

USA Convention

Eastern Zone Tech Planning Meeting

The dates for the IMX Games were changed. The meet will now be held January 27-29.

The idea was thrown out to potentially add a D heat to Super Sectionals, potentially 18&under only. The idea was tossed around but wasn't voted on.

Time Trials – tons of issues came about with time trials. Coaches argued about time trials cutting into the meet, drawing the meet out. It was proposed that time trials only be offered to swimmers who entered in the meet for individual events and not relay only swimmers. The proposal was for Relay only swimmers to not time trial UNLESS the time permits. The motion was put on the table and voted on. It was approved.

It was also suggested that time trials be pre-entered so that we can have a better understanding of the timelines and that relay only swimmers can be added just in case.

Pete Barry will look over some of the time standards for some of the meets. Summer Zones was one brought up, especially with some of the 10&under boys events where there were tons of entries this summer.

Club Development Committee

Statistics were reviewed for 2011. There was a drop in seasonal athletes statistically, there was also an increase in year-round athletes. The number of coaches in USA Swimming went up which surprised tons of people because of the new background checks and requirements to be on deck as a coach.

63% of clubs in USA Swimming are less than 100 swimmers.

Promoting Club Leadership was spoken on.

Long-term Athlete Development was reviewed. In order to develop the club, we need to start molding the younger swimmers and doing a better job of retention so that there is a future for the club. It starts with the 8&unders and then progresses into each age group. If we don't do a great job of laying the foundation when they're younger, those same swimmers won't make it through to their senior years on the team.

A lot of time was spent on the issue of coach's education. An open forum began where some coaches disputed the need for it to be required. USA swimming hosts seminars monthly that are online and they've been well viewed, however, they are seeing the same people signing in to watch them. It's stated that maybe educational opportunities aren't advertised as much as they need to. Coaches spoke out about how the educational aspect and requirements should be something that's internal and maybe there should be more incentives. In order to progress in the sport, there should be constant learning as things change daily, but USA Swimming hasn't taken a stance on requiring educational units to be a coach.

Diversity Workshop Sept 16, 2011

The workshop began with an introduction of the USA Swimming's Diversity Staff and the members of Diversity Committee. The Diversity team was the first to speak.

Manny Banks spoke out about why USA swimming first got involved trying to reach out with their outreach program. Manny spoke about some of the meets that USA Swimming has incorporated into their Diversity Meet Circuit, one is a meet that's run in Metro, the MLK Meet hosted by Nu-Finmen in January.

Kent Yoshiwara spoke about some examples throughout different LSC's that have helped promote Outreach within the communities. One highlighted example was the Potomac Valley Water Safety Day. Throughout the LSC, teams helped promote Water Safety initiatives by teaching children and adults about how to remain safe in and around water. Kent also highlighted the METRO Outreach day that we

held in April. I had a chance to speak about the experiences from that day and the audience that we reached. A lot of the LSC's were impressed with the idea and look forward to attempting to run a similar program next year.

Shaun Anderson and Manny spoke about the Diversity Summit that will be held at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs this upcoming November. Metro will have a representative there.

HOD Meeting Friday – Saturday

Friday

Meeting was called to order at 7:35pm Friday night. The meeting started with a presentation and recognition of people we've lost since last year's meeting. Former Age Group Chair Keith Furey was shown.

Bruce Stratton started off the meeting with a President's Report. Bruce touched on many of the accomplishments of USA Swimming throughout the past year, including the National Team's performance at Worlds, The Junior National's team performance, and many Open Water highlights. Bruce also touched on tons of new initiatives/partnerships that USA swimming was working on. Some mentioned were Deck Pass and iHigh. Bruce then presented awards to the new recognized Life Members and Past Board Members.

The night ended off with the giving out of 13 awards. Some recipients of the different awards were the Crippen Family, Coach Dick Shoulberg, James Anderson, Alex Myers, and Metro's very own Brian Brown won the Developmental Coach Award.

Saturday

Meeting was called to order at 9:03am. Membership was the first item touched on. The national numbers were in and there were increases in memberships and the number of teams that participated in USA Swimming.

Voting took place for the OIOC elections.

Chuck Wielgus gave the State of the Sport Report. Chuck spoke on the revised Code of Conduct. He also touched on new things within USA Swimming, once again highlighting Deck Pass & iHigh. USA swimming is really looking for more teams to participate in and enroll in the Club Excellence program. USA Swimming has also partnered with NBC and will be broadcasting more swimming events in the future.

The budget was reviewed.

The results of the elections were announced

Rules and Regulations were reviewed. There were some amendments.

Meeting was called to end at 12:59pm