b>Discussion</b>	We have identified 3 venues owned and operated by parks of Los Angeles that are close to UCLA for our senior team athletes to train and attend college. Adam is meeting next week with Senior and Junior Team parents. We hope to secure a full-time training team of 10 athletes. This will give us best showing at the World Championships in 2021.
-------------------	---

<b>Topic</b>	Independent Board Members Votes	<b>Presented by</b>	Linda Loehndorf
<b>Discussion</b>	<p>Received approval from nominating committee to vote in two new independent directors. Lauren McFall Gardner and Stacy Chapman. Both have skill sets that will immediately impact the BOD in a positive way.</p> <p><b>Motion from nominating committee to elect both new Independent Directors. Seconded by Ginny Jasontek. Vote – unanimous. Motion passes</b></p>		

**NEXT MEETINGS:**

January 22<sup>nd</sup> & February 26<sup>th</sup> (All at 9:00 PM ET)

Retreat March 28-30, 2020 following Collegiate/Senior Nationals in Mesa, AZ

<b>Adjournment at 10:20 PM</b>		
Moved to adjourn by: Ginny Jasontek	2 <sup>nd</sup> by: Krista Karwosky	Vote: unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,



Erin L. King  
Secretary