



**Minutes**  
**Board of Governors/Board of Directors Meeting**  
**September 28-29, 2018**  
**Jacksonville, Florida**  
**(TO BE APPROVED AT 2019 CONVENTION)**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Jim Anderson, Megan Hansley, Ginny Jasontek, Krista Karwosky, Mariya Koroleva, Michele Kraus, Linda Loehndorf, Margaret Mahoney, Sheila McNabb

Excused: Yolanda Jackson, Olivia Morgan, Britt Rooney, Lori Zabel

**1. Called to order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Linda Loehndorf. A quorum present was also declared by Linda Loehndorf.

Linda Loehndorf thanked all who came to convention and would like to take a moment to remember those we have lost this year.

**2. Approve the minutes from 2017 Board of Governors**

Judy McGowan moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Shannon Korpela. **Vote: unanimous**

**3. Declaration of conflict of interest of those on the Board of Directors**

- Ginny Jasontek– Cincinnati YMCA Synchro Gators coach, member of the FINA Technical Artistic Swimming Committee
- Linda Loehndorf – Menomonee Falls Synchro coach
- Mariya Koroleva – Walnut Creek Aquanauts Synchro coach
- Krista Karwosky– New Canaan Aquarians Synchro coach & employed by the New Canaan YMCA
- Michele Kraus – MAC Synchro Coach and MAC Synchro Masters
- Megan Hansley- Stanford University

**4. President's report**

On Feb 28<sup>th</sup> our life changed with Myriam Glez's (Executive Director and High Performance Director) departure. Linda asked for a round of applause to the remaining staff, Jennifer Hawkins, Stephanie Isley, Shari Darst and Teagan Bettencourt for stepping up. They have been outstanding. Also, BOD members have stepped up and gone above and beyond especially Sheila McNabb for working on all our National events contracts. Denise Shively for stepping up for the Junior Olympic Nationals and the UANA meet, she's done a wonderful job, Barbara McNamee and Jeanne Struck

for stepping up for USAS. Krista Karwosky for stepping in and handling coach's reviews and last but not least Ginny Jasontek for helping with the national meets and national teams as high performance director.

**5. Vice President, Marketing and Membership Reports – VP, Michele Kraus**

**A. *Awards: Presented by Judy McGowan***

- i. Nomination forms were online for the first time and we received 39 different nominations, the most ever.
- ii. Inductee into US HOF as a contributor – Bob Wiegand
- iii. Athlete of the year – Monica Velasquez – OSU
- iv. Coach of year – Holly Vargo Brown – OSU
- v. US HOF for athlete – 1955 Pan American Team
- vi. HOF Contributor – Irene Hawes
- vii. Lillian MacKellar will be announced tomorrow at the USAS Banquet

**B. *Membership & Marketing: Presented by Michele Kraus***

- i. 2 main goals
  - i. Improved image
  - ii. Bigger audience
- ii. To reach these goals – Michele focused on Instagram and increased users from 14.8k to 20.2k.
- iii. Some initiatives that were implemented included: Tuesday takeover with National Team, Games at National JOs (ex: name that tune based on suits) and Cross posting with Facebook
- iv. Membership committee worked on a survey to see how the committee can help the clubs. Please look to your inbox for an email from Stephanie Isley with this survey.
- v. The committee also completed a 31 page audit report to help Stephanie Isley improve the website. If we optimize the website, we will have more people on the website, increase support and increase revenue as we can make money if more people go to the website. Michele showed the group how to change their homepage on their devices to USA Synchro to increase unique viewers and increase money from USOC.

