

Texas Interscholastic Swimming and Diving Officials

Minutes of the Semi-Annual Board of Director's Meeting

Holiday Inn Mid-Town, Austin, Texas

February 16, 2020



Chairperson Gloria Schuldt called the annual TISDO Board Meeting to order at 10:23 AM. Board Members in attendance were: Gloria Schuldt, Chris Lysinger, Janet Cranmer, Brian Walls, Roger Graham, Mike Swaim, Jim Holcomb, Bob Lang, and Jennifer Mangum. Outgoing Board Member from El Paso, John Bernhard was unable to attend.

The Chair asked UIL State Meet Referee and UIL State Swimming Rules Interpreter Jim Holcomb to review the State Meet selection process and overall success of the State Meet. Dr. Holcomb told the Board that the State Meet application was posted in September 2019, and the deadline to submit was, as always, mid-January of 2020. There were 43 applications to fill the 24 slots allowed by the UIL. This includes the Head Timer, who has been John Farone for many years. In the past few years we have had to accept all applicants due to being anywhere from two to eight people short to fill all slots currently used. This year, almost 50% of the applicants were rejected with the criteria most often being considered was the person was not able to work both sessions of the meet while others could. Dr. Holcomb stated the meet itself went well and there were several records broken. This year, he attempted to organize the deck a little more using an Admin Team as is done in USA Swimming National meets. This was helpful to teach many officials what seems to be the "right way" to do it and added, "if we can't do it right at the State Meet, when are we going to do it!" He acknowledged it went well for the first time but there remains some tweaking to be done and changes to be made. Anyone having questions or concerns, please send them to Dr. Holcomb. There were a few more disqualifications (DQs), with four occurring in the first event. During the 200-yard Medley Relay, Janet Cranmer called DQs for the "Lochte Turn" for the girl's and boy's relays. Initially, there was concern with two calls in a row for the same thing by the same official until it was noted that it was the same school in violation. When the coach inquired about the DQs, he admitted he did not know the rule of repetition of the backstroke upon leaving the wall with propulsion for the freestyle portion applied to the Medley Relay since it was a different swimmer swimming freestyle. When the Chief Judge was sent, Ms Cranmer was able to provide the necessary confirmation of body position and pool location to confirm the disqualifications. When the coach inquired about the DQs, the Meet Referee was able to discern that the coach just did not know the rule applied to the Medley Relay as well as the 200 Individual Medley (I-M) when he instructed his swimmers. The same DQ showed up several times in the meet. Out of concern over our mission to provide consistent training and calls, Ms Cranmer expressed the notion that perhaps we need to be sure all officials know to apply this and all rules all season and will emphasize this in the training. The concern was that coaches should not necessarily be hearing these calls for rules infractions for the first time at the State Meet.

Jennifer Mangum reported on the State Diving Meet as the Diving Representative to TISDO. She reported that it continues to be difficult to acquire certified judges because many are coaches who have divers in the 6-A or 5-A portion of the Meet and are unable to stay for the other session on Saturday, or they teach at a school with divers in the meet. Ms Mangum also told of equipment problems which has been a problem for some time. However, the meet itself was exciting with 14 of 16 divers qualifying as All Americans and the State Diving Champion coming down to the last round of dives.

Our next item was to discuss the number of rules books ordered for 2019 - 2020. It was reiterated that there were few NFHS Rules Books left over at the end of the season and that 850 seemed to be the best number to order. The Chair will have the UIL order 850 again for the 2020 - 2021 season, but there are concerns about expenses for those distributing Rules Books and not submitting reimbursements, especially our ad hoc members distributing for us such as Pat Nelson in Corpus and now John Bernhard in El Paso. Ms Cranmer suggested that we put a TISDO Reimbursement form in the boxes to be mailed to those distributing books that are not TISDO Board Members to encourage them to seek reimbursement. After some discussion of other possible expenses, a motion was made by Ms Cranmer and seconded by Mr. Swaim that individuals doing business of any kind on behalf of TISDO shall be reimbursed when providing the correct documentation. The motion passed.

Use of Arbiter was discussed and Dr Graham reminded us to add a statement regarding people using a preferred name to register so it can be used as the member wishes for it to be written on the name tags. The Chair will ask Arbiter to add the words, "**PREFERRED NAME**" for registration to help with the name tags and Dr. Graham will make note of it on the Web Site as discussed in the general meeting. It was also stressed that we can sort lists by Zip Codes to help in mailings. At clinics, many of us use sign in sheets that indicate "primary school district" which also helps in distribution and locating officials for information and mentoring.

