

# Texas Interscholastic Swimming and Diving Officials



## Minutes of the Annual General Membership Meeting Sunday, February 27, 2021

The General Membership Meeting of the Texas Interscholastic Swimming and Diving Officials (TISDO) was called to order at 9:02AM Central Time on Sunday, February 27th, 2021 at the Hampton Inn, San Antonio Airport.

**In attendance:** Members Robert Kelly, Darla Kelly, Scott Reynolds, Karl Bush, Lorna Anaya, Wayne Lewozho, Joanne Fojtik, Jenny Andrews. TISDO Board Members in attendance were Gloria Schudlt (Chairperson), Chris Lysinger (Vice Chair), Janet Cranmer (Secretary), Brian Walls (Treasurer), Roger Graham (Web Master), Bob Lang, Mike Swaim, and Jennifer Mangum (Diving Rep). Not in attendance from the Board was Jim Holcomb of El Paso who is State Meet Referee and the Swimming Rules Interpreter. Due to the need to fly to attend the meeting, it was necessary during Covid for Jim to remain in El Paso this year. Brian Walls was asked to step in as acting State Meet Referee for this year's meet.

**Welcome:** Chairperson Gloria Schudlt called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Gloria reviewed the past season and the decisions made by the UIL regarding Covid-19 safety protocols. Some school districts unfortunately were never able to get in the water this season such as Houston ISD. Gloria then introduced the Board Members present to the members in attendance. Gloria also announced that she has been appointed by the UIL to now be the Co-Rules Interpreter to assist Jim Holcomb.

**Secretary's Report:** It was explained that the minutes are reviewed by the entire TISDO Board and then posted on the TISDO website at [www.tisdo.org](http://www.tisdo.org). Secretary Janet Cranmer brought copies of the August 2020 Zoom Meeting in case any members wished to review the minutes. The Board will review the minutes of this meeting and then they will be posted.

**Treasurer's Report and Arbiter Discussion:** Treasurer Brian Walls presented the treasurer's report. There were many questions from members about the TISDO expenses. There were many questions about the expenses and difficulties of using Arbiter to provide our registration and testing needs. Gloria explained that most groups continue to use Arbiter as done when under the jurisdiction of the UIL even though we are no longer financially under the UIL and it would be difficult to break that tie and find any company to provide the testing and the registration. There was also discussion about the amount that Arbiter takes for each member. It was also noted by Brian Walls that TISDO gets charged a credit card fee by Arbiter when members register by credit card, however, it is the only way to register. Janet Cranmer stated that Arbiter still has not purged old members from our rolls and there was concern over how many we are actually paying a fee for each year. There were also questions about school districts that pay officials through Arbiter and how difficult it is to register to get paid. It is separate from registering to be an official. Scott Reynolds and Janet Cranmer will put together the steps to register for pay through Arbiter so that Roger can post it on the TISDO Website before next September 2021. Board Members Roger Graham and Bob Lang volunteered to investigate other companies that we could use to register and test officials. Brian presented the budget as it is an approximation at this time. The registration fee was set by the UIL, but the Board voted to reduce it from \$50 to \$30 after breaking from the UIL 4 -5 years ago. We try to keep at least one years of operating costs in our bank account each year. With that, Jenny Andrews made a motion which was seconded by Robert Kelly to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed.

**501 (3) C Status:** Brian Walls and Gloria Schudlt explained to members present how the Board initially invited along with our current Board has worked to prepare By Laws and a Constitution so that we could

pursue a 501 C (3) status. Brian explained that Tracy Johnson, an official in the Dallas area with 501 C (3) experience is reviewing the paperwork and consulting pro bono for us so that Brian can target April 15th for filing the paperwork. Darla Kelly stated that she has experience with this process and knows it is not an easy task and would like to thank everyone for their hard work.

**Election:** The Nominating Committee for the February 2021 Board Election consisted of Chris Lysinger (Chair), Roger Graham, Jim Holcomb, Mike Swaim. Chris reported that current 3 swimming board seats and one diving board seat was to be elected today. Current Board Members Gloria Schuldt, Bob Lang, Brian Walls, and Jennifer Mangum agreed to be on the ballot to keep their current Board positions. There were no other nominations to the committee. Chris asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Hearing none, Roger Graham made a motion, seconded by Mike Swaim, that we accept the slate of Board Members by acclamation. The motion passed and the current Board Members will retain their Board positions for 2 more years until February 2023.