**6. Foundation Report by Karen Rosolowski, President of Foundation**

- A. Thanks to all who attended the foundation banquet on Thursday night. The event raised over \$30,000.
- B. Our Mission: The United States Synchronized Swimming Foundation exists to support grassroots development; educational opportunities for coaches, athletes and officials; and the development of synchronized swimming in the United States.
- C. Strategic Initiatives:
  - Fundraising Development
  - Board Development and Succession
  - Communications and Marketing
  - Relationship between USSSF and USA Synchro
  - Grant Program

- D. There are two levels of recognition for donors to the Foundation; the Founders' Society, which is based on the amount donated and the Synchro Loyal Program which is based on continuous giving each year no matter the amount. People who reached new levels were recognized.
- E. The Foundation has two funds; an unrestricted fund and a restricted fund (Building America's Teams). Interest earned on the restricted fund goes towards the 13-15 National team every year.
- F. Grants awarded for 2017-2018 (included but not full list):
1. USA Synchro programs for:
    - Rising Stars program \$10,000
    - Olympic Development \$6,000
    - National Development Camps \$6,000
    - Coaches College \$7,000
    - Association/Regional clinics \$10,000
    - Fina judges training \$6,500
    - National judges program \$14,846
    - Association judges update \$3,754
  2. Fourteen other grants to various organizations ranging between \$250-\$2,200
  3. In the Zone camps \$10,000
- G. Grants awarded for 2018-2019 (included but not full list):
- Rising Stars Program - \$11,000
  - Olympic Development Program - \$5,000
  - National Talent Camps - \$11,000
  - Coaches College - \$11,000
  - Coach Development and Mentorship Program - \$11,000
  - Judge Evaluator at US American Open - \$5,000
  - Coach Education Webinars - \$2,500
  - All-Star Camp - \$935
  - Forty-two other grants to various organizations totaling \$32,015
- H. Three motions to consider
- **First motion** (moved by Karen Rosolowski and the Foundation) – that the Code of Regulations of the US Synchronized Swimming Foundation, Inc be amended to include a new item (f) in Article II, Trustees, 2.1 Number and Selection (f). The Corporation's Board of Trustees may, on occasion and for a specific purpose, establish and elect a special class(es) of Trustees. These Trustees may be elected to a non-standard term of service, but retain the same rights and responsibilities as other Trustees. The Board of Governors of USSS shall retain the power to elect the majority of Trustees, which shall include in its total any special class(es) of Trustees
    - Second: Gail Emery
    - Discussion – Betty Hazle asked if the board of trustees get to do this special election. Karen replied that the board of trustees will do this election. Karen reminded all that the majority of the Board of Trustees is always elected by the Board of Governors of USA Synchro.
    - **Vote: Unanimous**
  - **Second motion** (moved by Karen Rosolowski and the Foundation) – that the Code of Regulations of the US Synchronized Swimming Foundation, Inc be

amended to amend Article II, Trustees 2.1 (c).to read, “The remaining Trustees shall be elected by a majority of the USSSF Trustees at a meeting of the Board of Trustees approximately three months before the annual meeting of USSS’s Board of Governors. The Trustees so elected shall take office at the same the meeting as the Trustees elected by the Board of Governors of USSS and shall serve for a three-year period, or until their successors are elected and qualified.

- Second: Gail Emery
- Discussion – Betty Hazle asked if the new trustees will be elected prior to BOG so they can take office at convention in September. Judy McGowan agreed that it benefits all trustees coming to come on at the same time.
- **Vote: majority – Betty Hazle Abstains**
- **Third motion** – (moved by Karen Rosolowski and the Foundation) – that the Code of Regulations of the US Synchronized Swimming Foundation, Inc be amended as follows: Article VIII, Amendments. These Regulations (other than Section 7.2) may be altered, amended, or repealed and new Regulations may be adopted by a majority vote of the Trustees of the Corporation at any meeting thereof.
  - Second: Gail Emery
  - Discussion – Betty Hazle asked that there also be an exception to section 2.1 that the trustees cannot change who elects the trustees as Federal law says that we have to have the majority elected by USA Synchro
    - Judy McGowan suggests that we amend tonight and bring to BOD tomorrow after lunch
    - TABLED: Picked up Saturday at 2:05
  - Motion Amended to add section 2.1.B (code able to be changed by board of trustees except in two sections; 7.2 and 2.1.B)
    - Second: Chris Leahy
    - **Vote: unanimous**

