

Our Kids
May 10, 2003
Indianapolis, Indiana
NCAA Headquarters

Attendance: Pat Lunsford	Chair
Wayne Burrow	NCAA
Dick Wildey	YMCA
Pete Carney	USAS
Carol Zaleski	FINA
Richard Wachs	NISCA
Bob Wren	NISCA
Cynthia Doyle	NFHS
Claudia Multer	YMCA

Pat Lunsford called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

We began with introductions. Each member gave their name a little of their background in swimming.

Rationale – The rationale of the Our Kids initiative is an attempt to bring the swimming governing bodies together to discuss how we can make the various bodies come closer in rules making it simpler for the swimmers. In our first meeting we agreed to disagree. Each respects the other and is willing to listen to rationale behind rule changes. Through discussion we have brought several of the groups closer together.

Rule Changes – Each group explained their protocol for changing rules.

FINA – FINA makes changes only every 4 years.

The next rule change opportunity will be in 2005.

Every federation can suggest changes.

The rule changes go to a technical committee.

The committee can advise for or against the change.

The FINA Bureau then acts on the change.

NCAA – NCAA makes rule changes annually.

A survey is sent out in December.

The first discussion is held at the swim coaches meeting in May.

The proposals go to the Swimming and Diving committee in September.

NFHS – NFHS makes rule changes annually.

The state associations send out a sample questionnaire. The questionnaire asks if they would be interested in discussing the following subjects.

The proposals for the meeting come from responses from the survey.

YMCA – YMCA uses NCAA rules with some modifications in administration

USAS – USAS makes rule changes annually. The deadline for rule change proposals is May 15.

Anyone from the House of Delegates can propose a rule change.

The rules committee meets in Chicago on June 1.

They will distribute the changes over the summer.
The vote will take place at the annual meeting in September.

NISCA – NISCA coaches submit topics for discussion by March 15.
The topics are put together for convention. They are then submitted to NFHS.

Rules Comparison Chart – Pat Lunsford distributed the chart showing the similarities and differences in technical rules.

We asked Carol if FINA is considering changing the backstroke turn rule to be closer to NCAA and NFHS. Carol felt that the purpose of the rule is to keep the stroke on the back and the turn will probably not change.

Pat asked if we should allow novice swimmers to make the turn with some leniency. The group felt that swimmers should learn the rules correctly from the beginning.

The key to all rules is to educate our officials so that they understand the intent of the rule and that makes the application of the rule easier.

NFHS allows swimmers to surface by the 15 meter mark, but they can resubmerge. The purpose is to allow the novice to go under water incidentally. It is not to allow the experienced swimmer to turn the swim into an underwater swim.

During the lunch break a few of us viewed a video compiled by Dave Gordon. It does an excellent job of instructing how to judge diving. He is looking for support from governing bodies to help give the film authenticity. He could also use monetary help.

Joint representation – Pat pointed out that the joint representation is working out well. Most groups have members of other governing bodies on their advisory boards.

Chairperson – the group felt that as long as Pat Lunsford was willing to head the group he should serve as chairperson.

NCAA Breaststroke clarification – the group discussed the rule proposal distributed by Wayne Burrows. There was great concern that the recommended change would allow for sculling in the stroke. Advisement was not to pass that recommendation.

The joint calendar is printed on the next page.

High School dates vary by state. Richard distributed a list that he received from Swimming World listing many of the state meets.

WE cannot change the dates for many of the organizations, but we can make them aware of what is happening in the other groups.

How do allow for innovation if we attempt to get the groups closer together? Consensus – as long as we have coaches we will have innovation.

Video observation – Carol mentioned that some have suggested that we view video to observe a questionable violation. All agreed that we did not want to get into that process.

Financial support – Pat asked for ways to finance our group. USS has supported us biannually. How can we support the group? Cynthia said that NFHS would consider helping with financing and Wayne will check with NCAA.

Joint Clinics – Local groups could consider offering joint certifications. Much of the material is basic to all groups. Cincinnati will consider the possibility. We might consider a joint clinic as a part of World Championships in 2004.

We will meet next year and all agreed that Indianapolis is very convenient.

Respectfully submitted
Claudia Multer

OUR KIDS INITIATIVE 2004 MASTER CALENDER IMPORTANT DATES					
JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
	HS: State Championships USA-S: 11-14	HS: State Championships NCAA: Women 18-20 Men 25-27	YMCA: SC 5-8; MASTERS 15-18 Disability 22-24		FINA Masters 3-13
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Olympic Trials 7-14	Open Water Nat'l 3-7 Olympic Games 14-21	Paralympic Games 17-28	FINA World Swimming Championships 7-10		U S Open 2-4

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