

Steering Committee January 19, 2022

Attending: Cammile Adams, Allison Beebe, Gunnar Bentz, Bob Bowman, Carol Capitani, Dave Durden, Bruce Gemmell (chair), Connor Jaeger, Catherine Kase, Matt Kredich, Tad Kremen, Teri McKeever, Greg Meehan, Katie Meili, Ginny Nussbaum, Davis Tarwater

Staff attending: Matt Barbini, Carli Brashier, Bryce Elser, Tim Hinchey, Stacy Miller, Lindsay Mintenko, Keenan Robinson, Joel Shinofield,

Guest attending: Dave Salo

Lindsay Mintenko opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their time and she appreciated all the input committee members give. She has sent the meeting schedule out for the year and hopes to keep meetings to one hour. There will be an in- person meeting in September with date and time TBD.

Lindsay recognized Coach Dave Salo and thanked him for being the Head Coach for the SCWC in December 2021 in Abu Dhabi.

Coach Salo was grateful for the opportunity. Its an opportunity to engage younger coaches and help them get experience. We have learned how to better assemble a team that has to travel far. The transfer between the two hotels was seamless. He complimented Carli and staff on how well planned all the logistics were planned. He complimented Lindsay as she was under the gun with all the covid issues and had to make decisions to best protect the athletes from covid. The venue was amazing. 10 lane competition pool with an 8- lane warm up pool behind the curtain. Open Water venue was right out the door and it was good to be able to watch the OW athletes. Ron Aitken did a great job of managing that team. Hotel was a 15- minute walk to venue. Transportation was always available. Eating was not great for social distancing but it worked out okay. Food – great. Accommodations – great. Training times – good. Not much else to do in Abu Dhabi. He was honored to participate. There were many good conversations. He assigned coaches by strokes. Everyone was prepared to help everyone else. Coach did a great job of preparing for relays. Lindsay did everything to get athletes home when they were done swimming. We owe Carli a debt of gratitude for staying behind with the athletes who were in quarantine. One thing is that there wasn't much feedback from home coaches in response to emails.

WUGS – Lindsay reported that we can send one team to WUGS in a quad. The decision is made to send team in 2023 which is in August in Russia. The hope is to field a larger team in 2023. We will be working on selection procedures and bring to committee. It won't be a direct selection but involve multiple meets. That is due to timing of getting visas for travel to Russia.

The International calendar for the year is up in the air.

Junior Team – Lindsay reported that decision was made to postpone January camp at the OPTC until June. We will be taking a small team to Mel Zajac in 2022 and 2023. There will be World Juniors in 2022 and 2023 with Junior Pan Pacs in 2024. We have a nice list of candidates to interview for the Junior Team Director and we have begun interviewing.

Duel in the Pool – Matt Barbini reported that Swimming Australia has approached us to revive the Duel in the Pool. Its very informational at this point. They are talking about late August for some training then the meet and then our team would stay for a few more days to participate in their Short Course Nationals, as full participants. Duel would be at Sydney Olympic Park.

Transgender – Lindsay reported this is a hot topic now. IOC put out a position paper that IFs need to come up with policy. FINA contacted USA Swimming. We have been working diligently on it with many people in the room from legal, medical, USADA, board athletes. We expect FINA policy in mid-February.

Calendar for WC – Lindsay reported that at first camp would not be mandatory for those athletes in school. But now, we need to require camp for pandemic reasons. All athletes need to be in camp for 10 days before travel to Japan, which is far less risky. Singapore is very tight on covid protocols. Coach Bowman supports the mandatory camp. It makes perfect sense.

Coach Gemmell asked what others think on Duel in the Pool. Coach Bowman commented that it might work best when it's a stand-alone event, by itself it has merit. International competition is good. Keep an open mind that it might not fit into everyone's Olympic training calendar. Coach McKeever commented that August 2022 might be a hard sell. ISL could also conflict for the pro athletes. It a good TV event but are we pushing it to make something happen? Connor Jaeger commented that there are many opportunities. How much attention would it get? Cammille Adams commented that if there isn't medal money involved, then what is the point. Why does it need to be in Australia? Lindsay replied that Australia would host going into Paris and then we would host into LA. Katie Meili added that Australia also has many athletes involved with ISL but it seems like should be able to find a time that would work.

Committee Chair election: Lindsay introduced Coach Gemmell as nominated to be Chair and also serve on the Board of Directors. She invited Coach Gemmell to say a few words about himself and the opportunity to serve again. Katie Meili moved to elect Bruce Gemmell as the Steering Committee Chair.

Ginny Nuesbaum seconded.

Coach Gemmell elected unanimously.

Lindsay ended the meeting.