#### **7. Executive Directors Report – By Linda Loehndorf**

- A. There are four people working on Executive Director application process and have started the phone interviews with potential candidates.
- B. Our previous Executive Director was also the High Performance Director and received one salary for both positions. USA Synchro currently does not have the funds to hire for both positions as it would be better not to have one person doing both jobs; so the BOD is focusing on finding a new Executive Director first.
- C. In the spring we received a letter from US House of Representatives (Congress) to provide them with information about our sport in relation to SafeSport issues. This was asked of all the USOC National Governing Bodies (NGBs). We had to pay \$32,000 to an attorney to help us answer the questions; which included years of emails, our USA Synchro Rulebook appendices, any changes to our athlete safety policy. This was a large sum of money which we did not account for in our budgeting for the year.

#### **8. Treasure’s Report – By Britt Rooney**

- A. Posted online – Britt Rooney cannot make it to convention

#### **9. Nominating Committee Report – by Anna Farmer**

- A. BOD President – one candidate – Linda Loehndorf – no nominations from the floor
  - Irene Hawes moves to elect by acclimation, seconded by Judy McGowan. **Vote: unanimous**
- B. BOD Education and Certification – one candidate – Krista Karwosky - no nominations from the floor
  - Judy McGowan moves to elect by acclimation, seconded by Christine McMaster-Shah. **Vote: unanimous**
- C. BOD Olympic International – one candidate – Virginia Jasontek – no nomination from floor
  - Judy McGowan moves to elect by acclimation, seconded by Shannon Korpela. **Vote: unanimous**
- D. Foundation Board of Trustees – Jeanne Struck, Beth Borland, Emily Kokernak and Grasy M. Noriega – no nominations from floor
  - Judy McGowan moves to elect these four by acclimation, seconded by Christine McMaster-Shah. **Vote: unanimous**
- E. Board of Governors at Large Delegates - Christine McMaster-Shah, Chris Leahy, Megan Azebu, Elvira Khasyanova, Karen Rosolowski, Elizabeth Gordon, Norma Longmire, Robin Pirik, Ludivine Perrin-Stsepaniuk, Irene Hawes, Betsy Visniski-Caza, Lauren Cortney Gregory, Hayan Kim, Sheri Horton, Gail Emery, Leah Bean, Mary Ellen Wiegand, Elizabeth Knowles, Rachel Rosolowski, Julie Jasontek, Jocilyn Sayler, Mariana Vigneron
  - Judy McGowan moves to elect by acclimation, seconded by Patricia. **Vote: unanimous** – Christine McMaster-Shah (abstains)
  - Recommendations for appointment positions – Give to Linda Loehndorf

## **10. Zone Reports**

- A. **East Zone – Jen Hatt for Betsy McGoech** – report available on website. The East Zone is proud of their National Team athletes. At the Senior Zones in March, the east celebrated its 50 year anniversary. The Zone recently voted to lift Pete McGoech to the Gold level on Foundation with additional \$1200 contribution to the Foundation.
- B. **North Zone – Denise Shively** – report available on website. Congratulations to all our award winners.
- C. **South Zone – Janette Chase for Carole Mitchell** – report available on website. Congratulations to all our award winners especially Joy Cushman to the Hall of Fame and Janette Chase for the 2017 Lilian McKellar award.
- D. **West Zone – Patricia Jones** – report available on website. Thank WCA for hosting zones. Congratulations to all our award winners.

**RECESS at 9:09 PM**

**RESUMES at 9:00 AM Saturday morning**

## **11. Guest Speaker**

- A. **Brent Rutemiller – CEO US Swimming HOF**
  - i. When Brent took over in November, he saw that the HOF was stuck. The HOF had never had a marketing or media department. Brent had been part of Swimming World magazine worked on merging the two entities. Additionally, HOF received \$27 million from city and state to renovate the HOF and the lease

was changed from month to month to a 30 year lease for \$1.00/year. Swimming World is not under the umbrella of HOF and a new pool is in the works which will allow for more synchro competitions (deeper), more bleachers, and temporary amphitheater bleachers. Ability to host competitions is going to be dramatic in the change.

