

Minutes from the AG Committee meeting

9-28-2013

Members present: Scott Baldwin (HOKI), Scott Thacker (LY), Steven Phillips (VAST), Kevin McHaney (BASS), Jessica Simons (CYAC), Maureen Tollivar (QDD), David Schrek (NOVA), Peter Maloney (TSU), Mike Julian (PSDN)

Ex Officio members present: Ted Sallade (Senior Chair), TJ Liston (Coaches' Rep), Lisa Liston (Tech Planning Chair)

Guests: Bob Herlinger (RAYS), Mike Clesner (RAYS), Dave Henderson (SEVA), Coz Difazio (BASS), Art Anthony (TAC), Sonny Grissom (TAC), Josh Fulton (TIDE), Greg Lake (CCA), Jamie Greenwood (NOVA), Steve Hennessey (CGBD)

Scott Baldwin opened the meeting with the reminder that the time standards for both the short course and the long course AG Championships in 2014 will remain unchanged from the 2013 standards.

Summer Awards will go to three locations next Summer – East: Tidewater area, Central: RAYS bid hoping to have it in Richmond, Southwest: Christiansburg

Then the long discussion was launched into meet formats for the district and region meets in February. Scott distributed the proposals that he had put out in the summer. Jessica began discussion by looking at the problems with proposal 2 and the difficulty of making it work in all districts. Discussion jumped to timeline issues at the region meet. Modifications were suggested to proposals as laid out, such as keeping 11-12s in districts and still have four regions.

Ted Sallade presented Mike Julian's proposal that we add another qualifying meet, making time standards for regions more difficult, adding time standards to the district meet, and having a meet the weekend before for swimmers to qualify for districts. There are so many swimmers in the central district that it would help to add another level of meet.

Concerns were expressed about adding another weekend of meets to an already busy championship meet schedule. Also concerns about getting officials for all the meets.

There was a suggestion that we have five district meets, tightening up the region standards.

Dave Henderson suggested that we let different districts have leeway to do different things that work within their district, including pulling 8 and unders out for a different meet if it works in that district, etc. MUCH DISCUSSION ENSUES. There is agreement that some change needs to be made because one size doesn't really fit all in each area, but preserving fair opportunities for advancement to the region meets is also important.

The discussion then turns to the change back and forth from one option to another. Most people would like to see changes enacted at least across two years with some tweaks so that we can really see if they work.

Lisa suggests that the region meet as run last year could be enhanced by removing the 1650 from the order of events, moving the 1000 free and 200 IM to Sunday, swimming the 400 IM on Friday, allowing swimmers at AG and SR Champs who have qualifying times in the 1000 or 1650 to swim both events, and swimming the 400 IM and 500 free with the top fastest four heats swimming first as they do at Senior Champs so that the fastest kids who are apt to be back at finals are getting out of the building early. These things would improve timelines for the Region meet, but preserve last year's format of a 13 and over meet.

Kevin is still concerned about the progression from meet to meet.

Representatives from each district express what they liked and didn't like about last year's meets. Some concern about adding excitement to the district meets. Brief mention about 9-10s having prelim/finals at the district level, but that is pretty quickly shot down as it is not offered at AG Champs. Idea that 8 & unders get pulled out and 11-12s swim prelim/finals at district meet. Even this not needed at every district so back to thought that each district do what best fits their needs. Jessica suggests that if every district offers the same events for 9-12 year olds then each district could do what they would like with their 8 & unders.

Discussion turns back to deciding whether we want 9-12 year olds in the region meet, or whether we can make satisfactory changes to the district meet for those swimmers and leave them in the district meet.

Scott Thacker makes a motion that the region meet remains a 13 and over meet. Jessica seconds. Kevin still expresses concern about losing a stepping stone for 12 & unders. Discussion about 11-12s in the afternoon at regions, adding time standards, meeting timelines, adding a fourth region. Coz tries to sell some ladders. The question is called. The motion passes.

Jessica makes the motion that the district meets have 11-12s swimming a prelim/finals format. Scott Thacker seconds. It is agreed that two heats of 11-12 will run during finals – not single age, but combined 11-12. The motion passes.

A motion is made that each district will deal with 8 & unders as they see fit, and 9-12 year olds will be offered the same events in each district, with the event order, number of days, etc., able to be determined by each district. Seconded. The motion passes.

A motion is made that the 200 fly, 200 breast, 200 back will be swum as prelim/finals with ONE heat returning at night; the 500 free and the 400 IM will run as timed finals in the preliminary session. 11-12 swimmers will be limited to 3 events a day with a limit of 8 events total. 10 & under swimmers are limited to 4 events a day with a 9 event total. Seconded. Discussion. Motion passes.

A motion is made that team awards will be given to top 3 teams – plaques. Medals will be given to top three finishers with fourth through 16th place receiving ribbons. Top 16 score. There is no separation of B/C division. Seconded. Discussion. Motion passes.

A motion is made that the mile be removed from the region meet with qualifiers in the 1000 or 1650 for SR and/or AG Champs able to swim both those events. Second. Motion passes.

A motion is made that the scoring mirrors the district meet. Second. Motion passes.

No Time entries and Coaches' Times will be accepted in both meets with the exception that swimmers at the Region meet in the 400 IM, 500 free, and 1000 free must have actual times that are at least a B time. Coaches' Times may not exceed a BB time, and coaches must use non-conforming times if the swimmer has those (if you have an AG or SR champ cut in a non-conforming course, you are not allowed to swim that event). In other words, Coaches Times may only be used if the swimmer has NT in any course, including non-conforming courses. All these pass.

There is a motion to adjourn. Seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Liston