

**JSL Board Meeting Minutes**

**May 3, 2020**

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * March 29, 2020 Meeting Minutes for Approval * April 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes for Approval * 2020 Financial Outlook Scenarios | March 2020 Team Data Sheet  JSL Transaction Report as of 4/29/2020 |

***WELCOME***

The meeting was called to order by President Chuck Fix at 7:09pm. This was an online Zoom video conference due to COVID-19 social distancing orders. All team representatives and executive committee members were present. 8 of 10 consultants were present – Gordon Hair and Alex Goodwin were not present.

***SECRETARY AND TREASURER REPORT***

***Secretary Report***

Kristin Wray (Secretary) requested any changes to March 29, 2020 and/or April 8, 2020 meeting minutes. None were suggested. LMST made a motion to approve both sets of minutes. FCC provided a second and it passed unanimously.

***Treasurer Report***

Jeff North (Treasurer) presented the league’s team data sheet and transaction report. He stated that both were straightforward this month. FAST made a motion to approve the treasurer report and FCC provided a second. The motion passed unanimously.

***OLD BUSINESS***

Chuck reviewed and summarized the events of the past two meetings for all in attendance. He pointed out that the JSL Championship meet was cancelled at the previous meeting. He also pointed out that the remaining board meeting dates are still in effect.

***NEW BUSINESS***

***2020 JSL Season***

Christina Meyer (Vice-President) summarized the survey and results she created and analyzed since the April 8th meeting. The survey was sent to all team representatives to assess each club’s intention to participate in a modified or shortened JSL season if it was offered. The goal of the survey was to gauge participation so that Jeff could determine if a partial season was financially feasible. 13 teams responded yes (they were likely to participate in an abbreviated season), and 4 clubs responded no.

Jeff reported that the 4 teams stating no participation represented approximately 25% of the registered swimmers from 2019. Although 13 teams would provide a schedule challenge, Jeff reported it was financially feasible (see financial outlook scenarios from meeting).

Devin Creamer (Past President) then presented a summary of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) COVID-19 phased re-opening guidelines and how Virginia stood in the phasing process at the present time. He reported that VA is doing well in all CDC categories except caseload. VA is still seeing an upward trend in total caseload. Devin reported that, assuming Governor Northam follows the CDC guidelines, the best-case scenario for a Phase 3 in VA would be July 1st. The JSL Board is interested in Phase 3 as that would be the only re-opening phase that might allow for large enough crowds seen at a small swim meet. That being said, all agreed that the re-opening guidelines were still unspecified and subject to change at any time.

Jessica Simons (Software Consultant) summarized key USA swimming re-opening guidelines. She gave examples from these guidelines limiting total swimmers per practice, only allowing 1-2 swimmers per lane, and that all USA swim meets are cancelled through the summer. A team representative asked if there is any definitive data that COVID-19 cannot live in a pool. Jessica responded that yes, the virus is killed if pool pH remains below 2. That being said, the USA Swimming guidelines require all swimmers to breathe in the same direction during practice and not use locker rooms or showers. In summary, the virus is not present in the pool water, but the swimmers will be breathing on and touching surfaces that can spread virus.

GHG made a motion to cancel the 2020 JSL season and CCC provided a second.

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Yes – Cancel** | **No** |
| FAST | FV |
| GHG | FSBC |
| FLST |  |
| CCC |  |
| LG |  |
| CITY |  |
| KWC |  |
| LMST |  |
| ELKS |  |
| HM |  |
| GCC |  |
| ACAC |  |
| CGST |  |
| BHSC |  |
| FCC |  |

The motion to cancel the 2020 JSL swim season passed 15-2.

Team representatives asked if the Executive Committee could prepare an official statement and allow the teams to communicate to coaches and families before the public. The board agreed this was the best practice, but that word would spread very quickly with today’s social media communications.

Bob Garland (Advisor to the Board) reminded reps to report to him if any coaches complete certifications during the 2020 summer season. The JSL will not pay for coach certifications since there is no season, but these records will be kept as certifications often span multiple years. He also reminded reps that the JSL cannot dictate or prohibit what swim programs or events individual clubs choose to hold this summer. He encouraged everyone to be careful and ensure that proper insurance and coaching certifications are in place.

Chuck reminded reps that all future meetings were still on the calendar going forward except for the July Champs meeting. He assured reps that the Executive Committee would decide if all remaining meetings were necessary and send a notice to reps soon.

GHG made a motion to adjourn and CCC seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

***Action Items***

* Executive Committee send official notice to all team representatives announcing 2020 JSL swim season cancellation.
* Executive Committee draft and send official statement for press release announcing 2020 JSL swim season cancellation.
* All representatives – communicate season cancellation to coaches and families.
* All board members– mark remaining 2020 meeting dates - June 7, June 28, and Sept 13.
* Executive Committee – determine if both June meetings needed and announce to board members asap.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Wray, JSL Secretary

***ADDENDUM***

TO: Local Media Sports Departments

FROM: Jefferson Swim League Executive Committee

RE: Canceling of the Jefferson Swim League Season

DATE: May 4, 2020

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**It is with extreme sadness that the Jefferson Swim League Board voted at its May 3rd meeting to cancel the JSL dual meet season because of COVID-19 virus concerns.**

This decision was extremely difficult for every member of the JSL Board, especially for those who have children swimming in the League as well as those who have spent the better part of their lives ensuring that there is a summer swim program in the Central Virginia area. The Board carefully reviewed the CDC and Commonwealth of Virginia safety guidelines during several virtual meetings. Given the many unknowns concerning the COVID-19 virus, the potential safety risks to the hundreds of volunteers and swimmers at every meet, and the financial hardships on families and businesses in our community, the Board felt it was best to cancel the season.

This will be the first time since the JSL was organized in 1966 that there will not be a summer swim season in the Central Virginia area, but the health and well being of the swimmers and their families were the top priority of the Board.

“*Decisions like this are never easy. The effects of the COVID-19 virus have impacted everyone including the Jefferson Swim League. In the end it came down to what was best for our swimmers, teams, parents, and volunteers.”*

Chuck Fix, JSL President 2020

The JSL recognizes how important the season is to the swimmers, especially those high school students who will be graduating and will not have an opportunity to take part in the season at the end of their senior year. We hope everyone will understand the difficulty of this decision. We wish that all families remain healthy and active this summer and look forward to a successful 2021 season.