- ii. Brent wants to know how they can help with our challenges? He has a multi-media platform and would like more content from USA Synchro to help with exposure, branding and content.
- iii. He sees how photogenic our sport is and suggests that marketing focus should be in our image and photo content; to tell our stories with photos.
- iv. A couple ideas included setting up an internship for photo-journalism and having more events for the foundation at the HOF.
- v. Aquatic facility will be ready in October 2020 with a large gala on the opening.
- vi. How we can work together? [brent@ishof.org](mailto:brent@ishof.org)

## **12. US Center for SafeSport – Vanessa Granziano**

### **A. US Center for SafeSport**

- i. Mission: to make athletes well-being the centerpiece of our nation's sports culture through...
- ii. Safe, Supported and Strengthened
  - Safe – protected from harm
  - Supported – welcomed having fun
  - Strengthened – thrives on and off the field of play
- iii. Focus on: bullying, harassment, hazing, physical abuse, emotional abuse, and sexual misconduct and abuse.
- iv. Who: education and outreach
  - Every level of sport participants
- v. Who: response and resolution
  - Place for individuals to report abuse
- vi. What we do education and outreach – training, resources, consultation
- vii. What we do response and resolution – reporting, investigating

**B. Senate Bill 534 – of 2017** – designates the Safe Sport center as the national recognized organization for SafeSport

### **C. Requirements**

- i. Mandatory reporting
  - Coaches are mandatory reporters if you have reasonable suspicion; you are legally required to report in 24 hours. Report anything which feels inappropriate even if the story is incomplete, or they say it happened to a friend, or if it didn't happen at your facility, or if it relates to boundary violations (i.e. tickling, shoulder rubs, texting at late hours, etc.)
- ii. Limiting 1 on 1 interactions
  - Monitor locker rooms and changing areas – but balance personal safety and privacy
  - Reduce or eliminate isolated interactions – meetings should be observable and interruptible
  - Create policies and parameters for off-site events – have in writing

- For travel – plan and prepare – prevent unsafe situations during interstate and/or international travel
  - Limiting interaction on social media sites to organization or team-based communication – keep electronic communication professional and visible
- iii. Consistent training
    - Core online training course and online refresher course
    - Training for minors – youth resources
  - iv. Prohibiting retaliation
    - Any adverse action taken against a person participation in an investigation, including filing a report or being a witness
    - Policies can encourage people to report misconduct and participate in an investigation
    - You are protected by law

**D. Information from Shari Darst – Education Director**

- i. If not taken the course...MUST TAKE BY DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>.
- ii. If you have taken it, will be required to take the update in 2019 by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019.
- iii. Updates on who needs to take the test – see USA Synchro Website
  - Anyone who has a decision-making role over another athlete must take it, so even an athlete who is under 18 but is a judge or an athlete rep or gives a private lesson, must take course; however, some minors might be able to use Youth Resources (See SafeSport website) if their role is supervised or not a decision-making position.

**13. Athletes Report**

**A. *Mariya Koroleva – AEC President***

- i. Thank you to athlete executive council and those reps who are here; thank you to foundation for helping provide breakfast to the athlete’s meetings; thank you to the Phoebe Frank who made the banquet video for tonight’s banquet. Thank you to Betty Hazle for helping with code of conduct changes.
- ii. Here are the newly elected Officers
  - Continuing president – Mariya Koroleva
  - Secretary – Shanaya Satterfield
  - VP International - Barbara Nesbitt
  - VP Education & Certification - Anna Morera
- iii. Their meetings focused on discussions about nutrition, athlete services, and meet management.
- iv. Mariya asked the committee chairs to make sure they use their athlete representatives.

