

**Southern California Swimming
Open Water Committee
Meeting Minutes and Discussion Notes**

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Attendees: Robin Smith (Chair), John Abrami (Coastal OW Rep), Ron Aitken (Desert OW Rep), Colin Geer (Athlete Rep – Metro), Mark Johnson (Metro OW Rep), Paul Szuszkiewicz (Eastern OW Rep and Officials Liaison to OW Committee)

Guests: CJ Wanser (Official, Orange)

Absent: Iman Khadembashi (Pacific OW Rep), Paige Kuwata (Athlete Rep – Desert), Alex Nieto (Orange OW Rep),

Meeting Called to Order: 7:30 PM

Robin welcomed the attendees to the meeting. All present discussed the latest status of pool availability for practices and competitions around the LSC.

It was noted that the January 13, 2021 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by the Committee via email and have been posted to the SCS website.

COMPETITION:

1. Committee reviewed the latest version of the SCS Open Water Calendar including the addition of the 2021 Western Zone OW Championship and a second combined USA Swimming OW Nationals / Junior OW Nationals in the fall. Brief discussion regarding current status of hosts not able to schedule competitions at California venues and lack of special event permit availability at this time.

2. The latest version of the DRAFT Meet Form for the “Swim to Tokyo Virtual Open Water Event” was reviewed. Committee discussed the meet event and entry details including relay definitions, and brainstormed ideas for results and recognition & awards. Robin will update and finalize the meet form in preparation for the March 1, 2021 start date.

EDUCATION:

Committee continued discussions regarding options for the Age Group OW Camp and OW Clinics later this year. One possibility is a two-part clinic with Part One at a pool location and Part Two at a beach/bay/lake venue.

SUPPORT:

Committee discussed the need to support our SCS Open Water Meet Hosts and assist them with brainstorming creative ways to be able to run their meets and races within current safety protocols when open water competitions are allowed to be scheduled again.

*****NEXT MEETING: Wednesday March 10, 2021 at 7:30 PM Pacific Time*****

Meeting adjourned: 8:32 PM