**Old Business:** Janet Cranmer asked to discuss further the discussion from last February's General Membership Meeting the idea of mailing Rules Books. In the past, members were highly encouraged to attend a clinic to pick up their rules book. With Covid, many Board Members found it necessary to mail the books, however, Janet feels it remains a problem that members do not know to contact Board Members to receive a rules book. Janet would like one person to mail all books and offered to be the Board Member to do so. It was suggested that Roger post in bold letters under the registration information that members need to contact a board member closest to them to arrange for a rules book in the future. Gloria stated that this can be taken up at the Board Meeting rather than the General Membership Meeting. Janet asked those members present to please spread the word to others that they deserve a rules book but must contact a board member to get one. Board members do not know who has registered and who has a book already. Gloria announced that the rules books for next year have been ordered but expects us to eventually go totally to electronic rules books.

**Name Tags:** Janet Cranmer reported on the acquisition of name tags for the 2020 - 2021 season. After some members being unhappy with the names on their badges last year, Janet went through the entire list of registered members provided to call or email to ask about how they wish their names on their badges. Janet asked that Roger also post with the registration information that the name the member registers with is the name that will be printed on the badge. Formal names and middle initials are not necessary. Janet also explained that badges cannot be ordered until registration and testing closes and names and status is double checked. Janet ordered the badges by November 10th for 2020 - 2021, but due to a Covid issue, Hasty shut down the process half way through our tags being completed. It was noted that Janet made an extra effort to be sure they were made and mailed to everyone who let a TISDO Board Member know they did not receive their name tags regardless of the date since we continue to use them going into the next season.

**Communications:** Gloria wished to explain about a "Covid protocol" email she sent during the season. It seemed to concern many members who felt she was referring to them personally in the email. Gloria stated it was a generic email after some concerns about the email surfaced. Her message in January was not a reflection of any individual. She also reminded us all that if you have questions or a concern, contact the school administrator at the meet. Janet Cranmer mentioned the difficulty this season in finding officials for Districts and Regions in some areas. Janet is concerned that many members with no affiliation to any school are simply working what they consider "big meets" when meets close to these members have no officials. An example was given of a District Meet with 13 officials yet just a few miles down the road, the referee only had 2 officials to work that District Championship. A great deal of discussion followed this as it is a problem in many areas. Roger Graham discussed how it is done in the San Antonio area using a matrix on Excel. This works for that area but may not work in an area such as Houston with over 350 members. Jo Fojtik explained the system USA Swimming in the Gulf LSC uses called Genius. Janet mentioned that she is currently unable to access the membership through Arbiter to make a call for officials. Other board members also said they are unable to access information. Gloria will contact Arbiter to fix this. Janet Cranmer said that she will make an effort to post

meets needing officials early in the season so officials in the Houston area can plan ahead. Janet asked that Board Members Brian Walls and Mike Swaim meet with her following the TISDO Board Meeting to discuss the situation with how to obtain officials since we cannot assign officials to meets at this time as other sports do and to discuss the delivery of rules books in the Houston area. Gloria also mentioned that if messages need to go out to the membership, members should contact a Board Member to get the word out.

**Constitution:** It has been determined that the Constitution does not match up to the changes made in the By-Laws since the Constitution was created. Board Members have gone through the Constitution to correct these errors and mirror the Constitution to the By Laws. A motion was made by Jenny Andrews and seconded by Janet Cranmer to accept these changes to correct the Constitution. The motion passed.

**Zoom Meetings:** There was discussion of the need for Zoom Meetings so that members can attend meetings virtually. A motion was made by Chris Lysinger and seconded by Bob Lang that the By Laws, Article 5- I Voting Procedures be amended to read “Only regular members in good standing and present at the Annual Membership Meeting either in person or through a virtual meeting of the organization shall have voting privileges.” The motion passed and Chris will make the change to the By Laws and Constitution. Also, TISDO By Laws Article 2, Section 2, #1 was addressed through a motion by Mike Swaim and seconded by Janet Cranmer, “The annual TISDO Meeting will be held in person or virtually the Sunday morning following the conclusion of the State Meet.” The motion passed.

A motion was made by Roger Graham and seconded by Mike Swaim for the adjournment of the General Membership Meeting. The motion passed and the General Membership Meeting for February 2021 was adjourned at 10:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Cranmer  
TISDO Secretary

