

**Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**93rd NISCA National Conference, 2026**  
**Grand Rapids, MI**

**Audit Committee (Sunday 6/21, 9pm)**

**In Attendance:** Arvel McElroy (remote), Mark Jedow, Mark Onstott, Kyle Bedalov, Kris Jones

**Items Discussed:**

Concerns from Kris on diving costs and printing costs. He will work on getting more details with a PayPal integration into QuickBooks

3 past Presidents ask questions about transition (to QuickBooks) people, software, and procedures.

Kris recommends keeping two years of financials (Cash) available and move the rest to a money market account.

**Action Items:**

**Submitted By:** Kyle Bedalov

**Diving Committee (Tuesday 6/23, 7:30am)**

**In Attendance:** Don Mason (NISCA Diving Chair), Diane Hicks-Hughes (NY), Paul LaCroix (MI), Russ Ingold (KS), Arvel McElroy (KS), Randy Ferguson (MI),

**Items Discussed:**

The meeting convened at 10:35 a.m. Don acknowledged the judges who took time out of their schedules to re-judge more than 3000 dives over the three-day All America Selection meeting. He also praised CleanEntries and IST for their continued sponsorship and Dick Farnsworth for his dedicated support of the diving committee.

We discussed the new rule changes for the 2026-2027 season and proposals to submit for next season. Don reminded everyone that all diving applications have a fee (NISCA members \$25 first app, \$15 second app, non-members \$40 first app, \$20 second app). We had great discussion regarding the need to assist diving referees when an “unnecessary delay” occurs. This led to an interesting conversation regarding the use of time clocks in almost all sports. We all agreed that we should consider adopting the NCAA/World Aquatic language. The meeting concluded at 11:25 a.m.

**Action Items:**

**Submitted By:** Don Mason

Water Polo (did not meet)

Professional Awards (Tuesday 6/23,8:30am)

1. Overview of the Year - Tom
  - a. Membership has decreased with the loss of Peter and the stepping down of Tom W. and Tim S.
  - b. Tom will talk with Kyle Bedalov about adding one person, but thinks a smaller committee might be better.
  - c. Marney will be done after next year as well.
2. Nominee Resume Packets
  - a. Updated with resumes for this year's nominees. Only nominees on the list are up for consideration for this year.
  - b. Candidates without resumes or who do not have the requisite number of years of NISCA membership are listed on the second page.
3. Outstanding Service Award
  - a. Brad Jones, MI
  - b. Bob Winslow, ME
  - c. Dave Salmon, NY
  - d. Michael Rose, WI
  - e. Mike Doherty, CO
4. Collegiate Scholastic
  - a. Daine Hicks-Hughes, NY
5. Hall of Fame
  - a. Don Mason, MI
  - b. Richard Guyer, PA - passed away 2023
6. Other Awards:
  - a. Life Member
    - i. Arvel McElroy, KS
    - ii. Dana Abbott, TX
  - b. Honorary Member
    - i. No nominees at this time.
    - ii. We can do an email vote to approve someone if there is someone that comes to mind in the next month or two.
  - c. Excellence in Media
    - i. We do not have any nominations.

- ii. Nominations require a completion of a google form and includes a couple of samples.
- iii. Nomination made
  - 1. From David: Melvin Stewart, [Swimswam.com](http://Swimswam.com)
  - 2. From Mark: Mike Stott, VA, Swimming World Magazine (and our NISCA journal runs his articles)
  - 3. From David: Dana Abbott, TX (for future consideration)

**Rules Committee Meeting (did not meet)**

**Zone Directors (did not meet)**

**AA Chairs (Tuesday 6/23, 11am)**

**In Attendance:** Russ Ingold, Richard Bettencourt, Marney Shirley, Dick Farnsworth, Don Mason, Eve Julian, Mark Jedow, Mark Onstott

**Items Discussed:** Review of AA Chairs issues.

Swimming - finding results if the coaches aren't submitting links.

Diving - Fees need to go up. Everyone pays \$5 for each app. Late fees stay the same. Cost for the program was up about \$1000, income was down about \$700. We're still positive but not by much.

Academic - Step 6 where they have to click a check box to submit seems to be an issue. Can we have them print/submit on the same button? Also transcripts are an issue, they don't always send in what they need. Have a sheet they can print and give it to the registrar so they get what we need. 175 incomplete (no uploads). 24 incomplete with upload but didn't finish. Would like to suggest changing signatures. Parent or Athlete, AD or Principal or Coach, Registrar or Counselor, plus the official seal.

