

## Age Group Committee Meeting Minutes October 1, 2006 – 9:30 am – Richmond, VA

Members Present: Brian Kupferer, Jessica Simons, David Schreck (represented by Diane Cayce), Bill Shaw, Mark Bennett, James Wolfle

1. **Short Course Age Group Championships:** Hargrave announced this week they had a conflict with another event on the weekend of Age Group Champs and would not be able to host the meet on that weekend.
  - a. The Age Group Committee looked at options for the meet, and decided that the preferred location for the meet was the Tidewater area using Midtown and Fort Eustis. This option will be pursued. A backup option would be to have the meet in Radford and Blacksburg. The location will be posted to the website as soon as possible.
  - b. With this being the first year that Age Group Champs will be swum in two facilities, several decisions were made as to the management of the meet:
    - i. The 13-14 swimmers will swim prelims in one facility, the 12 and younger swimmers will swim prelims (and timed finals for 10 and younger swimmers) in the other facility.
    - ii. Time permitting, the 10 and younger swimmers will be awarded their medals during the morning sessions between events.
    - iii. The distance events Thursday evening will be swum in one facility
    - iv. The Sunday distance events will take place 15 minutes following the completion of the preliminary session. These events will run fast to slow, alternating women and men.
    - v. If the location is the Tidewater area, the pool for the 13-14 swimmers prelims and Thursday night distance will be Midtown. Fort Eustis will be used for the 12 and younger prelim sessions.
  - c. Time Standards
    - i. Our goal of creating time standards to have 40 swimmers is still successful, there were only 5 events with more than 50 competitors in 2006. Only one qualifying time will change for 2007.
    - ii. All non-conforming meet qualifying times (LCM and SCM for the Short Course meet) will end in 9.
2. **Summer Awards:** We looked at the format of this meet, and discussed ways to create a more desired, competitive meet. We discussed several different format changes, and created a changed format (similar to the Regional meet in the winter with a separate B/C meet). In discussion with the technical planning committee there were several questions and concerns brought with the new format, and a suggestion that the desirability of the meet should come from the individual clubs. This topic will be discussed further to determine if there is a better format for the meet.
3. **Time Trials at Summer Awards:** This past summer at summer awards time trials were held, and were swum by swimmers that did not compete in the meet. The desire of the Age Group Committee is that time trials should be offered for swimmers at this meet (time permitting). While the committee does not feel that swimmers not competing at the meet should participate in time trials, there is no good way to prevent coaches and athletes from doing so. Therefore, the recommendation from the committee is that "Time trials will be offered for any swimmer entered in the meet."
4. **District and Regional Champs:** From discussion both through the Age Group Committee, and from the desires of the Coaches Committee, all 15 and older swimmers not eligible for Senior Champs will compete at Regional Champs. The purpose of this is to help retain the older swimmers by allowing them to swim with their peers. The numbers of swimmers affected are low enough that it should not affect either one of the championship meets.

5. **Seasonal Championship:** To promote the AA statewide meets last year, we created a seasonal championship from the statewide meets. With the new format this will no longer be feasible. In its place we will create a seasonal championship based on IMX scores. This follows USA Swimming in creating more recognition for this score. The details of this program in Virginia will be published on the website as soon as it is finalized
6. **LSC Select Camps:** We are looking to create an LSC camp with a selection criteria using IMX scores. This camp will be for swimmers just below those eligible for the zone select camp that also uses IMX scores as a selection criteria. The details for this camp will be created during the fall to be presented to the Virginia Board of Directors at their January meeting.
7. **All-Star Meet with NC and WV:** There is a desire to re-start the All-Star meet with North Carolina and possibly include West Virginia. The tentative plan for this meet is a season beginning (either May or October) dual meet for 14 and younger swimmers. The details of such a meet will be worked out and presented via the website as they are finalized and approved.
8. **Eastern Zone Meet:** Virginia and Potomac Valley have jointly won the bid to host the 2008 Summer Long Course Eastern Zone championships at GMU Fairfax and Manassas.
9. **Championship Meet Awards:** It was brought up that the medals for Championship meets could be made more desirable. Bids have been asked for companies to provide and change the medals for our championship meets.