**14. VP Competitive Operations – presented by Sheila McNabb**

Prelim entry for collegiate and US Nationals form will be sent out soon to help with schedule

**A. *Rules – presented by Irene Hawes***

- i. Irene thanked her committee for all their hard work especially.
- ii. A blanket motion was made to approve the rules packet as amended by Lorette Longmire and seconded by Linda Gilliam. **Vote BOG: unanimous**

- iii. A blanket motion was made to approve the rules packet as amended by Margaret Mahoney and seconded by Krista Karwosky. **Vote BOD: unanimous**
- iv. A call was made for any items to be pulled. These items were 4, 5, 6, 18, 19
- v. A motion to approve the remaining report with items recommended for approval with the exception of the pulled items was made and seconded.
  - a. Approved Items: 1, 3, 11, 12, 13, 24, 25, 27, 29
  - b. Housekeeping Items: 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 28
  - c. **This passed unanimously with BOG and with BOD that the items will be approved.**
- vi. A motion to approve the remaining report with items recommended for rejection with the exception of the pulled items was made and seconded.
  - a. Items: 2, 7, 8, 9, 10,
  - b. **This passed unanimously with BOG and with BOD that the items will be rejected.**

<b>THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE PULLED FOR DISCUSSION</b>	
Item 4	<p><b>Discussion from BOG:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Denise Shively spoke against item 4 (which proposed to add the 3<sup>rd</sup> place swimmers from 12&amp;U solos in each Region to JO Nationals) because it will add several hours to an already very long meet. Additionally, the meet hosts have already been contacted and this would increase the number of days as the 12&amp;U and judges would have to come a day early and the host will have to be set up early. We need to consider the full implications of this addition.</li> <li>• Sheila McNabb also spoke against item 4 as the meet already begins on Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 AM and on finishes the following Saturday at 6:00 PM. Most days are scheduled 7:00 AM to 9:00 PM. Scoring, sound person, and judges would all have to come a day early.</li> <li>• Cheryl Cook asked for a point of clarification that item 4 was to add the 16 swimmers (1 more from each region) AND a preliminary event. She then made the following motion:</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> by Cheryl Cook to allow for a final event only with 36 competitors. Seconded by Christine McMaster-Shaw</p> <p>The amendment was discussed and the following vote was taken:</p> <p>BOG vote on Amendment: In favor: 0 Opposed: all - Failed          BOD vote on Amendment: In favor: 0 Opposed: 8 Abstain: 1 - Failed</p> <p><b>Back to original Item 4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Katelyn Karbon (athlete) spoke for item 4 and asked are we helping our athletes or trying to keep a schedule.</li> <li>• Jeanne Struck spoke against item 4 stating that from a meet management perspective it is extremely difficult.</li> </ul> <p>BOG vote on Item 4: In favor: 59 Opposed: 34 - Passed</p> <p><b>Discussion from BOD:</b></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In concept the BOD would like to support the mission of this proposal; however, for logistical purposes, can we try and make this happen in the future?</li> <li>• Megan Hansley amended Item 4 to read “to have prelim and final but not take effect until 2021”. It was seconded by Michele Kraus. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion – Mariya Koroleva speaking for the amendment to give more soloist the chance to compete.</li> <li>• Margaret Mahoney speaking against to look at why we dropped down from 3 originally. Irene Hawes spoke to this point that it was done because we removed trios, added combos and added figures for everyone and needed to find time in the schedule.</li> <li>• Ginny Jasontek spoke that we have a responsibility on the BOD to listen to both sides the swimmers/coaches and meet management; however, at the moment she is speaking against the amendment and suggested that we need to send it back to committee. We as a board need to be responsible to the meet management and give more time to think this through.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>BOD vote on Amendment: In favor: 0 Opposed: 8 Abstain: 1 - Failed</p> <p>Back to original Item 4 BOD vote on Amendment: In favor: 0 Opposed: 8 Abstain: 1 - Failed</p> <p><b>Item 4 is rejected with instruction to go back to committee</b></p>
Items 5&6	<p>ITEMS 5&amp;6 (were rejected by committee)</p> <p><b>Discussion from BOG:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Denise – wants to pass it – she is against the rejection – she would like to have for consistency, if 13-15 is listed in Combo only they should not have to do figures...was very confusing from a meet management perspective</li> <li>• Chris Leahy – from scoring – have to keep track of all alternate changes</li> <li>• Barbara – for the rejecting Item 5 and for passing Item 6</li> <li>• Judy - speaking for the rejection – critical age group which should swim figures</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> by Sue Nesbitt with an amendment to Item 6 that all 12&amp;U and 13-15 competitors shall (must) compete in the figure competition – delete reference to 16-19 people. Seconded from Shannon Korpela</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patricia Jones speaking against the amendment that combo doesn’t include figures so only impacts a few people.</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion:</b> by Sue Nesbitt to amend the amendment that all 12&amp;U and 13-15 competitors entered in solo, duet and team events shall compete in the figure competition. Seconded by Karen Rosolowski</p> <p>The amendment to the amendment was discussed and the following vote was taken: BOG vote on Amendment: In favor: all Opposed: 0 - Passed BOD vote on Amendment: In favor: all Opposed: 0 Abstain: 1 - Passed</p>

