

Age Group/Senior Committee Meeting Agenda
10:00 AM, Wednesday, Oct.13, 2004
Schroeder YMCA

- 1) **Finalize Winter State Meet Formats (event orders/style of meet)**
 - a. Sectionals – 2/18 -20
 - b. Senior State – 2/24 – 2/27 @ Carthage College
Prelim/ Final Format
 - c. 14&U Meet – 3/4 – 3/6 @ TBD
2 Proposals (see attached):
 - 1) Timed Final for all age groups
 - 2) Combo Prelim/Final (11-14 mostly P/F; 10&U afternoon timed finals)

- 2) **WI Sectional Meets**
 - a. 11/12 to 12 & U 500 free Fri pm
 - b. New Name for Meets

- 3) **Time Standard Proposals**
 - a. What size meets do we want?
 - b. Advantages/Disadvantages to tightening standards

- 4) **Camp Proposals**
 - a. See Attached Proposal from John Bradley (camps director)

- 5) **Zone Meet**
 - a. Topeka – the good and the bad
 - b. North Dakota for next Summer

- 6) **State Records**
 - a. Are they updated often enough to recognize all record setters?

- 7) **New Business**

Proposal for 14-Under State Meet for SC 2005

I would like to propose a mixed prelim/final and timed final format for the 2005 14-Under SC State Championship Meet. The proposed mixed format would best serve the needs of the state's age group swimmers. Please consider the format described below and the supporting rationale.

Format Description:

There are several possible formats worth considering. All of these formats require the use of two pools for preliminary sessions and one pool for the timed final and final sessions. The Schroeder Aquatic facility is currently the only pool in the state capable of supporting these formats. One possible format is described below.

11-14 Prelim Finals and 10-under Timed Finals (3-day)

11-12 and 13-14 swimmers would compete in preliminaries on Friday, Saturday and Sunday AM and in finals on Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening. 10-under swimmers would swim some timed final distance events on Friday (either in the afternoon or in the evening during the 11-14 finals session) and Saturday and Sunday afternoon. 11-14 distance events, like the 500 free, 400 IM and 1650 and 1000 free would be timed final events, with the top 8 (or 16) competing during finals. 11-12 200 events could be handled in the same way as well. 200 free and 200 medleys would be swum to completion in prelims (, as they have been in the senior meet). 400 relays would be timed finals with the top 8 competing in the finals session.

Rationale:

There is an overwhelming agreement among coaches that a prelim/final format is important for 13-14 swimmers in a state championship. The survey performed by Dave Dahler last year showed that 31 of 32 coaches felt that prelim/finals were important for 13-14 year old swimmers. We should respect the results of that survey and provide our 13-14 swimmers with a prelim/final meet for our state championship. The mixed format proposed achieves this end.

To say that the senior meet provides 13-14 year olds with the chance to compete in finals is absurd. We are looking at ways to protect our 15-16 boys and 17-18 girls from the brutality of senior swimming by separating them out at the senior meet and yet we tell our 13-14 year olds that if they want a prelim/final experience they should try the senior meet. True the elite swimmers can make it back and some of the girls may actually be contenders, but what about the other 13-14 year olds?

There is less agreement on the importance of prelim/finals for 11-12 swimmers with 9 of 32 coaches feeling it is important to the development of swimmers of this age. (I wish we had data on how many coaches felt it was detrimental to 11-12 year old swimmers). The 11-12 prelim/final meet would expose developing swimmers to both the challenges and excitement of competing in finals. True, it makes for a long weekend, but this is our state championship meet and, for most, the last meet of the season. Our (LAKE's) 11-12 swimmers compete in 2-3 prelim/final meets throughout the season and although they are usually swimming prelims in the afternoon and finals only a few hours later without a nap, they usually perform even better at night. The chance to swim a genuine prelim/final meet with adequate recovery time between sessions would likely yield even better results

There is almost universal agreement that prelim/finals are not important for 10-under swimmers. This proposal really serves the needs of the 10-unders better than any combined 14-under timed final proposal. No 10-under swimmers would be at the meet for more than 4 hours. 10-under swimmer performance is adversely affected by the necessity of keeping them there for 2 and ½ full days. We could even add 8-under events to the timed final session if there was an interest.

The proposed mixed format meets the needs of our 14-under swimmers more fully than a timed final meet. The use of two pools for prelims allows us to keep participation numbers high and timelines short. It does limit the state to the use of the Schroeder Aquatic center, but they have been very co-operative in making their excellent facility available for our championship meets. They have made it available to any team wishing to host the meet as well.

Mark Kohnhorst
Lake Country Swim Team

As our meetings approach to decide what we are going to do with the Spring State Championships, I'd like to make a formal proposal to whichever committee will be in charge of the format decision.

1. For the 14 and Under meet, I would like to see a timed final format adopted. I see no reason to force the 12 and under swimmers to adopt the prelim/final format imposed by the inclusion of the 13-14 swimmers. Further, when this meet information is written, I'd like to see it include adequate time to recognize event champions and place winners. I think this could be accomplished in three full days of competition over 6 sessions. I am also making an assumption that the time standards will be dramatically revised. I would also like to see an expansion of the awards to include Top 16 relay swimmers as well like this summer.