Electronic Signatures - no way to verify that the person is actually signing. Just may have to let it go. We can extend some deadlines, but there still needs a hard and fast deadline.

Scholar Team - going great. Allow the ability to put 2 pages up, in case they're taking a photo. Allow more than one page. Also, allow a bulk upload. Scholar team numbers are staying steady, but not close to the record. Educating more people.

Richard Bettencourt - it was a learning curve. Didn't get as many questions from coaches as expected. Para applications go through Mark. If he is CC'd, if it's a boys question he should go ahead and answer. Is there a way to put the adjustments to altitude on the website? Yes, add a PDF or a calculator with the information so they can see it before they put an app in. Show both the unadjusted and adjusted time for the altitude.

Water Polo - Sean Wimer. Make sure we're communicating with the Zone directors so we don't have a repeat of last year. Will also need to fill up with some apps that might have been missed.

Dick - Issues with the website (which Eve caused). Reviewed the process for getting stuff updated.

Paypal - looking at modernizing how we're doing that and updating to the new RestAPI, which might give us more capabilities in real time. Also may make it easier to catch the ones that aren't coming back and updating correctly. Each system can be converted individually. We'll start with membership. Will work with Kris Jones to make things easier on the back end as well.

Looking at a way to do an automatic backup on the AA data daily, and then maybe hourly on the deadline days.

Adam Gibson has made some cosmetic changes to the app pages so they can more easily do it on their phone. Membership was done, but all the systems are getting conversions from dot net 7 to 8.1 and adding Adams changes. Working on AA Swimming now. Will work through all the programs and have them ready for November.

**Action Items:** Secure the website. Update DotNet to latest version and PayPal to latest version.

**Submitted By:** Eve Julian

### **Coaches Education (Tuesday 6/23, 10am)**

**In Attendance:** Brian Hillary, Bob Sprunger, Russ Ingold, Richard Bettencourt, Dennis Neat, Ross Campbell, Eve Julian, Arvel McElroy.

**Items Discussed:** Where do you get your information? YouTube, Go Swim meetings on Tuesday with Glenn Mills, register but it's free. Other coaches. Books -

Older coaches - MISCA clinic, coaches panel, talking to other coaches. Clinics are great for camaraderie and getting new ideas. Social Media. Central States Swim Clinics, YouTube, USA Swimming. Building a network, talking to people. Bolles social media.

What did you wish you knew about high school coaching? More about NISCA as a basis of support. Knowing the dynamic of dealing with high school only vs. club swimmers and their parents. Understanding the dynamics of how the season evolves and the schedule. Coaching kids from different clubs/schools and communicating with those coaches and figuring out where they are and how to get them where they need to be for high school.

Where do you find the support? Previous coaches who became mentors. Ask the kids that have a lot of swimming experience.

How do we reach new coaches better? Website and social media. YouTube and Instagram. Physical recognition (banners on the wall), State Meet representatives talking about AA and local coach

organizations, although that doesn't reach the coaches that don't get to State Meet. Sending information to the ADs.

Do you know about the website and educational opportunities? Mostly on the website for AA information. Need to drive more people to the website for education as well.

Book club for coaches?

3rd monday of the month, zoom discussion on a topic, no more than 30 minutes. Would coaches participate? Maybe. Depends on the night and whether we're in season or not.

Arvel has written a coaches certification program, we're ready to revise it. It's a 5 level program similar to ASCA. Leadership is to help coaches to train their staff or athletes. Maybe some coaches would be interested in that. That would create more validation with administrators to see us as "professionals".

Outreach clinics for areas that there isn't a coaches association or they haven't had a clinic in a while.

How can we help you guys be better? Start posting links to the forms for coaches and other education materials. Do more social media posting with reminders. Text message service? TikTok dance?

Eblast - add a hey did you know section for stuff from the website.

Podcasts - training for early season, end of the season: taper, mindset, mental toughness. Possible topic for early season - what do we need to think about to get started? The transition from club to HS and how do we handle the transition. How do we work with club coaches? How to work with parent groups. How to get parents involved? How do we educate the parents to help? How do we find parents to help?

Providing some lists of great resources for communication. How do we communicate, when do we communicate, etc. Using Remind, parent square, etc. How we communicate and when. What types of communication are appropriate and what is not. Make sure the parents know.

Communication successes and pitfalls - topic for a webinar.

How do we do knowledge transfer for parents?

List of acronyms for all of the organizations and links to the home pages. And which ones are important to be a part of and why. ASCA, MISCA, NISCA, NFHS, NHSCA, USAS, ISCA.

**Action Items:**

**Submitted By:** Eve Julian

