

## DSDC

January 20, 2022

### Meeting Minutes

- Previous Meeting Approval – Minutes Approved by Lombard and Villa Park
- Roselle will manage 2022 DSDC meetings and schedule
- Housekeeping
  - Pending VP (should be someone from Carol Stream)
  - Pending Treasurer from Roselle
  - **TAKE-AWAY** - Please go onto swimdsc.org and update team contacts
    - If you don't have your teams log in information, please reach out to Amy Pena or Ron Wedel for assistance.
- 2022 Park District Meet Schedule and Conference Date changes (see proposal below).
  - The proposal invoked 4 main conversations; Meet schedule changes, Conference Meet dates, Number of Divisions, and reconfiguring the management / scoring of conferences. Conversations are divided in the notes below.
  - **Meet schedule changes**
    - Changes to the meet schedules is not an update to the bylaws
    - 8/12 park districts approved to moving to a Wednesday only schedule (with flexibility for Carol Stream, Villa Park, Hanover Park, & Glendale Heights to host meets on Saturdays)
      - Which Park Districts approved the proposed schedule?
      - **TAKE-AWAY** - Park Districts should work with their parent representatives to discuss concerns and bring them back to next month's meeting
    - Butterfield has a concern as their pool opens June 1<sup>st</sup>. This gives them little time to practice before the first meet and would prefer the first Wednesday to be a bye week.
    - **TAKE-AWAY** - Amy Pena from Roselle will put together a break-out group to put together a schedule draft for February's meeting.
      - Volunteers include Kim Swanson, Nancy Ketzler, Gretchen Guittierez, and Patrick Laughlin
      - Ron Wedel will send Amy the 2020 template schedule
  - **Conference date changes**
    - **TAKE-AWAY** - Park Districts should work with their parent representatives to discuss concerns and bring them back to next month's meeting
      - General concerns include:
        - Conflicts with USA regional / state competitions
        - Losing a week of swim time
      - 8/12 park districts approved to completing the swim season 1 week early.

- **TAKE-AWAY** - The length of the swim season and conference dates are in the DSDC swim bylaws. Any changes must be formally submitted and voted on.
  - A parent representative must come to next month's meeting with a formal presentation for voting to move forward with this decision.
  - If no parent makes the formal ask to shorten the season, and the Park Districts are unwilling to support the swim teams after July 24<sup>th</sup>, the DSDC will then determine how to move forward.
    - If the DSDC bylaws do not align with the Park Districts' availability, it would affect the way A and B conference would be hosted / managed.
- **Number of Divisions**
  - Reducing the number of divisions from 3 to 2 is an issue for teams with smaller pools to accommodate parking / hosting a larger conference meet.
  - The length of the B Conference meet would be much longer.
  - The number of divisions is outlined in the bylaws. Any changes to the number of divisions would require a formal presentation from a parent rep to be voted on by the DSDC.
  - It was suggested to focus on meet schedules and conference schedules and leave the number of divisions as is.
- **Reconfigure Conference Meets**
  - There were discussions around how to better divide up the conferences so that B conference is not so big / does not take so long and allow more recreational swimmers to swim in A conference. Some ideas included:
    - Add more swimmers to A Conference
    - Have one large meet and divide it into two days. Either:
      - Younger kids 1-day, older kids the next day
      - Divide up events, do half the meet one day, half the next
    - These proposals would change the way meets were scored
  - The way conference meets are managed and scored are outlined in the bylaws. Any changes to the way conference are managed or scored would require a formal presentation from a parent rep to be voted on by the DSDC
  - It was suggested to focus on meet schedules and conference schedules and leave the way conferences are managed as is, and potentially revisit next year.
- Meeting Adjourned

## DSDC Park District/Village Proposal:

As I have mentioned previously, the Directors (and other agency staff) of the 12 DSDC Park District/Villages have met twice to discuss our agencies during these COVID times and swap ideas and thoughts on the upcoming 2022 DSDC. We applaud the work which the DSDC does, and the support which comes from this committed group. Collectively we are eager for the upcoming DSDC Summer 2022 Swim Season!