The argument is often made that the prelim/final format is beneficial for 11-12 swimmers for fast swimming. I reject that assessment in today's 11-12 event order. With the inclusion of timed final 200's of stroke, the 400 IM and the 1000, many 11-12 swimmers face a meet yardage total double what they faced 10 years ago. If the 200's were removed from the equation, I might feel differently. Remember, 11-12 swimmers have a better event selection than any other age group in USA Swimming.

2. For the Senior meet, I would like to see a continuation of the prelim/final format, with revised time standards as well. These new standards should be written so that we can accommodate this meet in any 8 lane facility. If more lanes open themselves for competition in prelims, we still should only go top 16 for this meet for scoring and finals. This way, our time standards will always be applicable in the summer, as our facility of choice (and necessity) is an 8 lane 50 meter facility.

I would also like to see the relay policy for the Senior meet written so that each team can only enter an A and a B team. I would like to see all 400 relays swim prelims and finals, to eliminate any questions about a team's right to participate in finals. Substitutions would be allowed from prelims to finals. The 200 and 800 relays would swim timed finals only. Finals for 50's and 100's should be Top 24, Finals for 200's, 400 IM and 500 Free should be Top 16. Timed finals for the 1000 and the 1650. These finals would be limited for the purposes of meet management like we determine meet entry times on the basis of meet management.

This meet could be run in three days as well, three and 1/2 if we want to really run a high quality competition, with the 800 Free Relays and the Mile being held on the first 1/2 day of competition. You could take a 1/2 hour break after the 800 Free Relays to provide adequate rest for all of the athletes swimming the 1650. If the Carthage facility is not open on the first 1/2 day, we could run this at a High School pool, splitting the sites. These athletes should be recognized the following day in an awards ceremony before the start of the meet.

The reason I am looking for these drastic changes is to expand on the idea of splitting into 2 dramatically different philosophies. The 14 and under meet is much

more inclusive, allowing for better awards and more fun. The Senior meet is much more aggressive, placing an emphasis on fast swimming and allowing the best in the state regardless of age the opportunity to race and qualify themselves for USA Sectionals and USA Nationals. After all, the whole point of this exercise was to allow 2 weeks between the Senior meet and USA Sectionals. I would also fully expect any team who participates in the Senior meet to participate in USA Sectionals. **If a majority of the teams who have qualifiers for the USA Sectional meet DO NOT participate in this meet, I would recommend that we revise this meet schedule for 2006 and go back to the way we were conducting the meets before.** If USA Sectionals are not a priority for the majority of teams in the state, why did we make these changes in the first place?

These are just ideas for consideration, but I feel very strongly about the 14 and Under meet being a timed final meet. I think the majority of the state supports me in this assesment as well.

Thanks for your time -

John Bradley

Camps for 2005 – Using \$7000 Budget

- 1. Catch the Spirit Camp for all 12/Under athletes in the Top 30 in High Point at the Short Course State Meet – Cost per swimmer/\$15.00 Each – Try to include College Coaches to speak with kids and parents!**

Expenses at Camp:

Office - \$100.00

Staff (8 Coaches + Admin) - \$675.00

Facility Rental/Contribution - \$250.00

2 Collegiate Coaches - \$250.00

Misc - \$100.00

Lunch for 80 People @ \$5.00 Each - \$400.00

Total - \$1775.00

Income From Camp:

60 Swimmers @ \$20.00 per Swimmer - \$1200.00

Total Expense to Camp Budget - \$575.00

Total cost to camp budget – approx \$575/\$6425

Total Athletes Serviced – Up to 120

- 2. Ultimate Technique Camp for 120 athletes from the 60 teams in the Wisconsin LSC. Cost to each team in the LSC - \$40.00 – Billed by Carol Graham and Pat Lewno. Cost to LSC per club - \$40.00**

Contact person at Ultimate Technique is Bobby Brewer – 415-586-1058

Total cost to camp budget - \$2400 (?)/\$4025

Total Athletes Serviced – 120 to 130

- 3. Altitude Training Camp for 16 athletes selected from specific qualifying criteria in the LSC. Cost to Travel Fund - \$3900/Yr.. Cost to each swimmer - \$150.00 (3900 Total)**

Costs associated with this camp - Swimmers:

A. Room and Board @ \$40 per day for 4 days - \$160.00

B. Airfare @ \$300.00 Round Trip - \$300.00

C. Total Cost - \$460.00

Costs associated with this camp – Coaches:

A. Room and Board – Free w/ Swimmers Attendance

B. Airfare @ \$300.00 Round Trip - \$300

C. Total Cost - \$300.00

To pay for this trip:

- A. Swimmer Contribution - \$150.00 Each
- B. LSC (Camp Budget) Contribution - \$160.00 Each
- C. Travel Fund Contribution - \$150.00 Each - \$300 for Coaches (Coaches Paid For)
- D. Total Payment - \$460.00

Total cost to camp budget - \$2560/\$1465.00
(Roughly 20% Overage for Total Budget for Mistakes)
Total Athletes Serviced/Yr – 16

Total Individual Athletes Serviced Maximum between the 3 camps in one year – 256
Total Individual Athletes Serviced Maximum over 3 years – 648
Total Athletes Serviced Maximum over 3 years - 768

Cost per maximum total swimmer exposure over 3 years to camps budget –
\$27.34 per athlete

Does not include \$3900 per year travel fund contribution (\$11700) or individual contributions by athletes or clubs to match LSC contributions.

Final Budget Remainder:
\$1465.00 (Roughly 20% Overage for Total Budget for Mistakes)