

## **Items from General Chair October Board Meeting**

1. Pool Certifications: Information from *George Homewood*: As a result of some discussion about the need for pool certifications, I have looked into the situation and provide the following for the Board's consideration:
  - There are 29 pools on the list that I was provided that have hosted VSI meets and for which there are no certifications on file at USA Swimming
  - Based on my reading of the USA Swimming requirements, it is pointless to try to certify in advance any course against a moveable bulkhead except perhaps where the bulkhead is flush against the far wall in which case a pre-certification might make some sense.
  - The certification price per pool runs \$750-\$2500 depending on the firm used, but also on whether an indoor or an outdoor pool—outdoor pools are somewhat less expensive because can use satellite surveying equipment that cannot be used indoors—and the configuration—FT Eustis for example would likely need to be certified in both 25y and 25m configurations.
  - Using a single surveying firm to complete all of the pools makes the per survey cost decrease, but adds travel costs; using local surveying firms reduces total out of pocket costs, but creates a logistical problem for VSI because of the need to find and individually contract with as many as 18 different firms (some pools are grouped geographically such that a single local surveying firm could manage multiple facilities)
  - Adding it all up, it looks like \$25,000 to \$35,000 and about 6 months if we contract with a firm to complete all 29 pools.
  - As an alternative, we may want to consider as an LSC certifying only those pools in which we conduct championship meets (and perhaps further limit to those where VSI is the primary host)
  - We may also want to consider establishing a policy that after some specific date in the future (perhaps 1 October 2010), no VSI-sanctioned meet will occur in a pool that has not been certified with the certification submitted to and accepted by USA Swimming. As a part of that policy, perhaps VSI could consider creating a fund that will offer grants of up to \$500 toward the cost of certification upon joint application by a pool facility and a VSI club. This would limit our costs to under \$15,000 assuming no new facilities are added to the list.
  - If it is important to VSI to get all of the pools certified and do so on our dime, we could consider adding a surcharge to events conducted in those pools that we did the certification on for a set period (perhaps 3 years for example) to recover some of the costs.
  - I am willing to pursue having as many or as few certified as the Board deems appropriate, however I can only do so if we can select a single firm for the work (I can run the proposal and selection process to obtain the best cost) because I cannot devote the time needed to managing effectively many multiple contracts. The process entailed with only 3 firms to obtain the preliminary cost information provided was itself both somewhat harrowing and time consuming.

I hope that this adequately responds to the discussion and I look forward to receiving guidance from you and the Board about whether to pursue all, some or none. As you know, I am unable to attend the HOD or Board meetings next weekend because of a work commitment, but I will try to answer any questions you may have either beforehand or afterwards.

**Question: Where do we go from here?**

2. **Recent Publication on USA-S Website:** Reference List for Allowable Swimsuits Under USA Swimming Rule 102.9 (9/29/2009)

The USA Swimming House of Delegates, consisting of 438 coach, official and athlete members, voted to implement new swimsuit requirements, beginning on October 1. While this earlier implementation date has created some challenges, it was put in place to both avoid interrupting our short course season and protect the integrity of our competitions in the summer of 2010.

The new swimsuit requirements are very specific and technical in nature, but deal primarily with silhouette and material of the suits.

FINA will be the ultimate judge of which materials will be acceptable. However, **in an effort to provide clearer guidance to its membership, USA Swimming asked the major suit manufacturers, in good faith, to indicate which of their suits meet the specified criteria.** The list of those suits is below.

Please note, none of these suits should be considered "FINA approved" until FINA issues its list of 2010 suits. Once FINA publishes its list, some of the suits below may no longer be acceptable.

**Reference List for Allowable Swimsuits**

**ARENA**

**ARENA X-FLAT**

- a) Woman full body short leg open back
- b) Woman Normal Suit (Classic)
- c) Man Jammer
- d) Man Brief

**ARENA POWERSKIN**

- a) Woman full body short leg open
- b) Woman Normal Suit (Classic)
- c) Man Jammer

**ARENA POWERSKIN R-EVOLUTION**

- a) Woman full body short leg open back
- b) Man Jammer

**AgonSwim.com**

*The following styles from Agonswim.com in the fabrics Paper, Streamline, Lycra, MaxResist, PolyRidge, Speedline, Duramax, Knit Polyester, PBT and Mesh meet the requirements.*