This year's test was discussed. Everyone agreed the test this year did come out with the correct number of 50 random questions and there were few testing issues. It is especially important that we remind people to give themselves enough time to register and wait to test for 24 hours. Some people waited too long and the test was closed when they wished to take it. The registration and testing closes at midnight on October 31st. The NFHS contacted the UIL recently about some questions they may add regarding stacked hands, suits, etc. If we have any suggestions or questions, submit questions to The Chair for the NFHS to consider. Dr Holcomb added that he was informed that the use of the backstroke ledge will NEVER be approved for high school swimming, therefore that will continue to stand as no answer to any test question and rule in the book.

It was recommended that registration continue to be open from September first through October 31st and with dates actually being finalized at the August meeting if there are no problems receiving rules books in time. It was noted that an official mentioned at the State Meet that some areas are having their clinics in the summer before books are even distributed and new rules have been discussed and before Dr Holcomb has posted any interpretations. Members are asked to remind those conducting clinics to wait until they receive the NFHS Rules Books and the Power Point for the new year to become available before scheduling their clinics. We also need to ask these presenters to send their clinic locations with dates and times to the Web Master or a Board Member to ensue inclusion on the Web Site. Many high school officials are looking for clinics and rules books. Mr. Zolno asked about this at the State Meet as it relates to the Austin area.

The Chair related a concern and reminded everyone that Referees for the Regional Meets are chosen by the Meet Directors for each Region, and they are submitted to the UIL by that Meet Director as stated in the UIL 1204 document. We should remind officials that no one should state they are the Meet Referee for any Regional Meet unless invited by a Meet Director. Regardless of the situation, please be careful about assuming and stating roles. We were also reminded to let officials know not to initiate conversation with coaches or anyone on deck regarding a rule interpretation. This led to some problems in the past. The message to officials is to "Think before speaking!" If anyone has questions about interpretations, their question is to go to Jim Holcomb.

In other business, there was a reminder that the payment schedule is on the TISDO Web Site and the amounts noted are the minimum to be paid for four or more team meets. We will not be addressing any change in the payment amounts due to the process needed to be used to make changes to UIL Document 1204 which governs payment. Other than the minimum, it is then up to each school if they pay more or include amounts for mileage, meals, or lodging as they do for officials in other sports. If officials feel they are not being paid, we were reminded that the officials themselves must take the concern to the school district Athletic Director or his / her representative to resolve.

In other business, The Chair announced that the UIL has severed its relationship with Arbiter, but for now, it will not affect of our business. We will continue to monitor and discuss our use of Arbiter at the next meeting.

The Chair asked if there are any resignations. Being none, and with the newly elected TISDO Board members in place, Mr. Walls will follow through with pursuing the 501 3 (c) status.

The Chair posed a question regarding the By Laws clearly stating a new TISDO Board Member will begin serving his/her term immediately following the election. Janet used this opportunity to welcome Mr. Swaim to the Board, and mentioned that she is certain the previous meeting minutes, and perhaps even the By Laws, state that the Board members elected at the annual meeting directly before the annual Board Meeting, shall begin to serve at that Board meeting, with the former member also attending in order to facilitate any hand off or transition of position such as chair, secretary, or treasurer. The Chair requested that this be made as a motion to add to the By Laws if not currently included. Ms Cranmer made the motion that any Board Member elected begin his or her term by attending the Board Meeting immediately following the General Membership meeting election and that any Board Member not returning after that election also attend to complete their duties, if any, and assist in any transition. The motion was seconded by Mr. Walls. The Motion passed. Mr. Lysinger will investigate and make any changes to the By Laws regarding this by the next meeting.

As other new business, Mr. Lysinger asked if as a TISDO Board, do we need to investigate adding any training or testing on Safe Sports or doping. The Chair believes we should wait for the UIL to take the lead on this and everyone concurred.

The election of officers of the Board was opened for discussion and nomination. With no one new wishing to assume any of the elected positions, a motion was made by Mr. Swaim and seconded by Dr Holcomb that the current officers continue with their duties: Chairperson – Gloria Schuldt, Vice Chairperson – Chris Lysinger, Secretary – Janet Cranmer, and Treasurer – Brian Walls. The motion passed.

The fall meeting for the TISDO Board was set for August 16th at 9:00 AM in Lubbock, Texas. Ms Cranmer will contact Penny DiPomazio for hotel recommendations since she lives in Lubbock, and as the UIL appointed Diving Referee and Interpreter, perhaps she may attend being so close. We will try to get something close to the airport. The Secretary will send out that information as soon as something is negotiated for rooms and a meeting room so people can make their reservations.

With no other business, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lysinger and seconded by Ms Mangum. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 11:31 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Cranmer
TISDO Secretary