

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Championships Conference Call: Texas A+M 2021 USMS SCY Nationals Bid		
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Jim Clemmons	<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Erin Moro
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Cheryl Kupan	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	July 8, 2019 2:00pm EST

**Motions Passed:**

None.

**Motion(s) Not Passed:**

None.

**Number of Board & Committee members present:** 13

**Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair):** Jim Clemmons, Erin Moro, Barry Fasbender, Peter Guadagni, Ken Halbrecht, Linda Irish Bostic, Cheryl Kupan, Sandy Rousseau, Ed Saltzman, Jeff Strahota, Pete Tarnapoll, Natalie Taylor and Charlie Tupitza

**Number of the Texas A+M Bidding group present:** 4

Courtney Fegter – President, Organizing Committee, Henry Clark – Meet Director, Carl John (aka CJ) Stancheski - Aquatics Director and Carlos Garcia – didn't get his title, works with CJ

**Number of the USMS Employees present:** 2

Jay Eckert and Onshalee Promchitmart

**MINUTES:**

- 1) WELCOME & MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** (Jim Clemmons): The meeting was called to order at 2:05pm EST.
- 2) ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS:** (Jim Clemmons)  
[All participants are listed above]. Jim: Thank you all for being on the call. Courtney, this is the time for you and your group to sell us on your facility to host the 2021 USMS Spring Nationals. The Championships Committee will then have an opportunity to ask you questions and you will have the opportunity to ask us questions.
- 3) TEXAS A+M BID SUMMARY:** (Courtney Fegter)  
Thank you all for being on the call. Just to give you an overview, Bryan-College Station, TX has a population of 250,000 situated in the middle of what we call the Texas Triangle located in the middle of Austin, Dallas and Houston. Drive times: 1.5 hours from Austin & Houston and <3 hours to Dallas and San Antonio. We are looking into discounts for shuttle services from these major airports, especially for those who don't want to rent a car as once you're in Bryan-College Station, hotels and restaurants are within 1-2 miles of the pool. We'll also have shuttle services from some of the hotels to the pool.



Pool/Venue: (Carlos & CJ)

We have a 50 meter pool with 2 moveable bulkheads for 16 lanes, 2 pools of 8 lanes. We have 3 scoreboards where all 16 lanes will be visible. For warm up pools, there's an 8 lane short course meter pool in the diving well, an outdoor 6 lane short course yards pool and an indoor instructional pool.

The locker rooms are being expanded.

Volunteers: we utilize our swim clubs as well as over 1000 active participants/volunteers in our database.

Meet Director: Henry Clark

I have over 20 years of experience as a meet director (see the list in the bid of major meets held at the facility). Our Head Referee will be Herb Schwab who has been around for many years. We will be able to source officials from Gulf Swimming, Northern Texas and Southern Texas. Will be able to rotate at least 40 officials through the course of the meet.

**4) CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE Q+A FOR BIDDER**

I'd like to open up the Q+A session for the Championships Committee to ask questions.

Cheryl Kupan

Q: You mentioned an "expansion." When will this start & end and what improvements are being made?

A: The expansion will start this October 2019 and be completed July 2020.

There will be a new "gathering" area as well as expanding the locker rooms.

Erin Moro

Q: For USMS Nationals there is a minimum of 10 lanes for warm up/warm down. If you use the other pools, what will this do to your budget and will we be guaranteed those lanes?

A: The use of the other pools is not in the budget and we don't see that it would add anything to the budget. If the other pools are needed to win the bid, we will guarantee the pool space.

For a recent USA Jr Meet, we had 1200 swimmers and used 14 lanes for warm up/warm down using the diving well and the outdoor pool.

Sandy Rousseau

Q: If the meet comes in at the lower number on your budget, are you willing to host the meet without making a profit? And, will any of the profits go to any Masters' teams in the area?

A: We hope to make a profit, but if we don't, the Visitor's Bureau will cover any shortfall, so we're committed to host. As far as the profit split, it's currently going to be split to 3 organizations: Aggie Swim Club, Texas A+M team and College Station. We do have about 30 Masters swimmers part of the Aggie Swim Club, so they will benefit from it.

Barry Fasbender

Q: For the Outdoor pool/area – is there a way to communicate to the swimmers which event, heats are in the pool?

A: We can certainly bring in speakers or displays with a feed from the main/indoor pool.

Q: The Rec Center Concessions – I see a Smoothie King on the map; are there other vendors?

A: Smoothie King is the only vendor. We will be utilizing the catering office from the nearby Texas A+M Hotel & Conference Center. We'll also have some food trucks in an area in the front of the building.

4) CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE Q+A FOR BIDDER (continued)

Barry Fasbender

Q: What is the plan for Hospitality? Are there separate areas for swimmers who purchase the VIP passes vs. swimmers who don't? Will the Officials/Volunteers be part of the VIP area or separate?

A: The food is controlled through the University and the Texas A+M Hotel & Conference center that is close to the pool. We're targeting \$70 for a VIP pass for the swimmers. Will probably have a separate area for the Officials and Volunteers or however you want it to be set up. There are a few different places to set this up. There's an area in the Rec Center, Room 281 where we can combine the VIP & officials/Volunteers and we can set up screens to watch the events at the pool.

