

## Senior Committee Meeting Notes – October 6, 2008

**Present:** George Massey, Stu Faux, Steve Griffin, Dave Henderson, Steve Hennessy, Bob Herlinger, T.J. Liston, Carl Warner

### **Discussion of Senior Championships Qualifying Standards:**

- 2008 Senior Champs Qualifying Standards were approved.
- Agreed that qualifying times should be consistent for short course and long course senior champs meet in the same calendar year.
- Senior Champs Qualifying Standards (QT's) will be no slower than the current USA Swimming Top 16 based Motivational Time Standards for 15-16 year olds..
- Beginning with the 2008-09 short course season, standardize qualifying times to represent the 64<sup>th</sup> entry time in each event. This will be done by averaging the 64<sup>th</sup> entry times from the previous three years. This will make Senior Champs a much more exclusive meet than in the past.
- Qualifying standards will be set for a minimum of two years with the hope that QT's will actually stay static for four years and only change along with the quadrennial review of the USA Top 16 Motivational Time Standards.
- Beginning with the 2008-09 short course season award bids for Senior Championships in two year increments. Therefore we lock ourselves into a venue for two years straight. This coincides with maintaining the QT's for a minimum of two years and insures meet consistency from year to year.

### **Discussion of Senior Championships Order of Events and Meet Management.**

- Beginning with the 2008 Short Course Senior Champs team awards will be given in the following categories:
  - Senior Champs Combined Team Winner, Men's Team, Women's Team
  - Large Team – Men's and Women's
  - Medium Team – Men's and Women's
  - Small Team – Men's and Women's.
- Designation of the small, medium, and large teams will be based on the registration numbers of the clubs as of January 15<sup>th</sup> of the same calendar year of the championship meet. VSI will look at what is considered the natural breaks between teams and then group teams as small, medium, large.
- Unanimously agreed: 200 medley relay to be moved off Thursday night and placed as the first event at Sunday morning preliminaries.
- Unanimously agreed: 400 IM on Friday morning and 500 free on Saturday morning will be swum with the four fastest heats of the women's first, the four fastest heats of the men's second (all slow to fast), and then the remaining heats fast to slow, alternating women's and men's heats. Reason: to allow those swimmers who will most likely make finals the opportunity to

swim their final individual event of the day a little earlier and get more rest for the evening finals session.

- Proposal to move 200 relays to the beginning of evening finals sessions on Saturday and Sunday was unanimously defeated.
- Regarding Thursday evening distance session:
  - Will be conducted fastest to slowest, alternating heats of women's and men's.
  - Forward a request to meet host to see about moving the session earlier – as early as 2:00 in the afternoon, to allow for more rest and recovery.
  - Forward a request to the meet host to insure that we have proper warm down time (30 minutes) after the final heat of the evening has been swum.
  - Reserve the final 20 minutes of warm up time in the main competition pool to those swimmers competing in the Thursday distance session ONLY.
- Discussion of placement of the 1650 and 1000 freestyles. Three proposals were considered:
  - continue with the 1650's on Thursday evening and 1000's on Sunday.
  - Switch the two races so the 1000's would be on Thursday evening and the 1650's on Sunday.
  - Swim the women's 1000 and men's 1650 on Thursday night and the women's 1650 and men's 1000 on Sunday. Then reverse it the following year.

After much discussion, the Sr. Committee narrowly approved maintaining the current format.

- Discontinued awards for 9<sup>th</sup> place. Awards in individual events will be given out for 1-8<sup>th</sup> place.

### **Senior Champs Long Course 2008**

- George Mason University in Fairfax is not available.
- First choice of venue is University of Maryland. A request has been forward to the Aquatics Director. Waiting for a response.
- Second choice is to look south into the state of North Carolina, preferably the Raleigh area or perhaps Cary, NC where they have just built a new 50 meter facility with warm up, warm down capability.
- Third choice is to look at 50 meter facilities in VSI.
- Three primary issues with going out of state:
  - Will enough officials travel to properly run the meet?
  - Unlikely there will be a local host. Will teams attending the meet step up and provide volunteers to help run the meet. Especially given that some teams will make this a team travel meet and parents will be in limited supply.
  - Cost – Facility cost, meet rebates to the other LSC, hotels rooms for officials?, if parent volunteers are not available hiring outside

help to cater hospitality, do the announcing, etc. How high are we willing to accept in meet entry fees?

### **Travel Reimbursement Criteria**

The following draft was approved by the Senior Committee to be presented to the House of Delegates in the Spring of 2008. This revision is in response to two issues regarding travel reimbursement:

- Swimmers should not be required to attend a specific swim meet in order to be eligible for reimbursement. While the intent of the current policy that requires a swimmer to attend a VSI sanctioned championship meet is honorable, the reality of the situation is that it may be a detriment to the swimmer's training and does not necessarily produce the desired affect the intention desires.
- College swimmers who did not grow up and swim in VSI as an age group swimmer should not receive travel reimbursement from VSI. We should support VSI swimmers, even those college swimmers who may train outside of VSI but register as a VSI athlete and proudly represent the LSC on the national level.

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#### **F. TRAVEL FUND CRITERIA**

1. To be eligible for travel expense athlete reimbursement, the following criteria must be met:

a. Be a Virginia registered amateur swimmer at a National Championship, Junior National Championship, National Disability Championship, U.S. Open or any Trial class meet.

b. Swimmers must have swum an individual event in at least one (1) USA Swimming sanctioned meets as a VSI registered swimmer within the six-month period immediately prior to their reimbursable competition. Exceptions for documented illness, injury etc., will be considered on an individual basis.

c. USA Swimming sanctioned meets, as defined under this Travel Fund Criteria, do not include individual team time trials, intra-squad meets, or any other type of meets that limit entries to only one swim club.

d. College swimmers are eligible for travel reimbursement only if they were a VSI registered swimmer prior to college and participated in at least one VSI sanctioned meet that occurred before March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year prior to attending college. Exceptions will be considered for swimmers whose families moved to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

e. Requests for reimbursement must be submitted to the treasurer of VSI within 30 working days after the meet for full funding. Extenuating circumstances can be submitted in writing to the VSI Board of Directors for review and consideration for full or partial funding.