

2025 Championship Committee Annual Meeting Minutes

Committee Name:	Championship Committee	Session #:	
Committee Chair:	Erin Sizelove	Vice Chair:	Jim Clemmons
Minutes recorded by:	Cheryl Kupan	Date/time of meeting:	8/26/2025 8:00pm EDT

Actions Requiring Approval by the House of Delegates:

1. None

Motions Passed:

1. None

Number of committee members present: 10	Absent: 1	Number of other delegates present: 33
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Erin Sizelove, Jim Clemmons, Britta O’Leary, Cheryl Kupan, David Brancamp, Ed Saltzman, Jeff Roddin, Mark Rubacky, Rob Heath, Sandi Rousseau		
Committee Members Absent: Terri White		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:00pm EDT.

- 1. Brief Committee Introductions.**
- 2. Review/discuss 2025 Spring Nationals (San Antonio, TX)**

No representatives from San Antonio, TX were on the call. Very well run meet as usual, over 1,700 participants. Jim Clemmons: Brought up the timing situation that the San Antonio School District contributed. We faced challenges with last-minute mandatory school testing that affected volunteer (age group swimmers, primarily) availability.

Jay Eckhert: noted that the facility staff and San Antonio Sports had been cooperative hosts over the past two years, but the situation with timers needed improvement for future events.
- 3. Review/discuss 2025 Summer Nationals (Federal Way, WA).**
- 4. 2026 Spring Nationals Preview (Greensboro, NC).** Dates: April 30-May 3, 2026
Great facility with 25 warm-up/down lanes as they built a training pool around the pandemic in addition to two 10 lane SCY pools for competition. Indoor pool. Bid for either/both short course and/or long course.
- 5. 2026 Summer Nationals Preview (Sacramento, CA).** Dates: August 5-9, 2026. A new host facility, opened in 2022 and has an 8 lane long course competition pool and 9 warm-up/down lanes. Outdoor pool. Will probably have to limit entries for events 200 and longer if attendance reaches expectations.
- 6. Solicit bids for 2027 and 2028.** The committee discussed the bid deadline of October 1st for summer nationals 2027 and 2028, with Jay soliciting bids and minimum facility standards being a requirement.
- 7. Question & Answers:**

Jeff Strahota re: Federal Way Summer Nationals – events 200 and above there were concerns about age-based seating causing disparities in heats. The committee agreed to consider time-based seeding for future meets, particularly for distances 400 meters and above, while maintaining age-based seeding for shorter distances and the possibility for 200s. They also discussed the possibility of implementing time standards for both the 800 and 1500 meter events, though this proposal has previously been rejected by the House of Delegates. Also, discussed seeding distance events fast to slow, but concluded that the current rules require slow to fast seeding.

Sally Dillon re: any concerns with having 3 West Coast Summer Nationals? Erin: We are limited on bidders and Greensboro could have done either Spring or Summer Nationals. With Sacramento being a new host and a smaller pool, it made sense for them to host Summer Nationals and award the larger event to Greensboro.

8. **Anything missed, questions, comments:**

Sandi Rousseau: Are we going to have any more discussion about removing 'policies' from the rule book? You know I am one who is not in favor of it until we have a reliable repository with maintenance figured out. Maybe there is not the pressure to do this now, but I see that LD Committee is moving toward it and had the same questions coming up about where the info will be stored, who will maintain it, how it can be accessed, etc. As I understand it from the LD meeting, they have a drop box but no one can access it unless you go through a LD committee member.

Kathrine Casey warned about the challenges of finding and accessing policies once removed.

Sandi: Since this committee did not pursue any other means to shorten meets since we started using a wait list for 200 events and longer, does this mean we are done with this topic? While we have a ten-hour guideline, this is still a very long day for officials, volunteers, etc. and shortening it further (as happens in SCY meets) is always nice. Erin: The committee agreed to form a subcommittee with new members and rules committee representatives to develop proposals and submit on/around the June 2026 deadline.

Sandi: One other topic that has come up in random discussions is if we should revisit the ambulance on site requirement in certain circumstances when another ambulance/hospital, etc. is within a certain short distance to the host site and we know that transfers do not usually happen in the ambulance on site anyway. Very spendy item. Jim: I suggest we discuss further with input from Dr. Miller and legal counsel.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. Solicit bids for Summer Nationals 2027, Spring Nationals 2028 and Summer Nationals 2028.
2. Develop NQTs for 2026 Spring Nationals.
3. Develop NQTs for 2026 Summer Nationals.
4. Determine OOE for 2026 Spring Nationals.
5. Determine OOE for 2026 Summer Nationals.
6. Form a subcommittee to look at rules proposals for 2026 for limiting Championship Meet Timelines.
7. Review the onsite ambulance requirement for National Championship meets to determine any flexibility.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02pm EDT.