Today, we met again. 12/12 agencies had representation at the meeting. All agencies embrace this conference, and are delicately trying to balance agency/facility needs, programming, financial status and patron commitments. Collectively, we discussed that now is the time to make changes, if we were to make any. These changes will slightly impact the future season of the DSDC Seasons, as you begin your 2022 planning. Below are the new parameters, which we collectively support and are requesting the DSDC to follow:

### New Parameters:

1. # of DUAL MEETS
  - a. 8 Dual Meets (decreased from 10)
  - b. If a meet is cancelled due to weather, those 2 teams can reschedule the meet on a mutually agreed upon date
2. DUAL MEETS DATES
  - a. All Wednesday Night Meets – with a MAX of 2 Saturday Meets per Team, if needed
    1. 4 Teams have requested exceptions to the above:
      1. Carol Stream – prefer their 4 home meets to be on Saturdays versus Wednesdays
      2. Villa Park/Hanover Park/Glendale Heights – prefer their 4 home meets are split with 2 on Wed/2 on Sat
    2. All the other 8 teams prefer dual meets on Wednesday Nights Only, but are willing to commit, if needed, to being scheduled for 1 or 2 (of the 8) MAX Saturday Meets – Total (NOT HOST 2 Saturday Meets, but just scheduled for 2 Saturday meets total – regardless of home or away)
      1. Possible Wednesdays on 2022 = June 8, 15, 22, 29, July 6, 13, 20
      2. Possible Wednesdays in 2023 = June 7, 14, 21, 28, July 5, 12, 19
      3. Possible Wednesdays in 2024 = June 5, 12, 19, 26, July 3, 10, 13
3. CONFERENCE A/B MEET
  - a. Move to the second to the last weekend in July.
    - Summer 2022
      - Conference B = Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>
      - Conference A = Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>

\*The majority of the 12 agencies support moving both A/B onto the same weekend, ending the season 1 week earlier – which is a huge plus for families, and those with Fall HS Athletes which begin practices the first week of August, and then school the following week. This would allow for a full week off, for family vacations, etc. There is some hesitancy because it has not happened like this in the past, but until it is tried, none can speak to how well this will or will

not work. Therefore, we are requesting that the 2022 Season follow this parameter, and once the season is concluded, we review and discuss the pros and cons of conference being on the same weekend (based on trying in 2022), and make a collective decision in the Fall on how to move best forward.

**REASONS/PROS to these changes:**

***Parents/Swimmers:***

- Potential for an increase in the number of swimmers because it is less of a time commitments. And swimmers can participate in other sports (baseball), as well.
- No Saturday Meets – families can go away on weekends versus having a Saturday swim meet every weekend in June and July
- Less Dual Meets – easier to get volunteers for less meets and on a weeknight versus weekend
- A/B Conference on same weekend – ends the season 1 week earlier, allowing for families to go on a summer vacation without fear of missing meets/conference
- Less time commitment in the summer, especially with HS kids beginning Fall Sports the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August and school beginning the 2<sup>nd</sup> week (give a full week off)

***Park Districts/Village:***

- No Saturday Meets allows for additional programming time/rentals/birthday parties on Saturday Mornings
- No Saturday Meets will allow us to not open LATE to the public on 4-5 Saturdays in June/July due to hosting a home swim meet and having to rush to end the meet and clean-up before opening.
- Conference A/B on same weekend, ends swim team a week earlier
- Decrease in expenses with only 8 dual meets, and ending the season 1 week earlier - and opens up additional open swim times if desired
- Potential more enrollment - Less Swimmer/Parent Time commitment may entice more kids to join the swim team knowing it is less commitment and no weekends, except conference weekend.

Also, there were some additional ideas which were brought up in conversation, but we feel it is best that the DSDC discuss and decide if they wanted to implement:

1. Discuss going from 3 to 2 divisions
2. Discuss making the A/B conference align with each other, in regards to the number of individual/team races swimmers are allowed to be entered. Currently, it is different for each conference. Have them mirror each other.

We feel these parameters will be a win-win to both Parks Districts/Villages and the Parents/Swimmers. All agencies are trying to finalize summers schedules, brochures and budgets, therefore, time is of the essence for a schedule to be finalized ASAP.