

**JSL Board Meeting Minutes**

**April 8, 2020**

***Attachments for pre-meeting packet included:***

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| * March 29, 2020 Meeting Minutes for Approval
* 2020 Financial Outlook
* Questions/Comments from Board Reps Summary
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***WELCOME***

The meeting was called to order by President Chuck Fix at 7:07pm. This was an online Zoom video conference meeting due to COVID-19 social distancing orders. All team representatives were present. Executive board members were all present. 7 of 10 consultants were present – Gordon Hair, Alex Goodwin, and Steve Miller were not present. This was not a scheduled meeting, rather it was called to address the COVID-19 restrictions on group gatherings and how it will impact the JSL swim season.

Chuck mentioned that the last meeting held on March 29 was held about 1 day too soon, as Governor Northam mandated “stay-at-home” guidelines through June 10 at a press conference on March 30. The Executive Committee held an emergency meeting and sent a notice to all Board representatives that the Executive Committee recommended cancelling the JSL season for 2020. This decision, however, can only be made by the JSL Board and not the Executive Committee alone. They asked that each representative seek input from their clubs and organizations and submit any questions or concerns prior to a full board emergency meeting scheduled for April 8th. A summary of these questions (and answers) were sent as a pre-meeting attachment.

Chuck introduced Don Cochrane (Freestyle – Athlete Development Program Consultant) who has asked to say a few words prior to the meeting. Don reminded the board representatives that it is their duty to consider the health and safety of not just every swimmer, but every individual in our community. He emphasized how this is a historic situation and that it would be prudent to take roll call votes.

***SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORT***

***Secretary Report***

Kristin Wray (Secretary) requested any changes to March 29, 2020 meeting minutes. None were suggested.

***Treasurer Report***

Jeff North (Treasurer) presented the league’s financial outlook taking into consideration 2 scenarios: league expenditures no matter what the season length, and league expenditures with shortened season and no Championship meet. The starting balance as of 1/1/2020 is $70,211.29.

He detailed costs with full registrations, break even point for registrations, and projections if only 50% of swimmers registered. All scenarios are detailed in the attachment. In summary, the 2020 projected balance just paying mandatory league expenditures would be $58,890.46, projected balance with shortened season and no Champs and 50% of last year registrants would be $64.558.96.

Jeff has been working closely with the JSL insurance broker to reduce liability insurance costs if the season were cancelled. This is a feasible option. Officer and Director insurance would not be reduced. He has also requested an extension until Nov 15, 2020 to apply and pay for the non-profit status with the Dept of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

***NEW BUSINESS***

***Questions from Team Representatives***

The Executive Committee spoke with all board representatives individually prior to the meeting to explain the whys and whats and hows of what this emergency meeting would look like and cover. They wanted to reps to know they could submit questions concening a shortened or cancelled season. The initial feedback was 10 favoring canceling the season, 6 not in favor, and 1 no response.

Bob Garland (Advisor to Board) asked the reps who were in favor of cancelling if they could help all present at the meeting understand their reasoning to cancel vs. wait until the next meeting (May 3) to decide. He was wondering if they had deadlines to meet for opening pools or hiring staff. The discussion was varied and no specific reason was given. Many reps did, however, say they cannot imagine a successful season with social distancing rules in effect. Even limiting to groups of 50 people would make swim meets very difficult.

Jeff pointed out this would be the first season JSL cancelled since 1966. In addition, he reminded reps about the liability placed on the Board if they were to say yes to the season.

Chuck summarized the board questions and discussion as “just too many unknowns” at this time. We do not know if the Governor will lift restrictions on June 10 or what the new modified restrictions will be at that point.

GHG made a motion to cancel the entire JSL season and CCC seconded. Chuck asked that the Board discuss the Champs meet before we called the vote.

***Championship Meet***

Jann Balmer (Champs Consultant) pointed out that her committee is not submitting the contract to UVa for the Champs weekend. She also doubted that UVa would accept such a contract at this point. It was agreed by all that UVa would not allow 4000 people to the Aquatic and Fitness Center the last weekend of July. It was also agreed, and understood by all, that our primary sponsor, Freestyle, and many secondary sponsors would not be in the position to financially support a Champs meet. A motion was made by GHG to cancel the JSL Championship meet, and all versions of a Championship meet) for 2020 and FAST seconded. It was a roll call vote and passed unanimously.

***Modified or Canceled Season***

Chuck asked if there were further questions regarding the options for a 2020 JSL season. The FAST representative asked if there was a way graduating seniors could be recognized next year if the season were cancelled. Bob reminded the board that no one over 18 may swim in a JSL meet, but the board agreed there could be other creative ways to recognize them besides swimming competitively.

The FSBC representative expressed concern that cancelling the entire season on April 8 seems extreme. He requested the board wait until the May 3rd meeting to vote on a season modification or cancellation. The FV rep agreed it was too early. Jessica Simon (Software Consultant) pointed out that USA swimming was strongly considering canceling all of their meets through July 30, 2020.

The Executive Committee reminded all representatives that even if the season were cancelled, the Board does not prohibit teams from getting their own kids in the pool for lessons or practices. The JSL Board only governs JSL sanctioned events such as dual meets or Champs. Bob reminded teams, however, that they are responsible for their own liability insurance when hosting casual team get-togethers or events.

Bob also pointed out that all certifications will be recorded and recognized even if there is no season. The JSL will not pay for certifications if the season is cancelled, however.

The CITY rep wondered what if another league or program tried to compete with the JSL if we cancelled our season? Would they take swimmers away from the league. All agreed this was something to consider.

Chuck called the vote for the season cancel motion. It was a roll call vote as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| **Yes – Cancel Now** | **No – Wait and Vote May 3** |
| FAST | HM |
| GHG | GCC |
| FLST | ACAC |
| CCC | CGST |
| LG | BHSC |
| CITY | FV |
| KWC | ELKS |
| LMST | FSBC |

The FCC representative dropped from the call due to bad weather interrupting the signal. She reported she voted No – wait to vote, but her vote did not count since she was not present for the roll call vote.

Chuck cast the deciding vote as president. He voted to wait until May 3rd.

Bob thanked and complimented the Board for handling the complex discussion and decision with grace and respect for each other. He said this was the biggest struggle the Board has had to grapple with during his long history with the league and he was quite impressed with the meeting.

The Board will meet again (virtually) on May 3 to decide on JSL 2020 season.

CITY made a motion to adjourn the meeting and GHG seconded. It passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Wray, JSL Secretary