

**Pacific Committee November Meeting Minutes**  
**September 25, 2019 - 8pm via Conference Call**

**Call to Order** - 8:10pm by Mohammad Khadembashi, Chair

**In Attendance:** Mohammad Khadembashi (Chair/TSM), DeAnne Preyer (Vice Chair/ZAP), Stefanie Capizi (Program/CITI), James Gallagher (ROSE), Bettie Williams (Officials), Peter Fishler (Age Group/WEST), Jordan Quick (PC Athlete/ZAP), Jordan Real (PC Athlete/ZAP), Shari Twidwell (Safe Sport/ZAP), Kimi Davidson (Diversity/TORR), Peter Lambert (BLAST), Ozzie Romero (Review/SGAC), Monique Shelton (CITI), Meg Patrick (HPSC), Iman Khadembashi (Open Water/TSM), Cameron Berga (Athlete TORR), Ricky Sanchez (Athlete TORR), Chantal Woodard (TORR).

**Board Members Absent:** Octavio Alesi (Senior Chair/Alpha)

**Reminders from Chair:** Please try to be in a place with good reception whenever possible, mute your phones when you are not speaking, and say your name before you speak so we all know who is speaking. Thank you!

**Approve July, 2019 Minutes:** James G. moves for approval. Shari T seconds motion. Motion is open for discussion.

Kimi asks why the TORR 10/10-11 meet is listed in the minutes as a BRW instead of IMX/IMR? Mo says no reason for it except that was what he was handed. DeAnne says we didn't vote on anything, but there was a discussion about having a different format for the October meet because of concern about events offered in past October meets.

Mo says he raised the issue because he personally is not a fan of the IMR/IMX exclusive events, but there was no vote and he is happy to accommodate whatever the committee wishes. Several voices say they agree with whatever TORR wishes to do with their meet, since they are the hosts.

Kimi says she wants to hear from the group as to what they would like to see. There will be two courses and she wants to run a format that people will want to attend.

DeAnne says running two courses will help the timeline and allow more kids to attend, and she would therefore favor the IMX/IMR format.

James says he would like to see the motion come from TORR.

Kimi moves that the 10/10/20-10/11/20 TORR meet format be changed from a BRW to an IMX/IMR meet.

Shari T seconds the motion; Vote is unanimous in favor; Motion carries.

Stefanie C says the RW Finale is still listed as 2/29/20-3/1/20, but we decided at the last meeting that we would hold it on 2/9 because of Easter. DeAnne P corrects her and says it's not the Finale but rather an other RW meet. Easter is Sunday, 4/12/20, so we are fine for the Finale, which is still on Saturday, 2/29/20.

DeAnne says we may have discussed having the Finale across two days, or which day we wanted, and we decided last month to have it on the Saturday preceding 3/1/20.

DeAnne continues: The next RW meet after that, however, is scheduled for 4/12/20, which *is* Easter Sunday, so DeAnne makes a motion that we switch that meet's date to the following Sunday, 4/19/20.

James G seconds the motion; Vote is unanimous in favor; Motion carries.

Mo asks about anything else from the July minutes.

James moves to approve the July minutes as amended; Bettie seconds; Vote is unanimous in favor; Motion carries.

Mo says he will make the changes to the minutes, he and Stefanie will make the changes to the meet schedule and send it out again asap.

#### **Chair Report (Mo Khadembashi):**

Mo asks as a sidenote that we all stay mindful that we have athletes on the call, and he asks that we be detailed but brief so we can all get to bed as early as possible.

SCS House of Delegates was this past week (9/18/20), and we have new board members. Terry Stoddard is the new Chair.

Mo says he has not seen minutes from the meeting yet, but he expects them to be out soon.

Multiple Pacific Committee members attended the meeting. There aren't too many specifics to go over, but we would definitely like to have more athletes attend.

There was a discussion about having future HODs on a weekend so that more athletes and coaches can participate, plus the drive is difficult for everyone during the week.

Also, the weekend of the Fall Clinic, in future years, will be closed for SCS sanctioned meets. This will mean moving the TORR 10/10/20 meet if that indeed is when the Fall Clinic will be next year.

James says he thinks the HOD decided that this rule would only go into effect starting 2021. Mo understood it to be a 2020 start. Mo will look into it and get back to everyone at the next meeting.

**Vice Chair Report (DeAnne Preyer):** No report.

**Treasurer's Report (N/A):** No report.

**Age Group Chair Report (Peter Fishler):** No report.

**Coaches Report (Monique Shelton):** No report.

**Senior Representative ():**

**Official's Chair (Bettie Williams):** The committee met last night. Host clubs should talk with admin and refs about compensation schedules so that there are no surprises on deck.

A form will go out to let host clubs know how many officials need to be on deck during their meet because there has been confusion of late.