	<p><b>Item 6 as amended: CP 3.5.5.5</b> All 12 and under and 13-15 competitors shall compete in the Figure competition or Technical routine competition. Any competitor who does not compete in the Figure competition or Technical routine competition will be scratched from all routines in which the competitor is entered.–The Figure or Technical routine results shall be added to the Preliminary Free routine score to determine the top 12 Duets and Teams that qualify for the Final Free routine competition. Number 13 shall be the pre-swimmer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Figure or Technical routine results shall be added to the Solo Free Final results to determine final placement.</li> <li>• The Free Combination event shall not include Figure or Technical routine</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion:</b> Becky Meitin – speaking for item 6 as amended</p> <p>BOG vote on Amendment: Passed BOD vote on Amendment: Passed</p> <p><b>Item 6 as amended is passed</b></p> <p><b>Item 5 – recommended for rejection</b> BOG Vote in favor of accepting rejection – passed BOD Vote in favor of acception rejection– passed</p> <p><b>Item 5 is still rejected</b></p>
Items 18&19	<p><b>Item 18 (rejected) Pulled (Item 19 makes Junior Opens into 2 events)</b></p> <p><b>Discussion from BOG:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Betty Hazle – wants both US Juniors and Junior Opens to be run the same in terms of technical and free events (must do both or choose 1 or the other)</li> <li>• Svetlana – reject the rejection for both tech and free at Junior Nationals – need to follow FINA</li> <li>• Gail Emery –reject the rejection for need to follow FINA</li> <li>• Barabara McNamee speaking for Betty Hazel – doing the same and following FINA (in favor of 19, but want to reject the rejection of 18)</li> <li>• Christine McMaster-Shah – have several issues of doing it as separate at Junior Nationals and affects on Jos (favor of keeping as is and changing Junior Opens)</li> <li>• Rose XXX (athlete) – favor of rejecting the rejection of 18 and rejecting 19 – zeros are devastating, hard to practice all the routines, quality over quantity</li> </ul> <p><b>Item 18 – recommended for rejection BOG</b></p> <p>BOG vote in favor of rejecting the rejection: In favor: 48 Opposed: 32 – Item 18 is still rejected BOD vote in favor of rejecting the rejection: In favor: 4 Opposed: 3 Abstain: 1 - Item 18 is still rejected</p>

	<p><b>Item 18 is still rejected</b></p> <p><b>Item 19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change to match FINA Junior World Championships by doing separate tech and free routines. Scores are not added together. Athletes do not have to enter both routine events. This would be similar to our US Nationals.</li> <li>• Need to adjust awards section to give awards to both Tech and Free routines, if passes.</li> </ul> <p><b>CP 6.4 Additional Event Progression for the U.S. Junior Open Championship:</b></p> <p><u>For the U.S. Junior Open Championship, the Solo, Duet and Team Technical routine events shall consist of a Preliminary Technical routine competition followed by a Final Technical routine competition. The Solo, Duet and Team Free routine events shall consist of a Preliminary Free routine competition followed by a Final Free routine competition</u> The Free Combination event at the U.S. Junior Open Championships shall consist of a Preliminary and Final routine competition.</p> <p><b>CP 6.4.2</b> The order of events shall be determined by the Vice President Competitive Operations and the Meet Manager.</p> <p>BOG vote in favor of accepting Item 19: passed BOD vote in favor of accepting Item 19: passed</p> <p><b>Item 19 is still accepted</b></p>
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**RECESS AT 12:15**

