



## Senior Development Committee Minutes September 23, 2020

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Allison Beebe (chair), Todd Capen, Mary Liston (Operations Committee), Kevin Milak (AG Development), Alan Pfau, Norm Wright, Morgan Cordle, Shawn Smith, Mark Weber, Bob Bowman (Steering)

Absent: Chris Natoli and Grace Ariola

USA Swimming staff: Jaime Lewis, Patrick Murphy, Brendan Hansen, Joel Shinofield, Mike Unger, Lindsay Mintenko

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- Committee Introductions- Allison
- Report on Technical Summit- Lindsay
- Championship Meet Structure Review- Intro- Allison
  - Winter Juniors Advisory Group- Mark
    - Group Members: Steve Morsilli (Chair), Tony Batis, Amy Hoppenrath, Jeff Julian, Emily Melina, John Morse, Chris Natoli, Paul Silver, Mark Weber, and Allison Beebe
    - USA-S Staff: Tom Avischious & Mitch Dalton
    - Overall challenge- Jr National participation continues to grow to a point that cuts could get faster than US Open time standards to keep the meet at a safe and reasonable size.
      - 5 years ago, standards were based on the 400th fastest 18 and Under time
      - Preliminary 2020 standards (pre-Covid) were set at the 250th fastest 18 & Under time in order to keep the meet around 900 swimmers.
    - We determined that even though some viewed this as a “team meet”, in 2019, 94% of teams had 10 or less swimmers, and 82% of teams brought 5 or less swimmers.
    - Advisory Group agreed that coaches should be able to decide what meets work best for their swimmers. There should not be a USA Swimming mandate sending National kids to US Open.
    - We discussed several options- 1 site, 2 sites, 3 sites.
    - The group recommendation to the Senior Development Committee is “no change” for the next quad. This is based on us returning to “normal” by 2021 Winter Juniors.
  - Sectionals- Norm
    - Group Members: Norm Wright (Chair), Dale Ammon, Morgan Cordle, Mary Liston, Kate Lundsten, Shawn Smith, Kaitlyn Swinney, Jason Walter, Beth Winkowski, and Allison Beebe
    - USA-S Staff: Tom Avischious
    - The Senior Development Committee recommended two rule proposals regarding Sectionals based on guidance from the Sectionals Advisory Group:
      - Address the size of the meet. Rule 204.9.3 allows up to 1099 swimmers in a two-course meet, but in reality, there are only a

handful of sites that can safely accommodate this number. The proposal submitted recommended the following:

- Single Course Goal Size- 700 athletes. If the meet is larger than 800 swimmers, the meet host should either tighten the time standards, limit out-of-Section swimmers, or split into two sites the following year.
- Two Courses Goal Size- 800 athletes. If the meet is larger than 900 swimmers, the meet host should either tighten the time standards, limit out-of-Section swimmers, or split into two sites the following year.
- Create a Sectional Business Committee within each Zone to hold hosts accountable to the size restrictions.
- Futures- Morgan
  - Group Members: Morgan Cordle (Chair), Ryan Gibbons, Ken Heiss, Peter LaGow, Brian Nabeta, Bob Platt, Kathleen Prindle, Don Swartz, Matt Webber, and Allison Beebe
  - USA-S Staff: Jaime Lewis
  - The group used the following four questions in our review:
    1. How does this meet fit into the development of senior athletes?
    2. Should the ceiling of US Open be removed?
    3. How can we make this meet better?
    4. Do we need to make any structural or logistical changes?
  - The group agreed upon the following recommendations to the Senior Development Committee:
    1. Remove the US Open ceiling
    2. Change the meet to a full four-day meet, starting on Wednesday and ending on Saturday
    3. Limit C&D finals to 18 & under swimmers
    4. Add a 5th site to support to support the numbers of potential US Open swimmers (pending budgetary restrictions)

\*\*These recommendations are based on a normal quad. We understand there may be Covid adjustments.

- Senior Coach Survey- Allison
  - Was to go out in March- put on hold with Covid
- Report on US Open Update- Lindsay
  - 8-10 sites in mid- November
  - Summer Juniors time standards
- 2020 Winter Juniors / 18 & Under Winter Champs Update- Shawn
  - Group Members: Shawn Smith (Chair), Todd Capen, Mary Liston, Alan Pfau, Matt Webber, and Allison Beebe
  - USA-S Staff: Jaime Lewis
  - Name of the Meet- 2020 18 & Under Winter Championships

- LSC's are encouraged to facilitate an in-person competition that brings together the highest level of athletes possible with the health parameters of the facility, county, or state.
  - Competitions may have 19 & Over athletes, and or athletes outside the qualifying standards if it benefits the needs of the local community. 19 & Over athletes are not eligible for national scoring. Date of birth after 11/30/2001.
  - Date range for competitions: Dec 1-13, 2020
  - 18 & Under qualifying standards for the virtual competition are futures + 1%
  - Meet format can be determined by meet hosts.
  - Virtual Meet Scoring will include the Winter Junior Nationals event line-up, individual events only, no relay scoring.
  - Online Q&A with Shawn Smith and Dean Ekeren will be on September 30th at 11:00 AM Eastern time. Register here- <https://usaswimming.zoom.us/meeting/register/tjUocuigpzwpH9c23Pt8TAfb2e29EwtINZjk>
- 2021 Club Excellence Update- Norm
  - Group Members: Norm Wright (Chair), Chuck Batchelor, Billy Doughty, Kate Lundsten, John Morse, and Allison Beebe
  - USA -S Staff: Jaime Lewis
  - Teams who were Gold, Silver, or Bronze in 2020 will maintain their status for 2021.
  - Teams that would have moved (or moved up) into the recognition program based on performances from July 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020 will be moved up.
  - Teams will not need to apply this year.
  - Teams will be able to use the appropriate logo.
  - Training stipends will be sent to clubs with 18 & under swimmers who have not started college that are ranked in the Top 40 in their respective events on the Olympic Trials psych sheet (internally run on September 1, 2020).
  - There will not be an Open Water component this year since the 2021 OW Olympic Team has been selected.
  - All standard requirements, such as passing drug tests, citizenship, and college participation, still apply to this year's program.
- Report on National Jr Team Update- Lindsay
- Report on Olympic Trials Update- Mike
  - About 1220 qualifiers
- Upcoming Projects- Allison
  - Continue Evaluation of Competitive Meet Structure
  - Review Club Excellence Program. Advisory Group members are Todd Capen (chair), Chuck Batchelor, Michael Brooks, Billy Doughty, Dave Ferris, Kate Lundsten, John Morse, Allison Beebe, and Jaime Lewis (USA-S staff).
  - Coach Education Webinars (to be held in 2021)

- College and Club Coaches Working Together
  - How to Prepare Your Swimmers for International Trips
  - How To Foster a Positive, Sustainable Team Culture
- Senior Chairs and Coaches Reps, please share this meeting's information with the senior coaches in your LSC.
- Q & A on all topics