

Southern California Swimming is *Athlete-centric, Collaborative & Cohesive*.  
*We provide support for our members in their pursuit of excellence!*

General Chair's Report, Terry W. Stoddard

Changes in our world continue to occur. The Community of Swimming in Southern California Swimming has been impacted greatly as we meet today on this the "Six Month Anniversary of the California Lockdown". Uncertainty remains the standard "*gauge and compass*" for everything that is interwoven in the fabric and determines the character which is Southern California Swimming as we continue to lead the nation that leads the world. We must continue to focus "Down the Road on Where We Are Going". We must continue on with our  
**"Planning To Plan"!**

**Informational items:**

- The "*SCS Leadership Team*" continues to hold a "Round Table Session" every Monday that we can. This provides an open forum to connect the Six Geographic Committees existing Concerns, Noteworthy News Items and the Opportunity for Planning to Plan. We will continue to do so as needed. **You can count on them! You should lean on them!** We will "Get Through this Together"!
- SCS remains connected with the USA Swimming Leadership Team. Meetings which were once held weekly are now held monthly via Zoom. Over 100 Leaders in the United States are on these Zoom Meetings. We all are better able to keep our finger on the pulse of our NGB Plans and Actions, as well as, additional news, resources and again we have an open door to partner with our counterparts nationwide.
- I reported to you in June that USA Swimming has created an Aquatic Coalition to again create partnerships within the Aquatic Community. We will use the resources that they make available to educate our partners and serve as "*Boots On The Ground*" to support our efforts to Reopen Pools for "*Regulated Competitions*". One of these resources is a video of how local agencies and facility operators have already conducted "*Regulated Competitions*" safely.
  - Here is the link to the resources available from the Aquatic-Coalition on the USA Swimming website: <https://www.usaswimming.org/utility/community-quarantine-resources/aquatics-coalition>
- I reported to you in June that a Five California LSC's Task Force had been formed including the five General Chairs and leaders within each LSC. This group continues to meet on every Thursday that we can at 12:00 P.M. This group is onboard with a collaborative effort that both support our Boots on the Ground educational campaign and Lobbying and Advocacy from the Top Down. This collegial connection can also be utilized to build a bigger base of financial support for our potential firm Fernandez / Cervantes Government Affairs.
- Southern California Swimming after creating a Reopening SCS Swimming Pools Task Force will continue to enhance essential partnerships between these USA Swimming Teams/Clubs and their Aquatic Facilities. A specific Task Force was created to determine whether SCS should retain an Advocacy Group to earn a seat at the table with policy makers and agencies that have direct and indirect impact on the business of Swimming in SCS. Bob Hommel volunteered to lead this effort and he brings to you a proposal in New Business to do so tonight.
  - **Actionable item – New Business: I urge you to vote yes to hire the Lobbying/Consulting Services of Fernandez / Cervantes Government Affairs.**

- USA Swimming Board of Directors has made changes in their By Laws to stay connected with this new normal. They have passed legislation allowing both the USA Swimming 2020 Convention and SCS 2020 House of Delegates Meetings to be conducted in a “Virtual Platform” and meet the Non-profit laws in the state of California.
- In June I reported and just this week USA Swimming has lifted the moratorium on all meet sanctions through September 30<sup>th</sup> which returns to SCS the full authority to sanction meets. Additionally, at this time all Eight (8) Counties in the state that we call home to our Teams/Clubs have accepted the guideline and have determined that the California Department of Public Health Guidelines for School-based competitions are not allowed. I urge all of the Teams/Clubs in SCS to reach out to your facility operators and local agencies to partner with them to develop “Regulated Competitions” for the future just as we successfully did with practices. Neighboring states have found a way to have safe competitions. USA Swimming has a video that you can share with your facility operators and local agencies that shows how, in this case the state of Colorado, has figured out how to have safe competitions. It is my opinion that Non-sanctioned regulated competitions can be developed within this paradigm with your facility operators and local agencies.
  - ***I urge you to vote yes for the proposal to move forward with support of Non-sanctioned regulated competitions as approved at the Facility Operator / Local Agency level.***
- I have received several requests for SCS Teams to compete in LSC’s outside of SCS. These LSC’s General Chairs have asked for a letter from me as General Chair to allow them to compete in their LSC. Tomorrow, September 17<sup>th</sup> I will write that letter.
  - ***Later in New Business I am asking you to support me in this decision.***
- I continue to work with the Task Forces that I have created and will bring the recommendations that they make to the BOD.
- The election of Officers, Directors and Standing Committee Chairs positions is in the “Even Year” and I want to thank the effort of the Governance Committee to continue to build on the Job Descriptions first created last year, reviewed by the Incumbents, reviewed by the Executive Committee and presented to the SCS Membership. I am pleased and I look forward to the Annual House of Delegates which will be held as a Virtual Meeting on Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 P.M. There are several “Firsts This Year!”
- I want to announce that after each election that it is mandatory that all Board of Directors elected & appointed has two meetings Board Orientation and Strategic Planning Retreat. Here are the dates for both of these:
  - ***Board Orientation – Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> – Times TBD***
  - ***Strategic Planning Retreat – Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – Times TBD***
- On Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> along with each of you I received an email from our Executive Director, Kim O’Shea which had an attached document announcing her resignation as a staff employee of Southern California Swimming. I was very surprised. As your General Chair, I have since Formally accepted her resignation and added it here in my report.
  - She offered to help with a transition and I accept.
  - I want to keep Kim’s Health and Welfare at the panicle of the transition process.
  - I am appreciative of all of her services, accomplishments and **“Sweat Equity”** that she has given to SCS these last 3+ years.
  - I wish her all the best with the next chapter of her journey.

**New Business Items:**

1. I formally accept Kim O'Shea's resignation as an employee for Southern California Swimming.
2. General Chair – Request to compete outside our LSC – Terry Stoddard
3. Board of Directors - Board Orientation and Board Strategic Planning – Terry Stoddard
  - a. Board Orientation – Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> – Times TBD
  - b. Strategic Planning Retreat – Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> – Times TBD

Respectfully submitted,  
Terry W. Stoddard, General Chair