



NJ Board of Directors Senior Division – Senior Vice Chair 10-16-2023

Senior Report - Meaghan Donnelly, Senior Vice Chair :

Tri-State Cup: As we continue to determine the best path forward regarding NJ LSC's involvement in the Tri-State Cup, a survey is currently being conducted to gauge interest for the LSC and results should be available at the time of the business meeting on 10/16/23. The results were not, unfortunately, available prior to the submission of this report.

Coach Selection Process: We are currently working on creating recommendations and guided policies and procedures for the coach selection process for the LC Zone Championships, which may extend further to additional coach selection opportunities. The reason for this is to address the concern voiced by the greater LSC body that points to a lack of transparency regarding the selection process. By establishing clear policies and procedures surrounding this process, we hope to provide great transparency for the larger LSC body.

Camp Report - Meaghan Donnelly, Senior Vice Chair: The LSC is currently in communication and gathering information regarding the possibility of hosting a silver-level single day or overnight camp for approximately 100 athletes. Additional information will be shared as it becomes available. We will be looking towards the spring of 2024 to host this event.

Open Water Committee – Christopher Barry, Chairperson:

Efforts have continued to look to increase my knowledge and determine the interest for Open Water in New Jersey. There is a small core of officials (6-10) currently that have actively assisted with meets run in the local CT, Metro, MA area with at least 6 now certified. During this past summer, there were four sanctioned meets in the area that I was able to attend and others that NJ officials were able to assist. These included the CT State Championship in June, the EZ Championship in June as well as the Metro/NJ State Championship last month.

USA Swimming continues to streamline OW Official clinics with Regional Trainers hosting virtual clinics prior to many competitions as preparation for the meets and to improve consistency. Remembering that the roles for Open Water swimming meets are both similar and different while the primary goal is the safety of the swimmers during the event. New Jersey is looking to expand opportunities by promoting races in the Metro and Mid-Atlantic Swimming. We will continue to look for opportunities to promote these clinics via the New Jersey Officials Google email group generally in early spring. Efforts continue with Jeff Chu and George Fleckenstein (co-chair of Metro OW) and Ray Peden (lead OW Official in Middle Atlantic and one of the trainers) to expand communication. Open Water competitions require a larger commitment in both volunteers and financial to operate but through joint efforts we can hopefully expand interest from swimmers and volunteers.

As we think about the 2024 season, NJ can expect to see about 5 sanctioned opportunities in the surrounding states (LSCs) as well as the Metro/NJ Championship which may have a change of location next year and be closer than Rye. Once confirmed dates are known, we will forward to the NJ office to include on the meet Planning Calendar and promote for teams/swimmers' consideration. We will continue to propose to NJ Swimming for their inclusion the annual budget funds to support such effort as a cost-effective method to provide such opportunity to swimmers of NJ. The EX OW Championship will also be hosted in south jersey in the MA LSC in late June.

In summary, with the completion of the summer season, last month, in conjunction with Metro LSC, we held a joint LSC Championship meet at Rye Beach. While attendance was not fantastic for either LSC, we will continue to look to promote opportunities to New Jersey swimmers and officials (via Virtual two-part training clinics). We want to congratulate those that participated in this year's event –event winners in the 3K (B11/12: Garik Zlotchew; G13/14: Amanda Semsel; B13/14- Luke Finn; G15/16: Sophia Hogas; B15/16: Ilai Alkin), 5K (B13/14: Lucas Marrazzo; G15/16: Sabine Ristad; B15/16: Peter Lambert and look forward to increasing the awareness during the next year as we look forward to the 3rd annual meet next September.