



PACIFIC SWIMMING COMMITTEE REPORT

To be submitted to boardmeeting@pacswim.org the Sunday prior to the next BOD meeting

Pacific Swimming Senior Committee Report for Pacific Swimming Board of Directors 17JUL24.

Active Committee Members:

Asher Green
Ben Chung
Jon Hiett
Ellie Burkhardt
Kevin Zacher
Brooke Bennett
Don Heidary
Kat Matheson
Erik Scalise
Justin Ely
Aly Cutworth
Annie Stein

Liaison to the Board: Asher Green

Dates of meetings: 26MAY24, 24JUN24

Date of next meeting: 29JUL24

Action items completed:

- I. Created proposals to manage Senior meet size.
 - a. For Senior Open type meets that have become unmanageably large:
 - i. Make the meets 13-over only.
 - ii. Have tougher standards for 13-14 age group since they have other meets at which they could compete.
 - iii. Have “flighted sessions” divided by time.
 1. Faster swimmers, maybe Sectionals and faster qualifiers, all swim in the early A session.
 2. Slower swimmers swim in the B session.
 - iv. Alternatively, offer two sites for Senior meets on the same weekend.
 1. Divide swimmers by geographic area (assign teams based on Zone).
 - v. AND/OR implement time standards so that even Senior Open meets require a time standard to enter.
 1. Generate new time standards as needed to influence meet size.
- II. Created a recommended Senior meet schedule.

- a. Take 15–18-year-olds out of Far Westerns and provide a Senior meet or meets for them instead.
- b. Schedule the following (some of these meets are already established):
 - i. Senior Championship meet in February before CIF competition begins.
 - 1. Make it a “true” Senior Championship with high production values and buy-in from all the top teams.
 - 2. Possibly Presidents Day weekend.
 - ii. April Senior meet (LC or SC? My notes aren’t clear on this). **[LC]**
 - iii. Senior Open type of meet in early June.
 - iv. Another Senior Open type of meet in late June.
 - 1. High demand for this as one this year reached capacity 6 hours after entries were opened.
 - v. Senior Trials/Finals meet the weekend after Summer Senior Sectionals with a ceiling of Futures time standards.
 - vi. Senior Open in November before Thanksgiving.
 - 1. Would prefer two courses if this meet has been historically large.
 - vii. Senior Prelims/Finals meet also in November.
 - viii. Senior Prelims/Finals meet in December.
 - 1. Swap dates with Winter Age Group Championships so Sectional standards can be achieved.
- III. Named a Senior Committee representative to the DDEI Committee: Aly Cutworth.
- IV. Approved spending \$700 of our Open Water line item to subsidize an open water meet hosted by Northern Nevada Aquatics and recommended another \$3000 subsidy for the event.
- V. Adopted a definition for Pacific Swimming Senior Swimming from which we will derive a committee mission statement: “Senior Swimming is the program by which Pacific Swimming serves its older swimmers, predominately those of high school age who regularly participate in Pacific Swimming meets, by ensuring that local competitive opportunities exist for all ability levels and supporting those swimmers who aspire to compete at the highest levels of regional, national, and international swimming.”

Action items in progress/pending:

- I. Generate proposed new Senior time standards where needed.
- II. Further clarify the purposes and characteristics of our Senior meets.
- I. Finalize Pacific Swimming Senior Swimming Mission Statement.
- II. Ensure a Pacific Swimming Senior Championship meet for both short course and long course seasons.

Announcements: none.

Questions for the Board/Larger Group: none.

Notes/other:

- I. Pacific Swimming is one of the largest LSCs (3rd) and is replete with outstanding coaches, quality facilities, and a legacy of great national and international success. A cursory look at the recent Olympic Trials results leads me to believe that Pacific Swimming was underrepresented in finals by swimmers who are training or were trained in our LSC as 18-under swimmers. While competitive performance shouldn't be the only way in which we measure our success – indeed, my exposure to PacSwim Senior swimmers in the course of my committee work confirms that we are loaded with outstanding student-athlete leaders of great character for whom swimming is a valuable part of their lives – it is at least one metric. I would like for our Senior program to better help aspiring swimmers attain the pinnacles of our sport.
- II. Pacific Swimming would be better served if the Senior Committee had some kind of administrative expert to whom to report who could navigate the bureaucratic landscape to effectively and efficiently accomplish the committee's intentions. I feel that I've been reasonably effective at convening and conducting committee meetings but I am woefully lacking in the skillset necessary to write formal reports, properly write and submit motions on a deadline, or generally get anything done. I've gotten help in abundance whenever I've asked for it, but it strikes me as a monumentally inefficient use of my time to clumsily climb this learning curve while also wasting the time of those who are helping me. There must be a more effective way to accomplish what we want to without being hamstrung by my – or any committee chair's – bureaucratic ineptitude.