

Committee Name:	Championship Interview Committee for Austin, TX	Session #:	1	Report #:	1
Committee Chair:	Jeff Roddin	Vice Chair:	Sandi Rousseau		
Minutes recorded by:	Sandi Rousseau	Date/time of meeting:	Fri, August 17, 2012		

Motions Passed:

1. None

Number of committee members present:	7	Absent:	n/a	Number of other delegates present:	0
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair):	Jeff Roddin, Sandi Rousseau, Tyler Blessing, Kim Crouch, Jack Groselle, Ed Saltzman, Lisa Watson				
Others in Attendance from Bidder:	Anne Nellis – Director of Longhorn Aquatics and Co-Meet Director; Jamie Lukeman – Assistant Director of Texas Swimming Center and Co-Meet Director; Whitney Hedgepeth – Coach of Longhorn Aquatics Masters; Charles Logan – Director of Texas Swimming Center; Herb Schwab – Texas Swimming Official and Meet Official; Ed Coates, South Texas LMSC Chair / Longhorn Aquatics Master Swimmer				

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM Pacific 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. It was explained that the Championship Committee now selects the host for each national championship meet. The committee has similar calls with all of the bidders and then has a full committee conference call to discuss the bids and then ultimately select the winning bidders.

Question/Answer Session:

Possible 2015 Consideration: Jeff explained the committee has the ability to award Nationals up to three years out (2015) and not just for 2014. Jeff asked Austin about their availability to host in 2014 vs. 2015. Austin said they really want to host another nationals and would be willing to host them in either 2014 or 2015.

Alternative Dates: Preferred dates are April 24-27, 2014 due to more student volunteers available that week, but they have some flexibility if dates needed to be changed.

Warm-up Lanes: The 25 yd x 25 yd dive well could be configured differently to get 11 or possibly 12 warm-up lanes. There are also options for orientation of the course depending on wanting no wall targets or off set wall targets.

Budget: A revised budget was just sent out with revised figures for USMS vendors.

Facility Upgrades: Since 2008, the ventilation system has been improved, plumbing system and locker showers upgraded and there are plans to have new starting blocks with foot chocks on both courses by the end of 2012.

Hy-tek: Planning to use

Changes Host Would Make From 2008: Shuttle would be reconfigured, hospitality is now located closer to the competition pool, UT parking passes may be bought on line for a discount, and there is a new hotel on campus (approximately three blocks from the pool).

Vendors: Would still be located in the same place with good visibility

Benefit to Masters: Masters would benefit via clinics and promotion of Masters swimming. There are now grants available from the Austin Sports Commission that could result in more profit to support Masters and other swimming programs.

Wifi: Available free to AT&T users and at a cost for others.

Officials: There was some struggle in 2008 to get enough officials but local officials are stepping up more since then.

Questions for Committee: General questions asked about entry process, registration on site, and logo design. General info was provided about changes since 2008 including meet program, on site distance check-in process, meet newsletters, logo design options, awards design options, video recap during nationals, live video feed possibilities, and meet info on google docs.

Summary/Analysis: It was noted that this was a very complete and well done bid. Strengths include: excellent history of hosting nationals with experienced meet staff, improvements in the facility since nationals in 2008, profits benefit the Masters group with possible grant monies available to them, and warm-up lanes could possibly be increased from 10 to 11 or 12 lanes. Weaknesses include: 16 lanes for competition and 10-12 warm-up lanes.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 AM Pacific Time

Note: Start Times: After the conference call, the interview committee realized that in 2008, there was a constraint on start time with the meet starting at 8:35 each morning. Jeff will e-mail the host to ask about this prior to Sunday's call.