

Athlete Committee Meeting

9 February 2016

Meeting called to order at 12:45AM by John Degnan

Club Representatives Present

Lexi DeFrancesco, OV
JP Greener, BOD
Kati Hage, RIO
Daniel Harris, RAYS
Katie Higgins, BOD/PSC
Zabric Kline, ASG
Cameron Lee, SCCS
Daniela Liera, FAST
Emma McGill, VSC
Sam Mulay, TJCC
Margaret Oliver, FORD
Kempton Osborn, AQFO
Dakota Rubie, AD
Emily Sharpe, MAC
Grant Sugaski, BOD
Alyson Yancy, SAC

Welcome and Introductions

John Degnan led introductions with discussion of the responsibilities of the Athlete Committee, as well as introductions by the current Athlete Representatives (JP Greener, Grant Sugaski, Katie Higgins).

Report to Athlete Members

JP Greener discussed his experiences as a first-year athlete member at the USAS Convention 2015 in Kansas City, MO. He emphasized the impact athletes have on the sport and the sheer size of operation that takes place behind the scenes to ensure athletes have the best competitive setting possible.

Grant Sugaski then discussed the function of the Athlete Committee within AZ Swimming by sampling the effect of out-of-state LSC swimmers at AZ Senior Championships.

Discussion of Time Standards – Effectiveness

Grant Sugaski led discussion in the theory behind ABC time standards and opening up Senior Championships to out-of-LSC athletes. Some representatives expressed concern that out-of-LSC athletes will remove AZ Swimming LSC athletes from competition. However, overwhelming support was expressed for creating faster time standards to increase competition within Arizona, as well as increasing out-of-LSC presence at Senior Champs, limited to Sectional-qualifying seniors.

The time standards discussed closely model ABC time standards, where A represents a Senior Championship competition close to Sectional time standards, B represents a Regional competition that would replace the current State Championships model, and C standards to represent beginning athlete competition. Overall, athletes present agreed that they would wish to see faster time standards, as well as out-of-LSC competition at Senior Championships, limited to a set amount of athletes (around 150), that meet Sectional time standards.

Recruiting in the Olympic Year

Grant Sugaski emphasized the role of Athlete Committee members and Club Representatives to actively promote the sport of swimming, especially in an Olympic year.

Nominations

Nominees were selected by a show of hands. Nominees were elected by card vote.

Board of Directors

- Grant Sugaski
- Katie Higgins
- JP Greener

Board of Review

- Sam Mulay
- Lexi DeFrancesco

Good of the Order

Grant Sugaski discussed the significant role athletes play in the sport of swimming, and reminded club representatives to actively reach out to fellow athletes for criticism and suggestions to create a better competitive environment.

Meeting Adjourned by Grant Sugaski at 1:00PM