

**Minutes of the April 25-26, 2009
VSI Board of Directors Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 1:05pm. Present were Kevin Maloy, Stuart Ferguson, Peter Maloney, Kevin Hogan, Lee Gibbs, Terry Randolph, Mary Turner, Michael Downs, Walter Smith, Bill Geiszler, Bob Rustin, David Strider, Brian Kupferer, Steve Henessey, and Jessica Simons.

Bill Geiszler moved that the minutes of the March meeting be approved. This was seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report - The report is posted on the web site. Bill thinks VSI will break even this year rather than run a deficit. Bill would like to move money to a money market account at 1.5% at Sun Trust. This was seconded by Peter Maloney and passed. The Treasurer's report stood as a motion, seconded by Peter Maloney and passed.

Proposed 2009-2010 Budget – Bob Rustin reported on the proposed 2009-2010 budget. There is a fee increase of \$1 to USA Swimming, but there will be no fee increase due to VSI this year. This report is posted to the web site. The Finance Committee recommends that a subsidy of \$750 be paid per meet to any VSI athlete who makes the World Youth Team (formerly the Junior National Team). Awards need to be ordered for the LC Open Water Championship. The proposed budget stood as a motion, seconded by Jessica Simons and passed.

Athlete Rep – Stuart reported that Morgan Lattimer is the new Junior Rep. Mary has asked Morgan to be an At Large member of the Board. Stuart sent an email to all committee members reminding them of the Athletes' Meeting. Peter suggested that athletes be encouraged to be members of VSI committees.

Admin Vice Chair – See report on the web site. David reported for the Safety Committee as well. This report is on the web site. Another athlete is needed on the Safety Committee. The May Safety Tip will be anti-doping.

Policies and Bylaws Changes –

Classification, Time Standards and Entries – see report on the web site.

Meet Results and Financial Reports – see report on the web site.

Corrected EZ competition information – see report on the web site.

Records – see proposal on the web site.

Mary is going to ask the House of Delegates for permission to regroup and relocate the policies to give them more continuity.

An updated sanctioning process was put together by David and Steve.

Approvals for meets are going to be handled in the same manner as Sanctions. This will come up for a vote at the next meeting as it did not make the 30 day deadline.

The Conflict of Interest Policy will also be voted on at the next meeting. Board members, committee members, and paid staff should be obligated to sign this statement. This will be revisited in September.

Peter Maloney moved that the proposal for swimming 2 athletes per lane be put in the VSI Procedures. Steve Henessey seconded. Extensive discussion ensued. It was suggested that VSI subsidize LCM distance meets so that the distance swimmers have appropriate opportunities to compete before their championship meet. Various scenarios were aired. Perhaps for the first few meets of the LC season only BB and slower swimmers would be allowed in the distance events. This discussion will be presented to Coaches and Age Group Committees meeting on April 26. Stuart will bring it to the athletes. VSI would be interested in offering this option to BB and below swimmers for this summer and put it into effect in the LC season of 2010. Terry Randolph called the question. The motion passed. The procedure will go into effect in 7 days.

Eastern Zone Meeting – Brian Kupferer, Mary Turner, Morgan Lattimer, and Walter Smith will be representing VSI in Ft. Lauderdale. The LC Zone meet still does not have a bid. Cary NC is available. There is a possible site for the Open Water meet as well. VSI will provide assistance but cannot co-host.

2 Year Coaches Representative – An election is needed for this position. It can be held at any meet VSI chooses. An election will be held at Commonwealth Games with a proxy vote available. Mary will check with Louise to see by when the nominations must be received.

Professional Photographers on Deck – This is a host club responsibility, if desired. Host teams must let the clubs attending their meet know that the photographer will be available. That person must have his/her own liability insurance and a release form signed by the parent of a specific swimmer must be obtained. USA Swimming and the host club should be named as additionally insured.

Nominating Committee – The slate is on the web site. The slate for the Review Committee is as well.

Items from the General Chair –

A new facility may be built in Manassas. It would be a municipal pool and lane space has been offered to a PVS team as the signature team in that facility. VSI would be the sanctioning body for any meets held in that facility.

There is a request from CAST (VSI) and BASA (SES) for a meet to be put on the VSI LC schedule. The meet will be held in Abingdon. Steve will contact CAST and outline their options.

Scott Beard emailed Mary about the Senior Champions Fitter and Faster Tour. Clinics are being set up for August – October. They will bring an Olympic roster. This might be done in conjunction with our Swimposium. Mary will pursue this and bring it back to the Board.

Registration – see report on the web site.

Finance – Bill Geiszler moved that a gift of \$500 should be given to the SC Zone Team Manager. This was seconded by Brian Kupferer and passed.

Age Group – see report on the web site. As a result of a particular coach leaving the SC Zone Coaching Staff before the completion of the meet, this coach will not be considered as a coach for future Zone meets. The awards for Senior and Age Group Champs will be put out to bid as there was a problem with the vendor this year.