**RETURNED AT 1:30**

- A. **Meet Management – Presented by Sheila McNabb** – the report is online
  - i. Thank you to all the 2017 and 2018 meet hosts
  - ii. The 2019 meets are as follows:
    - US National Championships and Collegiate Nationals; San Antonio – March 27-31, 2019
    - US 13-15 and Junior National Championships; Riverside, CA – April 10-14, 2019
    - US Junior Olympic Championships; Buffalo, NY – June 28 – July 6, 2019
      - Judges will all be on one side
    - Synchro America Open; Greensboro, NC – May 24-26, 2019
    - US Masters Championships; Tupelo, MS - October 10-13, 2019
    - Recommends that you stay in the meet hotel and if not you may be charged approximately \$20/athlete.
- B. **Collegiate – Presented by Megan Azebu** – the report is online
- C. **Masters – Presented by Beth Borland** – the report is online – looking forward to the meet in San Ramon, CA, the host is asking for volunteers. There may be more masters clinics

including one in Riverside, CA again. Hopefully information will be easier to obtain as there is now a Masters tab on the USA Synchro Website.

## **15. Governance – Laurette Longmire**

Governance proposals; Seven items for consideration

- A. **Items 1-5, & 7:** committee recommended to approve with updates as listed on the handout.
- B. **Item 6:** committee recommended to table because USAS also tabled this discussion and want to wait until USAS makes decision – bring back at 2019 convention
  - i. Judy McGowan moves to approve items 1-5, & 7 as presented, seconded by Shannon Korpela. **Vote BOG: unanimous**
  - ii. Ginny Jasontek moves to approve items 1-5, & 7 as presented, seconded by Jim Anderson. **Vote BOD: unanimous**
- D. Laurette completed a handout to educate the membership on the governance process and procedures; see handout and talk to Laurette if you have any questions.
- E. She suggested that we expand the pool of eligible athletes as representatives. Would it be possible to consider having top level collegiate and national swimmers, not necessarily just Olympians?
- F. She also asked if it would be possible to receive the background information for the proposals presented at convention.

## **16. VP Education and Certification – Krista Karwosky**

Thanked Shari Darst for everything she does.

- A. **Coaches – presented by Krista Karwosky** – the report is online

Coaches results survey:

- Synchro employment status: the majority of coaches are volunteer or part-time and most coach between 6-10 hr/week.

Survey is how we can help you; provides information on what the committee can focus on in the future. Survey showed what coaches need/want:

- People stopped coaching more due to parent difficulties – coaches committee can help with conflict resolution.
- Coaches want more administrative help – coaches committee can help here too
- Helping with communication
- Support from USA Synchro
- Training and career development

- B. **Assessor's Manual**

- i. Level 5 assessors test will be online by 10/15/18
- ii. Updated manual will be dated 10/15 and Version 6.3
- iii. Betty will update the rulebook to meet these changes as housekeeping

- C. **Officials – presented by Shannon Korpela** – had a large number of people taking level 4 test this week and quite a few that took it throughout the year. A big thank you for everyone who is stepping up and to all the judges last year.

- i. Committee has been looking at level 4F and the viability of keeping the level 4F in our rulebook as there are only 3 meets which level 4F can judge. It has been suggested that the best way to handle this is to eliminate level 4F; if you are retaining you can continue as 4F, but recommend they go on to level 4. This will help judges get their certification faster because it will only be one test for level 4 and not two (4F and 4).
- ii. Social media – judges please be aware that if you are a judge; do not go online announce your support to a team.