**Male styles**

- |            |               |                    |
|------------|---------------|--------------------|
| Brief      | Jammer        | Training suit      |
| Brief Euro | Splice Jammer | Training suit euro |

**Female styles**

- |                     |                   |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Freeback            | Sprintback        | Thin Straps 2X    |
| Freeback Youth      | ThinStraps        | U-Back            |
| Knee Length Proback | Thin Straps Youth | BikiniBack Top    |
| Proback             | ThinStraps 1X     | BikiniBack Bottom |

**BlueSeventy**

*Will provide a list when it is available*

**Diana**

- Diana Submarine 201M pants-short men
- Diana Submarine 213W full-knee Women

- Diana Submarine 243W full-knee women

### **Tyr**

Fusion Racer (Style#RFUS6) 2006 Male  
Fusion Jammer (Style#SFUS6) 2006 Male  
Fusion Aeroback (Style#AFUS6) 2006 Female  
Fusion Aeroback Short John (Style#ASFU5) 2006  
Female

Tracer Light Racer (Style#TLRA6) 2007 Male  
Tracer Light Aeroback (Style#TLAB6) 2007 Female  
Tracer Light Aeroback Short John (Style#TLSJ6A) 2007  
Female

### **Speedo**

*Speedo believes the following championship suits meet the criteria listed by USA Swimming.*

Speedo Fastskin FS Pro  
Female Recordbreaker, Style #7190803  
Female Kneeskin, Style #7190102  
Male Jammer, Style #7050170

Speedo Fastskin FSII  
Female Recordbreaker, Adult Style #7190142, Youth Style #7190141  
Male Jammer, Adult Style #7050154, Youth Style #7050153  
Male Brief, Adult Style #7055001

Speedo Aquablade  
Female Recordbreaker, Adult Style #719040, Youth Style #719039  
Male Jammer, Adult Style #705966, Youth Style #705965  
Male Brief, Adult #705032, Youth Style #705031

Please note, this list is not all-inclusive. Until such time as FINA publishes its list, swimsuits meeting the below criteria, should also be considered acceptable.

1. Swimsuits for men may not extend above the navel or below the knee and for women may not cover the neck or extend past the shoulders or below the knee;
2. No zippers or other fastening devices are allowed except for a waist tie on a brief or jammer; and
3. Suits must be of textile material and must not be made of any rubberized type of material such as polyurethane or neoprene.

If you have additional questions, please email [comments@usaswimming.org](mailto:comments@usaswimming.org).

3. **Approved Meets:** At the Convention I spoke with Bruce Stratton and Ed Miller (YMCA liaison to Rules and Regs) about the expectations of USA-S and the YMCA concerning approved meets. Ed told me that it was not the expectation that dual meets between YMCA teams should be approved – only that end of season championships and large invitational meets should be approved. The chair of the Times and Recognition Committee has reiterated this in an email/update sent out this week. In the past we have approved or sanctioned the dual meets whenever possible as a service to our swimmers who are also Y swimmers in order that their times could count. If we follow these guidelines (and I recommend that we do), do we need to change our Policies? Do we want to find a way to allow times swum in a YMCA dual meet to count for entry into our championship meets? I don't think we need to act on this now but we need to think about it in order to propose any needed Policy changes for approval at our April meeting.
4. **Electronic Board Meetings:** I have contacted Adobe to get information about using their software to host online Board meetings. Here's how it would work – the person designated as the "host" sets the time for the meeting and logs in to a website. Other Board members ("participants") would log in to the same website to join the meeting. Individuals would need

audio & microphone capabilities (possibly built in to your laptop) to be able to talk and hear the discussions. The "host" can share his/her desktop or any documents for everyone to see. A "chat" feature is also available so that if someone is having audio difficulties, s/he could still be involved.

Adobe offers two possibilities for this: Connect Now and Connect Pro. The Now version allows up to 20 participants at any time but the meetings cannot be recorded (video or audio). The Pro version allows up to 100 participants and recording of the meeting. I believe this version also allows multiple "presenters." That is, the host could grant others the opportunity to share documents. The Now version costs \$40 per month per host while the Pro is \$55 per month per host. I believe we would need only one host. (As a comparison – our current rate for conference calls is \$.15 per minute per participant.)

Adobe does have a 30 day free trial which I recommend that we try before making any decision. If we decide to try this, I also recommend that we set up several times so that Board members could check it out to iron out any bugs before the actual meeting date.

**Question:** Does any Board member still use a dial-up connection?