

Committee Name:	Championship Committee (Interview with SPIRE Institute)	Session #:	1	Report #:	1
Committee Chair:	Jeff Roddin	Vice Chair:			Kim Crouch
Minutes recorded by:	Pete Tarnapoll	Date/time of meeting:			July 19, 2017 11am EDT

Motions Passed:

1. None

Number of committee members present:	10	Absent:	n/a	Number of other delegates present:	0
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Jeff Roddin, Kim Crouch, Jay Eckert (USMS Staff), Casey Keiber (USMS Staff), Jim Clemmons, Don Gilchrist, , Erin Moro, Sandi Rousseau, Ed Saltzman, Pete Tarnapoll					
In Attendance from Bidder: Josh Ptak, SPIRE Meet Director/Aquatic Facilities Director; Jeff Orloff SPIRE COO; SPIRE Aquatics Director; Mike Mulhall, Greater Cleveland Sports Commission; Monica Guston, Cleveland Sports Commission					

Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 11am EDT.

Introductions: Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

Purpose of the Meeting: Jeff Roddin thanked the SPIRE bid team for submitting its bid and demonstrating a continued interest in supporting U.S Masters Swimming. Jeff also explained there are five bidders for summer nationals and there will be a Championship Committee-wide conference call this Sunday. If there is enough information and no further questions, the Committee may make a decision for Summer Nationals for 2019 and, perhaps, 2020 then. The winner for 2019 would be invited to come to USAS convention September 14-16 in Dallas but attendance would not be required. Jeff also commented that USMS believes SPIRE did a stellar job with Summer Nationals in 2015.

Discussion / Q&A:

Jeff Roddin:

- Commented that in its bid packet SPIRE indicated a 4-day meet format, which could be done effectively with SPIRE's 10-lane pool. However, Summer Nationals are often a 5-day format. Could SPIRE accommodate that, if requested? SPIRE: we will do what's best for the committee and the event and can do either a 4- or 5-day format.
- Commented that relay entry fees were \$12 in SPIRE's budget, but will be moving to \$16 in the future to accommodate online entries. That said, with online fees the host would still net more than the \$12 outlined.
- Jeff asked if there are any dates that USMS should stay away from if SPIRE was awarded the bid in 2019. SPIRE indicated that time of the year is wide open, but suggested USMS stay away from MLB All-Star Game (early July in Cleveland) or USA Triathlon Age Group Nationals.

Ed Saltzman:

- Has anything changed in the immediate area around SPIRE? Hope to have 2-3 new hotels in the area by 2019 or 2020. Additionally, in downtown Cleveland and adjacent areas there are additional new hotel rooms, constructed since SPIRE hosted previously, including: Hilton, Drury, Aloft, Metropolitan at the Nine, Krypton and Geneva on the Lake cottages. SPIRE commented that it recently hosted the NCAA DIII outdoor track and field championships with no complaints about housing and did a really good job of making sure folks got into properties close to SPIRE.

Sandi Rousseau:

- In the bid, Medical was quoted at \$4,000, which is low compared to past Nationals. SPIRE commented that it has a larger relationship with the Cleveland Clinic, which affords it beneficial pricing for Medical services. Also, key learning from 2015 by SPIRE was that parking at \$10/day might have been too much and that it would consider \$5/day if awarded in the future. Additional learning from '15 included was SPIRE would make sure to keep up with flow and timing of event with the understanding they want to make it more than just a swim meet, but also a destination location. Lastly, SPIRE would be interested in 2019 and/or 2020.

Jay Eckert:

- Asked if vendors could be placed in a location that was more readily accessible to swimmers than where they were located in 2015. SPIRE said it would do what's best for vendors and can be moved anywhere we feel would benefit them more. The facility has ample space on deck, up in the bleachers (where awards were last time), by the cafeteria, etc.
- Jay also asked if sponsor Endless Pool could be accommodated with the building of a temporary pool and SPIRE acknowledged that it had plenty of space for doing so (10' x 10' pool).

Erin Moro:

- Asked if warm down lanes are still in the same pool as they were in 2015 and if the therapeutic pools were also available. SPIRE said the therapy pools are not for warm downs, so it only the same 6 lanes.

Follow Ups:

- Consider SPIRE to be a solid bid and will be in touch with news of which bid has won an award or more questions.
- The Championship Committee has similar calls with all of the bidders and then has a full committee conference call to discuss the bids and ultimately select the winning bid(s), which is scheduled for this Sunday. It is expected that Jeff will contact all bidders shortly the week thereafter.
- The bidder left the call at 11:27am EDT.