For sanction applications, the name of the CTS operator will need to go on the form now as well.

For MAPP compliance, a separate restroom will need to be designated for officials and coaches, no exceptions. The separate restroom needs to be marked for Officials and Coaches. Many facilities are using the lifeguard restrooms.

A problem arose during a discussion about lifeguards at meets. Lifeguards are the first line of defense in the chain of command in any emergency. Officials are encouraged to ask the facility guards about their procedures so no toes are stepped on.

Diving boards are not covered under USAS insurance, so if there are any at your facility during your meet, be sure to rope them off or make them inaccessible somehow.

Head strikes must now go to a hospital if they happen during a meet. They can no longer go to Urgent Care. The note must be from a hospital doctor saying the athlete can return to competition.

SCS needs at least 50 more new officials this year. Many folks ask Bettie how many meets they need to attend in order to get certified. It's not about the number of meets attended but rather the amount of knowledge the person has before they can be certified. Please encourage anyone who would like to explore becoming an official to do so and start training with SCS officials as soon as possible.

Officials are independent contractors, which means meet hosts cannot dictate their every move. Be sure to familiarize yourself with independent contractor laws in order to be compliant.

DeAnne asks about the form that will go out, when it will go out? Bettie clarifies that it's not a form per se, but rather an information sheet that will go out after the committee has made it. She does not have more information on a timeline for that sheet.

James asks about the head strike rule, and who determines whether the athlete's head strike warrants a trip to the hospital? Bettie replies that the officials will interview the athlete after the head strike, and if anything is remotely out of the ordinary, they err on the side of caution and send the athlete to the hospital if there is any question of concussion.

James clarifies: If an athlete hits the wall on a backstroke finish, is s/he going to have to answer to an official and be sent to a hospital every time they miss the wall? Bettie answers no, only if the official deems the headstrike of concern, interviews the athlete, and deems the athlete a concussion concern.

**Program Chair (Stefanie Capizi):** Some teams have quickly realized the importance of the Intent Form in that they wound up being rejected from the recent TSM meet when they were prioritized under other teams who had submitted their intent form. Please be sure you have filled your Intent Form out and submitted it to Stefanie so that we have an idea for expected numbers for each meet.

Mo adds that every coach and/or team rep has access to the Intent Form, you just can't change the form in any way. If you want to make a change to it, just email Mo or Stefanie with your team's changes.

James suggests that we add the date that teams have filled out the Intent Form so that teams are rejected from meets in future based on how soon they submitted their numbers. Mo responds that currently Google docs shows him and Stefanie when everyone has made their changes to the form, but in future they will add a feature that shows everyone else when teams have made updates to their own numbers.

Bettie asks where the form is. Stefanie responds you can view it through the form she sent out via email in mid-August, but you won't be able to edit it at this point. She and Mo are the only two able to edit it at this point.

Ozzie adds that every change made is time stamped in a Google doc, so they are easily tracked.

Bettie remains confused about where the link is to the document. Ozzie responds that it's in the email Stefanie sent out in August. Mo responds that he has sent Bettie a new email with the link to the document so she doesn't have to dig through her old emails.

**Review Chair (Ozzie Romero):** Ozzie says his team had an issue at the last JOs that they discussed this morning, and he's not sure whether this is the time to bring it up. Mo says maybe now is good, but briefly so as not to divulge details we should not know.

Ozzie reports there was an issue with an official falsifying a time at a meet, and as of right now the committee is in a 10-day waiting period to see if the person will appeal it. Going forward Ozzie will be able to report more as details are uncovered.

**Diversity Chair (Kimi Davidson):** The Diversity Camp applications have been fully accepted, and the attendees have been decided. Sarah (SCS Diversity Chair) will announce them shortly.

**Open Water Chair (Iman Khadembashi):** Open Water Zones are this weekend. Anyone who is interested should come by and swim. The 5K is a qualifier for Jr. Nationals in Miami next year.

DeAnne asks whether Open Water Zones will again be in the fall next year? Iman responds that he has asked Sean (SCS Open Water Chair) a few times and has not had a response. He will continue to look into it.

Monique says she knew Castaic (the original site for OW Zones) was going to be postponed far ahead of the time that SCS announced the postponement. She was concerned about people who were coming in from far away who had hotel reservations, etc., and wonders why the announcement didn't go out sooner? Iman responds that he asked Kim (SCS Executive Director) and Sean (SCS Open Water Chair) about this and heard from Kim that they were waiting to hear back from USA Swimming about certain procedures before letting everyone know. He did not hear a response from Sean.

Mo adds that there will be a World Open Water Swimming Association (WOWSA) event coming up in 2 weekends in our back yard in Redondo Beach, and he encourages teams to attend.

