



ZONE DIRECTORS' COUNCIL

Zone Directors' Council Meeting

July 23, 2023 - Notes

8:00 ET/5:00 PT via Zoom

"Serving as a connecting link in the USA Swimming Community to build awareness and trust through shared communication and education."

Present: Zach Toothman (Co-Chair), Tim Husson (Co-Chair), Jack Swanson, Gavin Formon, Nicole Caruso, Joel Shinofield, Michael White, Melissa Hellervik-Bing, Keith Moore, Megan Braman, Savannah Gurley, Simran Jayasinghe, Jackson Fouras, Bruno Darzi, Mike Dilli

Absent: TJ Walsh, Dana Skelton, Beth Winkowski, Jay Chambers, Mitch Gold, Jane Grosser, Ellery Parish, Pam Lowenthal, Nate Chessey, Jerry Adams, Ryan Gibbons, Terry Jones

Guests: Kathleen Prindle (BoD)

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 ET by Zach Toothman and the agenda was approved as submitted.

1. Ongoing Business

a) Zone P&P Updates

All four zones were given a soft deadline of September 30th for finishing their Policy and Procedures, with a hard deadline of January 1st, 2024. The question was raised of whether the P&P need to be approved by USA Swimming, and as long as they are in compliance with USA Swimming Bylaws they do not need USA Swimming approval.

b) ZDC Junior Officials Membership Working Group

The working group's progress has been going well since the last meeting. They have been solidifying major questions with stakeholders before the proposal in September. They have meetings scheduled with the Operational Risk and Age Group committees.

c) ZDC Onboarding Task Force

The ZDC Onboarding Task Force will be meeting the week of August 7th and hope to have the onboarding process completed by September.

d) HoD Time Adjustment Letter

The HoD Time Adjustment letter to Tim Hinchey and Chris Brearton was successful and the House of Delegates Meeting will now begin at 12MT.

e) ZDC Member HOD Votes

All ZDC Members are given delegate votes at the House of Delegates and should make sure to reallocate any LSC votes they are given.

2. New Business

a) USA-S Workshop Survey Data Analysis

Zach converted the data of the survey results from the last meeting into a powerpoint and presented it.

b) Zone Athlete Representative Term Matrix

Zach created and presented a matrix outlining the new design for athlete rep terms in order to stagger the years when different Zone Athletes will term out. All Junior Reps will continue their current term for a second year and the Western and Eastern Zones will continue their terms as normal, while the Central and Southern Zones will hold a special election next year. The question was raised on how this matrix will benefit ZARC, and Zach answered that it will allow for ZARC to continually have experienced reps on the committee. Another question was raised on the rationale for not staggering terms across the zone and was answered that this will allow for continuity that is not available with the current model, and also prevents the situation of all ZARC members terming out in the same year.

The verbage for this was sent out in June to be added to the Zone P&P, depending on which model the zone is following.

c) ZDC/CAC ABM House of Delegates Project Update

This process is continuing to move forward for increasing engagement at this year's ABM and HoD. A current goal of this project is letting delegates know exactly when they have different meetings to better facilitate engagement and participation.

d) September ABM ZDC Meeting

The two date options for the ABM ZDC September Meeting will either be September 10th or 17th. There was no particular preference among the committee as a whole.

e) ZDC Meet the Candidates

The council decided this event will be held in late August, rather than early September, and will replace the August ZDC Meeting. One will be held by USA Swimming and One will be held by the ZDC, around August 27th. Potential topics may include Safesport and DEI, as well as others to be decided at a later date.

f) Championship Meet Caps

Many Championship Meets have been filling up and reaching their caps. There was discussion on this topic such as potential factors and different solutions. The Senior Development Committee has been working on a solution to this at Futures and Joel advised contacting them for more information.

3. Staff Updates

None.

4. Zone Updates

None.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Zach Toothman at 9:06 ET.