

Hello all,

Here is an update as to how the LESI-OSI merger discussions have been going and what are the future plans. First, I would like to remind everyone about the Vision of why this is being discussed:

- **LSC Unification** - combine resources and expertise to deliver high quality services, programming & support throughout Ohio under a single consolidated LSC.
- **Enhanced Competition** - improve the competition position & experience by adding quality venues; offering higher levels of competition by bringing all Ohio athletes together.
- **Strengthen Operational Efficiencies/Strengthen Financial Position** - maximizing results through minimizing costly duplications.
- **Improve Member retention/attract new families** - the merger will re-energize the base as we strategically plan for long term future successes.

So, what has been happening?

The LESI Board has had a monthly meeting with the OSI Board in January and February where we have identified our similarities and differences and made contact between our Board members to begin discussions on how to potentially resolve our differences. In January, we also hosted three virtual Town Hall meetings for LESI members to voice their thoughts/opinions and those ideas have been passed along to the appropriate groups to find answers moving forward. All of the Board Chairs/Committee Chairs have met and started the process of resolving differences. This includes Athletes, Finance, Senior, Age Group, Technical Planning, Officials, Permanent Offices, Treasurers and Coach Representatives. There have not been a lot of concrete answers to put out to everyone just yet, but when those ideas come to fruition we will make sure to communicate them to our members. The LESI Board of Directors voted in the February meeting to continue these discussions and to have a proposal to the House of Delegates after more answers have been determined. Any proposal made to the House of Delegates will be published at least 30 days in advance of the meeting and would require a majority vote (50% plus 1) from both LSCs. Our Spring House of Delegates is scheduled for April 28th.

What is happening next?

March 16th we will be having an in-person meeting between LESI and OSI Board Members to discuss a few of the most common questions and try to come up with resolutions that we both feel comfortable are best for our memberships. There is another meeting scheduled between our Board of Directors on April 21st. The plan is to hold another LESI Town Hall meeting with updated information and to provide more opportunity for feedback from our membership when it is appropriate.

Thank you,
Vince Colwell
LESI General Chair