**Shari Twidwell (SafeSport):** Teams are encouraged to get their Safe Sport medalions through USAS. It requires a bit of hoop-jumping on the USAS website, but it's not too rough and a great credential to have for your team.

The reporting page for SafeSport central in order to report an incident has been streamlined, and it's not easier to use.

Shari spoke with Kimi at Swim Torrance, who went on an adventure researching apps for communicating with the team that are safe and user friendly. Swim Torrance landed on an app called TeamReach, which is a dual platform application, allows for coach-swimmer-family communications, posting pictures, etc.

Kimi asks what certifications Junior Coaches need in relation to regular coaches. Shari responds that they don't do the background check because of their age and inability to be checked, but that they need to do the rest of the Coach Education/Testing on the USAS site. Junior Coaches cannot be left alone on deck anyway because they are minors, but they are great for getting the practical experience needed to become great coaches once they are adults.

**Athlete Rep (Jordan Quick, Jordan Real):** Jordan Q says she and Jordan R are trying to put together an Athlete Rep directory. If teams would email her and/or Jordan R with your team's athlete rep information, they would appreciate it.

Also, there is an SCS Athlete Summit this Saturday, alongside the Fall Clinic, from 9am-4pm. All are invited and encouraged to attend. DeAnne adds there is no fee for athletes for the summit.

Mo asks when the Jordans would like the information for the directory. The Jordans say they would like the names and contact information by Friday, October 11, 2020.

**Old Business:** Mo says we still need someone for the Secretary/Treasurer position, and someone for the Disability Rep position. There is still no response, so the positions stay empty.

We are still looking for a second host for the October IMR/IMX meet next month. Mo asks if there is anyone who is willing to host a second location for this meet. No responses.

OASIS Aquatics, Head Coach named James, is still looking to join Pacific Committee. This was mentioned at HOD and voted down.

We had an oversight issue with meet fees at the TORR and TSM meets. The surcharge was written as \$10.50, but we are not allowed to charge over \$10. Meet hosts, please be sure to double check your future meet forms to be sure you are not charging over \$10.

**New Business:** We need more athletes involved and attending our meetings. If all coaches can please recruit more athletes to get involved with Pacific Committee as well as SCS, that would be great.

Mo suggests we move our committee bid meeting to October instead of July. USAS Convention will happen late next year, hence so will HOD. Mo thinks it makes more sense to do our bid meeting later as well.

Bettie asks when we might get the slate/calendar for the meets so that teams can look at their own calendars and mark out dates for hosting. Mo responds he isn't sure but thinks likely September. He is not sure what the tradition has been in the committee but can ask. He says again that it doesn't make much sense to commit to dates after 2020 until we know what the USAS and SCS master calendars look like.

James says the LSC is still going to have the SCS bid meeting in July, not during HOD. He would be more inclined to stick to earlier for our bid meeting, but he is open to discussion. Mo responds if the HOD and Fall Clinic are being pushed back in the coming year, that will absolutely affect our committee calendar, as it did this year with the Fall Clinic (conflicted with the TSM meet and will conflict next year with TORR meet), and he would like to at least wait until SCS decides on dates for the Fall Clinic and HOD. Further, if the USAS Convention is going to be 9/20-26, and the TSM meet is supposed to have their meet that weekend next year, it will be difficult for anyone from PC to attend the TSM meet and Convention.

Bettie says this was the first year that she can recall the Fall Clinic happening in September, rather than in October, and that really throws our calendar off. Mo agrees. Bettie asks whether we will bid our meets the same night we will get the slate? Or will we get the slate a month ahead of time, per our usual routine? Mo is unsure.

James says in that case we would get the slate in October and then vote in November for the meets the following year.

DeAnne suggests we table this issue until next month until we hopefully have more information about next year. Mo agrees that there will be more information coming on 10/8/20 and 10/9/20 in various meetings, so he would be happy to add this to the agenda for October's PC meeting.

Bettie continues, as far as the surcharge amounts for meets, she would like to clarify that the \$10 surcharge cap is only for BRW meets. Mo thanks her for the clarification. Stefanie has the sanction sheet and is amending it with all this information.

Bettie thanks Mo for sending her the email with the Intent Form, which she promptly deleted because she was reading about her grandson getting accepted to college. Mo congratulates Bettie and says he will send it again.

Mo asks for any further new business. No response.

Mo says we are still searching for a place to hold our October PC Meeting for either 10/15/20 or 10/22/20. If anyone has a strong feeling about one or the other, or a place to host, please tell Mo. Right now we are penciling in 10/15/20 for the October meeting, with details to follow.

Bettie moves that we adjourn; James seconds the motion.

**9:10pm - Meeting is adjourned.**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Shari Twidwell, Safe Sport Rep in place of Secretary/Treasurer**