

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

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, July 19 2022

Attendees: Robin Smith (Chair), Chris Kang (Pacific OW Rep), Paul Szuszkiewicz (Eastern OW Rep), Lenin Velasco (Coastal OW Rep) Paige Kuwata (Athlete OW Rep), Rylie Solis (Athlete OW Rep)

Absent: Ron Aitken (Desert OW Rep), Mark Johnson (Metro OW Rep), Alex Nieto (Orange OW Rep)

Meeting Called to Order: 8:02 PM

MSP to Approve the May 25, 2022 Committee Meeting Minutes.

COMPETITION:

Reviewed updated 2022 SCS Open Water Calendar with the addition of non-sanctioned events. It was noted that if an open water meet/event is not sanctioned by USA Swimming (USA-S), USA-S safety procedures and protocols will not apply. In addition, USA-S liability insurance will also not apply.

Noted some 2023 dates for planning purposes – USA Swimming OW Nationals/Jr. Nationals (April 21-23 in Sarasota) and Western Zone Open Water Championships (end of August in Coeur d'Alene).

Bids for 2024 Western Zone Open Water Champs will open soon.

EDUCATION:

Question regarding local open water pool clinics. There have been some inquiries. It is difficult to schedule clinics around the pool meet schedule. One team was thinking about using their practice time on a weekend for a possible clinic. Committee needs to come up with a plan for clubs who are interested.

SUPPORT:

Robin confirmed that the Open Water Committee has a budget of \$7500 for 2021 to 2022. This is in line with the pandemic reductions that were made to all budget line items. Note: Previous Open Water Committee budget was \$10,500 for 2020 to 2021.

Question about purchasing equipment such as open water buoys for clinics. Discussion regarding offering grant support to clubs to purchase their own equipment versus SCS owning the equipment and having to maintain and oversee its use.

OTHER:

Elections – Robin noted that she will be terming out of the Open Water Chair position at the end of the year.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday August 23th at 8:00 PM Pacific Time

Meeting adjourned: 8:58 PM