Ken Halbrecht

Q: Nationals numbers have been higher the last few years, so the 1,800 swimmers is doable. Is there a maximum #/cap of how many swimmers the facility can accommodate?

A: We've never had a problem with too many swimmers. There are 1,200 seats in the spectator area, there is room for 800 on the pool deck, 100+ in the "carpeted" area, 100+ in the "lounge" area and if need be, we can tent an area outside for more seating.

Ed Saltzman

Q: What is your plan for the Sponsor's/Vendor's Village?

A: How many do you typically have at Nationals?

Jay Eckert A: We have around 15-16 vendors/sponsors and would like to have them with close proximity to pool.

Jay Eckert

Q: I now have the facility map in front of me and wanted to see the areas you would consider for the sponsors/vendors.

A: Possible areas:

- 1) Outdoor "backyard" by the basketball courts
- 2) Indoor – The Strength & Conditioning room right next to the pool
- 3) Outdoor – Terrace area
- 4) Indoor – Courts 8+10



4) CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE Q+A FOR BIDDER (continued)

Peter Tarnapoll

Q: Airports: What are the major airports and approximate distance/drive to Texas A+M? And, are there any local airports in Bryan-College Station?

A: Houston is the closest at ~1 hour drive, Austin is about 1.5 hours and Dallas is <3 hours.

There is a local airport, Easterwood Airport. United has a flight from IAH and American has a flight from Dallas.



Cheryl Kupan

Q: Where & how much parking is near the pool? And, will school still be in session or are the students on break; how will this affect the parking depending on whether or not school is in session?

A: Students will still be on campus. There are several lots with close proximity to the pool. There's a large parking lot on the west campus at the Rec Center, there's a covered parking garage at the Basketball Area. Parking passes for the week I think are around \$20.

Jay Eckert

Q: Do you have restrictions on vendors – who can sell/can't sell per the University?

A: We would have to check on that.

Jay Eckert

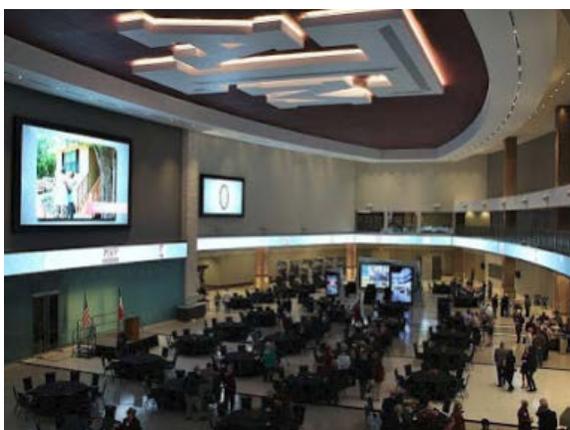
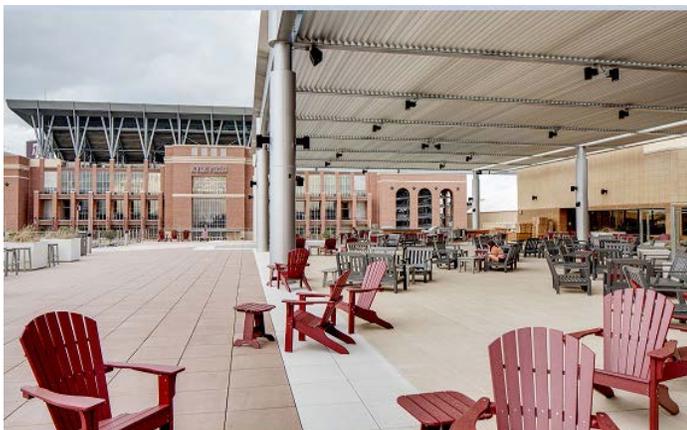
Q: Scoreboards: you mentioned you have 3 scoreboards. Is it possible to use 1 during warm ups to play a video wrap?

A: Yes

Jay Eckert

Q: Social: Where are you planning on having the social?

A: Onsite at the Outside Terrace overlooking Kyle Field (Football stadium). It will be on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Heavy Hors d-oeuvres and full bar at \$20/person. Back up location @ Kyle Stadium at the Hall of Champions (if the weather doesn't cooperate)



**4) CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE Q+A FOR BIDDER (continued)**

Jay Eckert

Sponsors – special placement

1) Q: Toyota – is there an area where they can park their vehicles?

A: Yes: at the front of the building – we do this all the time.

Front of Rec Center



2) Q: Golden Road Brewing: is there an area for a beer garden? Can they serve their beer on campus or special permit? Any restriction having alcohol on campus?

A: Would have to work with the university for approval for a beer garden & for the sponsor to serve their beer vs. if University has a contract any other vendors. There are areas to have one in the upstairs/VIP area, the Hall of Champions

Jim Clemmons

Q: Are there areas of the locker rooms for day locker use?

A: There are 4 areas for day use with mid- to large- size lockers.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55pm

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ATTACHMENT(S):

✓ Texas A+M pictures of the venues