

GASL Meeting Minutes – November 6, 2019

1. May Minutes

- a. *Motion: Approve May Meeting Minutes. Motion was seconded. RESULT: A majority of teams voted Yes by voice vote and motion carried.*

2. Old Business

- a. Treasurer's Report: The 2019 season started with \$9,366.82 in the bank, and ended with \$10,610.88.
- b. Elections: Article IV, Section 1, Item e of the GASL Bylaws states that "Only member team representatives shall be eligible serve in elective offices or appointed positions." Since Jake Miller is no longer associated with the Annapolis Swim Team, he requested that an temporary exception be made in his case while we review the Bylaws and his situation. No vote was officially taken, but representatives generally agreed to avoid the need to elect a new President. Noelle Semmes agreed to continue as Treasurer, and no action was taken on electing a President-elect.
- c. Results from Last Season and 2020 Divisions: Divisions will be revised based on the 2019 standings, which have been posted on the GASL web site (i.e., last place in Divisions A, B, and C will be moved down one division, and the 1st Place in Divisions B, C, and D will be moved up one division).
- d. AAU Insurance Procedures: Six pools did not received insurance certificates last year (AST, BRP, CSC, DST, DDST, HFST). A phone call was held with AAU on November 7, 2019, to clearly understand the procedures for obtaining AAU insurance certificates. Jake Miller agreed to take responsibility to produce the Standard Operating Procedures for obtaining pool certificates and to obtain them for next year.
- e. Communications: Two communication proposals were discussed to help provide more effective group chat capabilities (see Items i and ii below). Jake uses #slack at work and proposes to use it as our main two-way communication platform. #slack's chat functionality is similar to GroupMe, but has multiple channels and requires a free app on your phone or computer. The GASL website was primarily created to have a public presence, but it requires active management. Shutterfly was an integrated site that no one had to manage, but had some limitations. *Motion: Create a Tiger Team to analyze and clearly identify our communications needs and capabilities, both public and private, and propose a solution. Motion was seconded. RESULT: A majority of teams voted Yes by hand vote and motion carried.* Tiger Team members are representatives from Indian Landing (Anne Canaday) and Mayo (Laura Falsone)
 - i. Proposal #1: Use #slack for main GASL communication platform

- ii. Proposal #2: Use GASL website for one-way communications (i.e., publishing files and information)
- f. Family Championship Meet Concept: Sandy Avery presented an alternative approach to improving the championship meet experience. Silver and Bronze meet swimmers would swim at the same meet on a Saturday, but they would be judged separately and medals would be awarded to both Silver and Bronze swimmers. This approach allows families who have Silver and Bronze swimmers to attend (and volunteer at) a single meet rather than two meets, and gives swimmers an opportunity to swim in more events. One concern raised was having a mixed event with both Silver and Bronze swimmers, which would not allow the top Bronze swimmer to win their heat. This approach could potentially impact ribbon costs as well as the logistics to get all of the ribbons to the right meets. *Motion: Table the discussion and form a committee to study the concept more closely. Motion was seconded. RESULT: A majority of teams voted Yes by hand vote and motion carried.* Committee was formed with members from Hillsmere (Danielle Brooks and Becky Crosby), Evergreen (Jared Calish), Davidsonville (Lisa Gebbia), South River (Kate Foran), and Mayo (Nicole McCarver), and tasked to present their recommendations at the February 2020 GASL Meeting.
- g. Rules Updates/Results: Kevin Avery requested teams to identify any issues that they may have had with any of the rules, rules changes, or lack of rules. One item suggested was to communicate meet protocols to championship hosts during the May GASL Meeting. Another suggestion was to clarify that coaches are encouraged to give swimmers seed times rather than assign no times. Kevin invited all teams to read the rules in detail and raise questions, ask for clarifications, or make suggestions for rule changes. Kevin will compile all suggestions and provide them to all of the teams with the rationale for considering those suggestions.
- h. Meet Entries: Two proposals were reviewed and discussed.
 - i. Proposal #1: Teams to notify all parents that swimmers cannot be entered into events prior to them swimming legal strokes. *Motion: Teams will notify all parents that swimmers cannot be entered into events prior to them swimming legal strokes. Motion was seconded. RESULT: A majority of teams voted Yes by hand vote and motion carried.*
 - ii. Proposal #2: Officials to record and report non-legal entries. *Motion: Have League Officials collect data on non-legal entries from each meet and report their results back to the league after each meet. Motion was seconded. RESULT: A majority of teams voted Yes by hand vote and motion carried.*
- i. Officials
 - i. The league will be conducting a survey of Officials to determine what worked well, what didn't work well, what should we start, stop, or continue, etc.

- ii. A suggestion was made to conduct one (1) optional Apprentice Session. Many teams have new officials shadow an experienced Official before allowing them to officiate on their own. *Motion: League Officials will schedule and conduct an optional Apprentice Official session before the season. Motion was seconded. RESULT: A majority of teams voted Yes by hand vote and motion carried.*
- iii. A suggestion was made to develop SOP Documents for Lead Official, Starter, and Head Timer. Jerilyn agreed to develop the documents.
- iv. A suggestion was made to provide GASL Polo shirts for officials to encourage professional appearance. *Motion: Have GASL fund and purchase Polo shirts for 120 officials for upcoming to encourage professional appearance. Motion was seconded. RESULT: A majority of teams voted No by hand vote and motion did not carry.* Jerilyn agreed to evaluate this proposal in more detail and survey the officials to get their inputs.
- j. Championship Meets Administrative and Venue Rules Updates: Kevin Avery reinforced the need for all teams to strictly follow the venue rules for hosting championship meets. Teams were requested to provide any feedback they may have on this topic.

3. New Business

- a. The next GASL Meeting will be held on February 20, 2020, at 6:30pm at Harting Farms.
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