Senior Committee – no report. Terry Randolph would like to see the format for the 400 IM and 500 free at Senior Champs changed.

Coaches – see report on the web site.

Top 10 – Terry reminded everyone to use Top 10 terminology rather than Top 16. The certificates are not yet available as they had to be redone.

Technical Planning – see report on the web site.

Club Development – no report

Swimposium – no report

Disability – no report

Diversity – see report on the web site. Peter will be on the committee that will present the diversity program at the Convention. There is no report for Camps.

Equipment – no report

Records – no report

Legislation – no report

Webmaster – see report on the web site. The average number of daily visits are down this year.

LEAP – this was completed yesterday.

Officials – Kevin reported on the swimsuit issue. Be proactive and use common sense. He discussed the problem of coaches and meet credentials being displayed on deck at meets. He also discussed the food on deck issue and how marshals are disregarded when trying to enforce safety policies. Prolonged discussion ensued about how to deal with these situations. Kevin will draft an email to referees to give them guidelines about how to handle the abovementioned situations should they arise. A warning will be given and if unheeded and not complied with, the individual in violation will be requested to leave the deck. If he/she refuses, this will be brought to the Board of Review.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm to be reconvened at 12 noon at the Koger Center.

The meeting was reconvened at 12 noon. Present were Peter Maloney, Terry Randolph, Bill Geiszler, Walter Smith, Bob Rustin, Mary Turner, Brian Kupferer, Steve Hennessey, Jessica Simons, Stuart Ferguson, David Strider, Kevin Hogan, Kevin Maloy, and Michael Downs.

Athletes Committee – Stuart reported that there were 6 athletes who attended the meeting. They liked the idea of reversing the time standards for the LC freestyle distance events. If 2 swimmers per lane has to happen they suggested allowing the NT swimmers 2 per lane and all others with times 1 per lane. They felt there was less sportsmanship in the LSC now then in years past. Award ceremonies are not as important as parading. Maybe there should be senior camps or a revitalization of the VA Senior Circuit.

Age Group – Brian reported on Region Champs 2010. For events 200 and longer, scratch sheets will be provided to the coaches and no faster than times for relays will be part of the meet invitation. The cuts for Region Champs 2010 will be faster and there will now be cuts for District Champs as well. Times achieved in meets held after the meet entry deadline for Age Group Champs will not be charged the late entry fee and must provide proof of time with the entry. No updated times will be considered new entries. Age Group Champs should still be held the week after Senior Champs and how the cuts are determined will be changed. Either the 28th or 32nd time using a 5 year average will be used. The committee will decide after all the data becomes available. The committee is looking at cuts for District Champs as well. The committee recommends allowing 2 swimmers per lane in distance events. A policy must be set concerning swim suits for the 14 and under swimmers. The committee recommends that male suits not be allowed below the knee. The committee recommends that female suits not cover the shoulders or the arms and not come below the buttocks.

Coaches Committee – Coach of the year nominations will be left open. A staff or an individual can be nominated. Credentials have to be had and displayed. Coaches can be removed from the deck or brought to the Board of Review. If a coach has a complaint, it should be documented and sent to the Coaches Rep.

The 400, 800, 1000, 1650, and 1500 can be swum 2 per lane at the discretion of the meet referee, the meet director, and Technical Planning. The equipment and officials must be on hand to do this.

The drag suit issue was discussed. Bruce Stratton's email address will be linked to the VSI web site so the coaches' concerns could go directly to him. The 14 and under swim suit rule was also recommended.

Senior Committee – The committee would like to see the 400 IM and the 500 free at Senior Champs seeded and swum with the top 4 heats of men and then the top 4 heats of women followed by the rest of the men and then the rest of the women. Senior Champs time standards may be AAA. The since date for time achieved should be September 1 of the preceding year for SC and January 1 for LC for senior swimming

only. The committee suggested the 2 per lane policy as well. The question arose as to whether the LC cuts should be the same as the SC cuts. This was left open.

Technical Planning – Technical planning supported the recommendations that came out of the Age Group and Coaches committees concerning 2 swimmers per lane. This committee would like to see that 2 per lane is planned on rather than a contingency contemplating the set up of the meet and the need for equipment and officials. The 2 per lane swims should have guidelines as to how many swimmers entered would constitute the need for 2 per lane swims. The LC meets held this summer should be used as a trial. Peter Maloney moved to change the procedure that was set at yesterday's board meeting in favor of this operating procedure. The change would charge the meet to plan on swimming 2 per lane in the 400, 800, and 1500 free at LC meets only this summer and not at the Championship level. This was seconded by Steve Henessey and the motion passed.

Stuart Ferguson stated that the Athletes Committee would like to expand and invite more than 2 athletes per club to attend the Athlete Committee meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Simons, Secretary