



North Carolina Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 8:01pm.

Attendees: John Roy, Trish Martin, Jay Dodson, JP Merchant, Stephanie Toth, Chris Jung, Mike Long, Jon Fox, Jamie Bloom, Jonathan Watson, Matthew Rigsbee, Katie McNerney, Nicola Formon, Kathryn Cinson, Katy Stevens, Hayden Betts-Kitchen, Mike Trexler, Rob Stevens, Tristan Formon

Guest: Amy Faulk; Lisa Olack; Eric Stimson, Senior Advisor, Membership and Data Services

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from Board Meeting – 10.04.2025
- Minutes from Board Meeting – 10.05.2025
- Policy Proposal 1.7 (Summit Travel Policy)
- Policy Proposal 1.19 (Document Retention)
- NCS Club Development Payout Report 2025
- Athletes Committee Report – 10.04.2025
- Athletes Committee Report – 11.03.2025

MOTION: Vote to approve the consent agenda approved with a verbal vote.

Business Meeting

- Governance Committee – Reviewed the 2025 NCS 2032 Project (See attached). The BOD voiced concerns regarding the quality of some of the older data from SWIMS.
- Review of USA Swimming (USAS) Waiver to Block Party. Based on the waiver, block party times in OME will have to be accepted for Champs meets. For NCS, most of the block party meets are officiated; therefore, in NC it is not an issue.
- Age Group Update – The 14 and under short course championship meet event order has been set. It is awaiting sanctioning. The time standards for the meet have not changed from last year. Based on planning, will need to staff two pools on Friday. Spectator limits will be in effect again this year. The Athlete Fun Committee is being resurrected as well. The next project for the group will be to adjust the time standards for the long course championships and review the placement of 200s of stroke.

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- Coaches are working on bringing back some of their committees. If coaches have interest, they should reach out to Katie McNerney.
- Safe Sport Update – TAC Titans have applied to renew their Safe Sport program. At this time, there is an open investigation. Currently, TAC is scheduled to host the champs meets. If not resolved prior to the Champs Meets, TAC would need to be given a waiver in order to host the meet. Streamline Aquatics has obtained its initial Safe Sport Certification, and HAC has renewed their certification. Hickory is currently up for renewal. NCS has the highest number of teams in the country, currently 34, that are Safe Sport Certified.
- Open Water Update – The LSC received 76 Zone Applications. Selections will be made post-Thanksgiving.
- Finance Update – The annual 990 is completed.
- The Coaches Mentor Program has had 18 people who have signed up.

New Business

- Athletes Proposal – budget line variance for an in-person working lunch meeting at Piedmont Trust in Greensboro Jan 4th. Ask is for \$300 to pay for lunch for 15 people.

MOTION for \$300 to pay for an athlete working lunch for 15 people is approved via voice vote.

- The BOD received an update on LEAP. This included a discussion of the Administrative Review Board (ARB) requirement. In the past NCS has not had an ARB, disputes were sent to the NCS BOD for adjudication. Discussion also included recent research from the Outreach Committee. They reviewed different organizations, including YMCAs. This found that approximately 5% of members were getting support. Extrapolating this out, it would mean approximately 600 athletes in NCS. Based on current spending levels, the recommendation is to provide \$100/athlete support at the Championship meet level. A form will need to be developed with tax information for applications.
- USAS LSC Services Open Meeting – Eric Stimson, Senior Advisor, Membership and Data Services, reviewed survey data from the NCS.
 - Top issues facing NCS include facilities, growth and retention, and strategic planning.
 - Strategic Plan – NCS Strategic Planning Retreat is scheduled in 2027. In January 2025, we had a retreat with the focus of making swim meets fun and engaging, and having a succession plan.

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- Growth and Retention – Reviewed the NCS Pool Party Program as a quick way to sanction a meet. Three pool parties have taken place so far, although there has not been a great need for these thus far. USAS reminded us that the Block Party remains a pilot.
- Engagement and Communication – USAS realizes communication needs to be both from and to LSCs. USAS feels officials do well. USAS is aware that communication to LSCs is not as effective as it should be, and they are working on it.
- Athlete Roles – In the past, the athlete committee had an issue with succession planning; however, in the past few years, this has been resolved.
- Facilities – Right now, NCS has one facility that can reasonably host Champs meets. Two other pools can host champs meets, but they are limited. GAC prefers college and national-level meets. TAC hosts the majority of meets but has some spectator limits. MCAC has an issue due to capacity limits. Expenses are also an issue.
- Cost – Three to four years ago, there was a significant increase in costs due to chlorine. Fees for swimmers are not as high as those of other LSCs.
- Athletes – Athletes Committee (AC) feels well supported by the LSC BOD. Currently, the AC has broad social media coverage with large amounts of views; however, they get little feedback.
- Coaches and Clubs are served well by the LSC (Lisa and Amy).

2026 MEETING SCHEDULE

- February 4, 2026, via Zoom at 8 pm
- April 18, 2026 (if necessary) at TAC
- April 19, 2026, at TAC
- June 24, 2026, via Zoom at 8 pm
- September 16, 2026, via Zoom at 8 pm
- October HOD (TBD)
- November 18, 2026, via Zoom at 8 pm

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Long
NC Swimming BOD Secretary

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