

Convention Report – John Yearwood

Eastern Zone TP meeting Wednesday 6pm

Items discussed:

-The idea of adding an EZ Open Water Coordinator position to the board was thrown out. The position would join the TP board and would help assign/coordinate Open water meets in the Zone. The Coordinator would also help create standards and regulations for Open Water competitions within the EZ. At the time of the meeting, nothing was officially established. It was decided that this would be discussed at the EZ meeting later on at convention.

-The procedures manual is not carried out as written. As discussed at the May meeting, the number of coaches/team managers/chaperones on deck at zones exceed the initial bylaws written in the procedures. The bylaws must be revisited and re-written. It was agreed upon that there should be no more than 10 coaches/team managers/chaperones on deck at a given time for SC zones. The LC zone meet will be distinguished by number of athletes.

-As per this year's Super Sectional meet, the idea of looking at some of the distance events and potentially limiting the number of heats was thrown out. At Sectionals this past summer, the meet ran from morning prelims right into distance sessions and then right into the finals. It was deemed unbearable for the meet host and volunteers to be able to handle this. Discussion followed as to not only look at the distance events, but also look at the other events. It was brought to the attention that there were more heats in the sprint events than there were for the distance events but distance events are always the first to be cut. This year's meet had 900 athletes, compared to last year's 630. This was a special year, but how do we make sure we can handle and accommodate a meet of this stature if it grows to this level. Pete Barry, the chair for technical planning, will review the times for all events and figure out a way of making the meet more manageable without having to cut events or heats.

New Business

-Motion was brought to the table to eliminate relay only swimmers from being able to time trial. It was believed that they often got a chance to time trial before swimmers already in the meet, thus taking their chance for another swim. It's also believed to slow down the meet.

This would be voted on at the EZ meeting Thursday

-Another motion was brought to have an 18&u final at all championship meets. It's looked on as not being fair that older swimmers are bumping the swimmers out of swimming in a final. Discussion continued as we already added an extra final after last year's convention for this same reason. It was tabled, Pete Barry will review and come up with numbers depicting where the finals were affected by having older swimmers and bumping kids out.

-A motion was brought about to revisit the Spring Sectional meet being long course. This will need to be discussed at the Eastern Zone meeting.

Meeting adjourned

Age Group Chairs Workshop

IMX GAMES

Change of dates for the EZ IMX games. The site for the EZ games is also changed. This is to help accommodate more swimmers, the 10&under age group is now also added to the EZ Games.

USA Swimming is now involved in a bigger effort of researching and tracking IMX scores for swimmers and teams. In the past few seasons, the completion rate of swimmers completing IMX has gone up. They look forward to this trend continuing.

Squads can attend any site for the IMX games; don't need to just attend their zone.

A study was conducted to try and track the amount of swimmers in USA Swimming. Part of the study was revamped to focus on Boys swimming. The numbers vary between boys and girls in swimming, more in the favor of the girls. It is also noticed that a higher number of Girls are competing in longer events and completing IMX while trends show that the boys are sticking towards sprint events.

ASCA helped create a questionnaire that was sent out as part of a study with male swimmers. It is proven that the male athletes are typically diagnosed with ADD or other classifications that cause them to be on medication during or after practice. The kids go through different mood swings and changes in attitude/behavior depending on what type of schedule their medication is on. They are researching to see if this has anything to do with performance for the males.

Another male issue they found was that out of the age range surveyed, 8-14yr olds, there was indication that these athletes had issues with respect for their coaches, and/or respect for their peers.

Study of Male Athletes Development

Stage 1 Direction (2-8yr olds): pre-operational, greatly impressionable, programmable

Stage 2 Adventure (9-12yr olds): Operational stage, goal oriented, Team and social environment

Stage 3 Destination (13&up) Manipulate ideas, logical reasoning

Diversity Meeting September 13

Applications are available to join the committee; they're available online NOW, through September 30

Focus on establishing progressions through zones

Preparations for presentation to the General Chairs.

- Goal to get in their minds what's really going on with diversity efforts and how they should increase participation/initiatives.

Diversity Camp Plans

2013 - Eastern Zone & Southern Zone

2014 - Central Zone & Western Zone

Zones will flip flop and host camps every other year. Zones are encouraged to host their own summits/clinics in their off years

National Diversity Summit will now take place every quad instead of every 2 years. Next one to take place 2015.

A new goal is to make the Outreach Membership more transparent. Each LSC should have it clearly noted on their web page for people to find.

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The new team manager actually has a fill in box to distinguish "Outreach" membership.

I didn't type anything else out, as we all pretty much went to the rest together.

Respectfully submitted