

Committee Name:	Championship Interview Committee for Sarasota, Florida	Session #:	1	Report #:	1
Committee Chair:	Jeff Roddin	Vice Chair:	Kim Crouch/Jim Clemmons		
Minutes recorded by:	Tom Boak, Jeff Strahota	Date/time of meeting:	July 10, 2015, 12pm EDT		

Motions Passed:

1. None

Number of committee members present:	11	Absent:	n/a	Number of other delegates present:	0
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Jeff Roddin, Kim Crouch, Tom Boak, Barry Fasbender, Jack Groselle, Patty Nardozzi (Bid Ambassador), Jeff Strahota, Charlie Tupitza, Ed Saltzman, Pete Tarnapoll, Jim Clemmons					
Others in Attendance from Bidder: Rachel Bowman – Co Meet Director, Rick Walker – Co Meet Director and Head Coach of Sarasota Sharks, Nicole Rissler – Director Sarasota Sports Commission, Shelby Connett – Sales Manager Sports Commission					

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Introductions: Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

Purpose of the Meeting: Jeff explained the purpose of the call as an opportunity for committee members to ask questions that were left unexplained in the bid or that needed further explanation as well as for bidders to ask any questions that they might have.

Question/Answer Session:

Bid Dates: August 9-13, 2017 which are acceptable to Championship, alternate August 16-20

Pool Depth: start end 5' except for 50s, turn end 8' (start end for 50s). Depth would require that Championship Committee waive the 2 meter requirement (107.2.3.B).

Average Temperature: competition pool is outdoors, temperatures range from the high 80s to the mid 90s with high humidity. Pool temperature is 78-80 degrees F.

Lessons from Pan Ams: Rachel and Rick were key people for Pan Ams with support from the Sarasota YMCA and the Sports Commission. Similar but broader group will be available for this meet

Warm up: 6 lanes are available in the diving well which is adjacent to the competition pool; an additional 6 lanes are available indoors across the street a short walk from the competition pool. Currently, the public address system can be used to the building across the pool, but it does not operate in the pool area. They can investigate adding this option. Another option would be to have a volunteer stationed at the pool with communication from the competition area to notify swimmers about the progress of the meet, or perhaps display the live-video stream of the meet (would only need a computer with an Internet connection).

Officials: Ed Saltzman pointed out that the budget for Officials was \$4,000, he was concerned if this was enough. Comp rooms are built into the hotel blocks, the Meet Referee (Pat Baker) is local. The meet would require 12-24 Officials. Requirement – Travel and lodging for Meet Referee and Admin Referee, lodging for Head Judge and Starter, no requirement for Stroke and Turn.

WiFi: there is access to wifi for administrative purposes but not available for competitors. They are evaluating that option presently and intend to have it implemented by the end of 2015. They do not have a hard line connection at the pool but do have one in the sky box. They can use the connection for live streaming.

Parking: in front of pool 200, grass area 350, adjacent lot 100. They have had between 1800 and 2000 at previous meets and were able to accommodate everyone without off-site parking. Parking is free.

Gold Medal Sponsors: area west of flag pool, fabric walls all four sides with fans and air-conditioning.

Weather: In case of severe weather, where do competitors go? Gold Medal area for Officials/Admin but capacity is limited. Typically during red alert (severe weather, thunder and lightning), people go to the main building, teen center, locker rooms and cars. Typical weather pattern is for thunderstorms later in the afternoon. The five day format would shorten the days to hopefully avoid weather situations.

Shuttle: Sarasota offered a shuttle during Pan Ams and almost no one used it. They are not planning to offer a shuttle for this meet, but have a partner to provide shuttle service if necessary. There would be a charge for it if they do it.

There are three bidders for the meet – Houston (call held previously) Sarasota, and Minnesota (Call will be held later this month). Championship Committee will meet by conference call on August 2nd and hopefully make a decision. Bidders will be notified of the results on August 3rd or 4th. Winner is expected to attend the USAS Convention in Kansas City September 29th-October 4th and make a presentation to the House of Delegates.

The bidder left the call at 12:45 p.m. Eastern Time.

Summary/Analysis: Strengths of this bid include: Competition pool is excellent with 8 lanes and there are 12 warmup lanes. Host has run large meets. They have a great volunteer group. Five day meet—shorter days. Concerns include: Pool Depth at shallow end, the competition pool area can be very hot and humid this time of the year, thunder storms can cause a delay in the meet.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:06 p.m. Eastern Time.