**17. History Committee –Lea Bean – the report is online**

- A. If you have been swimming, coaching or judging since 1980 or before; see Elizabeth Knowles
- B. New to the 50 year club – Cheryl Cook, Betty Hazle, Shannon Korpela, Karen Rosolowski
- C. If you have any memorabilia from the San Francisco Marionettes, Marian or Don Kane, please contact Lea. [leadelbean@gmail.com](mailto:leadelbean@gmail.com)

**18. VP Olympic International – Ginny Jasontek**

**A. *National Team Program – Presented by Ginny Jasontek***

- i. Ginny is very optimistic about where we are going and that the progress in the US National team has been outstanding
  - a. Budapest was a highly successful competition
  - b. We won every gold medal in 12&U
  - c. The upcoming world championships will be in Korea in 2019 and Pan American Games will be in Peru
- ii. Senior Team Trial were held in August 2018
- iii. She presented a slide show of where we've been and where we are going
  - a. 12&U National Team took top 3 in figures, 1<sup>st</sup> in solo, 1<sup>st</sup> in duet, 1<sup>st</sup> in team
  - b. 13-15 National Team took silver in duet and team in UANA; in Comen Cup 8<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in combo
  - c. Junior/Senior National Team had lots of results and we are in process and getting better all the time. We took gold at UANA – Junior World 7<sup>th</sup> in combo, 8<sup>th</sup> in tech and 9<sup>th</sup> in free – this is a real big step up.
  - d. What are our goals?
    - i. to qualify both duet and team for the Olympics
    - ii. improve duet and senior team rankings
    - iii. top 5 at the 13-15 world championships
    - iv. gold in all events at UANA events
    - v. more land and physical training for our athletes
    - vi. increase difficulty and speed, more difficult highlights
    - vii. increase athletes in National Team program
  - e. Please read all information on National Team trials
  - f. New National Team Senior Coach - Andrea Fuentes from Spain
  - g. Olympic Development Camp – took 16 athletes to Spain last year which was a great experience

- h. Perception is everything! When you talk about our National Team to anyone, we have to talk about them in a positive way. Really important that we as a nation we support our people on social media and in-person meetings.

**B. *International Relations – Presented by Betty Hazle*** – the report online

Summary of meeting discussion

- i. Club Option Policy: Subcommittee will approve any club options – will look at what comes in and if it conflicts with National Team routines
- ii. Foreign Judge Policy – now foreign judges can now judge at any non-qualifying competitions if they are FINA or UANA judge on the list and have passed the FINA certification test
- iii. Betty asked for a motion to approve the full report as presented
  - Patricia Jones moves to approve the full report as presented, seconded by Christine McMaster-Shah. **Vote BOG: unanimous**
  - Margaret Mahoney moves to approve the full report as presented, seconded by Ginny Jasontek. **Vote BOD: unanimous**

**C. *FINA – Presented by Ginny Jasontek*** – reports are online

- i. New 13-15 FINA World Championship will be next summer in August.
- ii. World series has become very important will be in 8 or 9 different cities each year; there are only two in the Americas, important for us to keep our bid each year
- iii. FINA judges have to take the online exam in October – can take it as many times as you need to
- iv. Big trends in the world indicate that the direction in which FINA is moving is that the highlight routine and mixed duet are here to stay. If we are going to make a jump in an Olympic event it will likely be in the highlight routine (might change name to acrobatic routine) or the mixed duet.

**D. *UANA – Presented by Betty Hazle*** – the report is online

- i. UANA in 2019 will be in Canada either Ontario or Quebec August 19-24; she would like to have some club options at this meet
- ii. Pan Americans will be in Lima, Peru July 29-31
- iii. Judy McGowan urged the president to do an ad-hoc working group for developing the mixed duets in the country. Krista Karwosky volunteered to look into it.

**19. Election Results – No elections**

**20. Old Business - None**

**21. New Business - None**

**22. Closing Remarks**

Judy thanked the board and staff for all their hard work.

**23. Adjournment**

Judy McGowan moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lea Bean. **Vote: unanimous.**

**Time of Adjournment – 3:45 PM**