

SWIMMING AND DIVING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES
December 6, 2017

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Rollie Ackerman with the following members present: Sarah Smith, Mike Ahrens, Chris Mann, Dennis Peters and Scott Weinheimer. Attending from the State Office was Jason Eslinger and Craig Ihnen.

Committee members were introduced and review of committee purpose was given.

Motion by Smith, second by Mann to approve the December 7, 2016 Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee minutes as filed. Motion unanimously approved.

Under regular season review, Eslinger stated it was a great year administratively as there were no major issues. The State Meet was very exciting with several state records.

Eslinger asked for feedback regarding the power point chart. Committee suggested to utilize the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association (NISCA) swimming power point chart as the one currently used is outdated. Committee concurs to switch to the NISCA power point chart beginning with the 2018 season.

Weinheimer asked why there is no standard order of events on QuikStats. Eslinger will contact the QuikStats developers as this is likely a programming issue. Eslinger stated QuikStats developers are always working towards making QuikStats more user-friendly.

Committee asked if there should be a deadline for inputting meet stats on QuikStats for meet hosts. Mann stated some sites might not have internet capabilities, but feels 24 hours should be an adequate deadline. Eslinger stated this will be a point of emphasis on the rules meeting. Mann asked for a direct link to upload results and suggested an easier access.

Briefly discussed the number of officials needed to work a meet. Peters stated typically the third official is very important for relays. Eslinger informed Committee assignments for officials will be sent at an earlier date.

Briefly discussed having "B" relays swim at the regional meet. Eslinger stated the regional meet is a championship meet and not meant for exhibition.

Briefly discussed regional sites. Eslinger stated securing a centrally located pool is difficult, but with more pools being built, there will be more options.

Committee discussed weather delays at a regional competition. The YMCA/YWCA must follow the American Red Cross protocol if lightning is sighted.

Eslinger asked for feedback regarding the "ticket punched" placards the IGHSAU sent out for individual regional champions. Mann stated the girls loved it. Ahrens agreed, stating this was well received by everyone.

Eslinger asked for feedback regarding warm-up and cool-down protocol. Some sites do not have a cool-down area. Committee stated this can't be mandated, but it's great if

the facility is open. It's important to keep the procedure the same. Ahrens stated adequate prep is important for some, but not for all as it's personal preference. Ahrens stated opening the pool for five minutes after each event for everybody would alleviate some problems. Peters stated this would not be a problem from an officiating standpoint, as long as it's open for everybody. Mann feels there might be some extra congestion behind the blocks, which could extend the meet a bit. **Motion by Ahrens, second by Smith to eliminate the one-minute cool-down between heats during regional competition. After the completion of each event there will be a five-minute warm-up/cool-down for all swimmers. Motion passed unanimously.** Cool down facilities (if available) will be utilized only during the five-minute warm-up period. Regional awards will be presented after the five-minute cool-down.

Briefly discussed awards presented to divers during regional swimming competition. Weinheimer suggested to present diving awards on Friday night, but recognize the recipients on Saturday.

Under state meet review, Eslinger asked for feedback regarding the new online ticketing procedure. Mann stated people are used to purchasing tickets online so to have this available is practical. Ackerman stated once management and spectators get used to the logistics, the transitioning inside will be smoother.

Briefly discussed legality of more than one logo on a suit. Peters stated coaches need to make sure girls are properly attired. It's important for coaches to communicate with parents on making sure they understand rules regarding legal suits.

Warm-up procedures at the State Meet were discussed. Peters suggested the following warm-up procedures at the state meet: Set up where assigned lanes (circle swimming gets cut off too early). Do lanes 4-8 as circle swim and open up sprint lanes as needed and relay exchange as needed. Sometimes these lanes stay empty and can be opened up as needed. Eslinger stated that this can be conveyed to regional hosts and officials.

Committee discussed moving the State Meet to a prelim-final format. The Iowa Swim Coaches survey showed more than 75% of the responding coaches are in favor of changing to this format. With a prelim-final, the number of state qualifiers in each relay and individual event would increase from 24-32. State diving qualifiers will increase from 30 to 32 qualifiers. Changing to a prelim-final will help smaller schools with the increased participation. Committee concur this format will make the sport better as girls will strive throughout the season for a qualifying time which will make the season more relevant. Mann stated with a prelim-final format, swimming in regionals will take the pressure off some, but is a last chance for many. Concern was expressed that this would take away from the regional competition, but committee believe girls will still work towards winning an event, and swimmers will be working for a better seed. Committee agrees strategies will change as many swimmers compete in this format during the off-season. Mann feels this will make it more exciting with closer races. **Weinheimer motion to move to a prelim-final format, Peters second and unanimously approved.**

State Meet format for a prelim-final was discussed. Weinheimer produced information relating to a prelim-final format with time standards. With the prelim-final format, all girls

must be entered in event before regionals, and must finish legally. The Committee made the following suggestions:

1. All qualifying standards must be achieved in yard pools.
2. Qualifying standards in the individual events will be based on the average times of 16th place finishes from the last five state meets. Based on meet times from the last five years, 35 percent of the swimmers will likely meet this standard during the regular season with 65 percent still qualifying at the regional meet.
3. The qualifying procedure will remain the same for divers. Regional champions plus the next highest 26 performers will qualify for the State Diving Meet.
4. All standards must be achieved in pools that utilize a fully automatic timing system.
5. All participants must swim and finish legally at the regional meet. If you a disqualified in the regional meet but met the qualifying standard during the state meet, you will not be able to compete at the State Meet.
6. State qualifying Relays will not have a qualifying standard. Regional champions plus the next fastest 26 relays at the six regional meets will qualify for the State Meet. There will be no state meet preliminary heats. The State Meet relay events will be timed finals on Saturday night.
7. Current method of team scoring remains the same for both the regional and state meet.
8. The state meet will have four preliminary heats in the individual events. The top 16 finishers advance to the Saturday evening finals. The top eight finishers will swim in the championship heat. Time 9 through 16 will compete in the consolation heat. If a consolation heat swimmer finishes with a time faster than those in the championship heat, the best an individual can finish is ninth place.

It is suggested that there be three sessions for the state meet. Friday prelims; Saturday morning diving and Saturday evening finals.

Meet schedule shall be as follows:

Parade of Teams

Swim prelims on Friday evening (warm-up at 3:30, competition at 5:30)

Diving competition on Saturday morning (warm-up at 7:00, competition at 9:00)

Swim finals on Saturday evening (1:30 warm-ups, finals at 4:00)

The gym will no longer be utilized for spectators on Saturday mornings. Teams will headquarter in the gymnasium during the state meet.

Committee suggested an athlete briefing in the gymnasium after the coaches meeting.

Eslinger informed Committee the IGHSAU has signed a contract with the Marshalltown YMCA/YWCA to utilize the site through 2022. Eslinger cited spectator seating, ample parking and YMCA/YWCA staff are outstanding at Marshalltown.

The committee extended its appreciation to Smith for her years of service to the Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee.

The date for the 2018 Swimming and Diving Advisory meeting will be December 5, 2018.

There being no further business, **motion to adjourn by Mann, Smith second and unanimously approved.**

Heidi Reed
Recorder