

**VERMONT SWIM ASSOCIATION
2017 FALL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 13th, 2017
The Quechee Club, 3268 Quechee Main St., Quechee, VT 05059**

In attendance were the following team representatives:

Brattleboro	--	Larry Besserer Nancy Brooks Chris Brewer Beverly Wright
EDGE	--	Caleb Hall-Potvin Bethe Patrick Jessica Workman
Manchester	--	John Spencer
Montpelier	--	Kelly Mahoney Theroux
Quechee	--	Susan Carey
Rockingham	--	Evelyn Beliveau Sarah Manning Amber Beliveau
Rutland	--	Barb Marshall
Town of Essex	--	Peter Picard
Vergennes	--	Martha Kenfield
Waterbury	--	Cara Hancy
Winooski	--	Jacsen Callanan

I. **Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 6:37 p.m. by Barb Marshall, president.

II. **Minutes from May 24th, 2017**

- It was moved by Chris Brewer, seconded by Bev Wright, and passed to approve the minutes of the last VSA meeting.

III. **Treasurer's Report:** Larry Besser

- VSA treasurer, Larry Besserer, reported a balance of \$18,155.40.
- All bills are paid except for tonight's pizza.
- Larry made note that most expenses were the same, and have been consistent
- Larry made the suggestion to stipend the meet referee a set amount per day, rather than reimbursement for expenses such as hotel stay
- VSA State meet cost us \$20,700 we lost approx \$900
- It was moved, Martha Kenfield seconded Caleb Hall-Potvin and passed by consensus to approve the treasurer's report.

IV. Old Business

A. Discussion of proposed changes to bylaws

- a. Bev brought up not editing the bylaws of 104.4 .2 and .3 and keeping two vice presidents so we have representatives from more than one league.
 - i. Caleb addressed they felt with all the positions and committees the Bylaw committee decided only one Vice needed based on job description of both positions

208.2 Jess Workman will edit the list of officials and meet admin staff to be more current and accurate for the running of the state meet

107.1 – Caleb made a note and mention to the fact that all VSA meetings are now fixed. The **fall** meeting will be held the second Wednesday of September, and the **spring** meeting will be held the second Tuesday of May

B. Additional nominations for board- Peter resented his nomination for Vice President of Program Operations

- a. Larry brought up do we have something in place to make sure the whole board is done after 2 years? Since each position is a 2 year position
- b. Martha commented that there is 104.2 –Suggesting Vice become president
- c. Jascen and Caleb brought up that they do not want to pigeon hole people to a 2 year term.

C. Review of 2017 VSA championship meet –

- a. The topic of false starts was discussed. It was mentioned that the CVSL adopted a policy where a swimmer who false starts is allowed to return to the blocks and swim their race, but that they are still disqualified. This is done as an effort to avoid a humiliating/embarrassing moment for the athlete. It was decided my all members present to vote if the VSA should adopt a similar policy.
- b. It was voted by an 8/11 majority that the VSA championship meet will adopt this modification of the USA swimming ruling. It will be noted in the championship meet packet
 - i. Other receiving votes:
 - ii. 1 voted for the modification not be written anywhere and just mentioned at the coaches meeting
 - iii. 2 voted for the modification to be in both the rules of competition article of the VSA information and in the meet announcement
- c. Cara Hancy made a note that this could potentially lead to confusion for summer swimmers transitioning to USA swimming. Education by coaches to parents and swimmers was encouraged.
- d. Tent and team areas was brought up. It worked, but it was not ideal, and not the most safe environment. We will suggest to UVAC to cut back on a few spaces of parking, to provide a little more room for the team area to expand.
- e. The competition committee asked for feedback regarding the modified time standards and the addition of bonus time standards. The majority of feedback was very positive.

- i. The competition committee feels the adjustments to the times standards creates a swim meet that is very “open” to many swimmers, especially with the bonus standards, and after two straight years of loosening standards, do not have intentions to do so further
- ii. This was in part due to the fact that after loosening standards and providing bonus cuts, the timeline nor number of entries and swimmers, saw any significant change.
- iii. A few members present offered a concern over the 11-12 qualifying times, and felt it was a large leap for 9-10 year old swimmers to make.
- iv. Due to the seemingly unanimous sentiment in this regard, the competition committee has decided to review the 11-12 time standards.
- v. Teams should expect and e-mail from the VSA secretary regarding this review

V. New Business

- A. **2018 championship venue and league responsibilities** – Will be run by the SVSL
- B. **Scholarship Committee** – Larry, Beth, Kelly and Jan-
 - a. An in-depth discussion was had regarding the scholarship process for graduating seniors. Topics discussed ranged from how we communicate to our seniors and coaches the scholarship application process and deadline; dollar amount for the scholarships; how many scholarships to administer and striking a healthy balance between keeping it a select group versus giving it out to a higher percentage of applicants
 - b. 2018 VSA Scholarship:
 - i. It was voted that the scholarship would increase to a total pot of \$5,000 (2017 was \$4,000)
 - ii. Other receiving votes: 2 votes for keeping it at \$4,000
 - iii. VSA scholarship information will highlight the total pot available, but will not predetermine nor specify the amount for each scholarship or the total number of scholarships available.
 - c. Recommendation to scholarship committee to read applications prior to deciding how many scholarships should be awarded
- C. **Competition Committee** – refer to the discussion of the VSA championship meet
- D. **Bylaws revision vote** – please refer to the proposed bylaw changed from the bylaw revision committee for the below mentioned articles
 - a. 108.5: verbiage of 9/10 floor nominated vote majority to be changed to 9/10th to signify it as a percentage vote
 - b. 104.11: the proposed changes were voted yes unanimously
 - c. It was moved to approve all of the remaining bylaw and other VSA information article changes by Martha Kenfield, seconded by Nancy Brookes, and passed to approve unanimously
- E. **Vote for new officers**
 - a. Secretary: One nominee: Caleb Hall-Potvin... it was moved by Martha Kenfield to elect Caleb as the secretary. It was seconded by Peter Picard. The election of secretary was approved unanimously.

- b. Treasurer: One nominee: Larry Besserer... it was moved by Martha Kenfield and seconded by Peter Picard to elect Larry as the treasurer. The election of treasurer was approved unanimously.
- c. Vice President: Beverly Wright rescinded herself, to allow both Christopher Brewer and Jacsen Callanan to run for president and vice president respectively. This resulted in one nominee remaining: Jacsen Callanan... it was moved by Martha Kenfield and seconded by Peter Picard to elect Jacsen as the Vice President. The election of vice president was approved unanimously
- d. President: Jacsen Callanan rescinded himself. One nominee remaining: Christopher Brewer... it was moved by Martha Kenfield and seconded by Peter Picard to elect Chris as president. The election was approved unanimously.

VI. Communications

- Update on website: Ann Mackay Miller still intends to turn over the web site, probably this winter.
- Martha Kenfield made a motion to amend the bylaw 104.4.4 to state that the secretary will take over the webmaster responsibilities. Peter Picard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Update on team contacts: this was e-mailed out to all teams for updates.

VII. Other

A. Future direction of VSA

- a. No significant conversation was had about any changes to the direction or future operations of the VSA

B. Other

- a. Barb made a note to the competition committee and Vice President that the medals go to 10th for individual events, ribbons 11th-24th, medals 1-6th for relays, 7th-12th ribbons for relays.

- VIII. Next meeting- Tuesday May 8th, 2018 Location TBA
It was moved by Beverly Wright, seconded by Martha Kenfield, and passed and approved by all.

The meeting ended at 8:45 pm p.m. by Barb Marshall, president.