

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

PRESENT: John McIlhargy, Mary Fleckenstein, Monique Grayson, John Yearwood, Eric Fisher, Scott Draper, Dave Ferris, Emily Sullivan and George Rhein.

EXCUSED PRIOR: Robert Frawley, Matt Keane and Julie Chen

ABSENT: Brian Hansbury, David Ellinghaus, Andy Copley, John Collins, Tommy Luchsinger and Edgar Perez

1. **WELCOME/ROLL CALL:** John "Mac" McIlhargy welcomed everyone present and called the meeting to order at 6:50pm at the H2M Melville Office, BroadHollow Rd in Melville, Long Island
2. **ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:**
We did not have a quorum at the meeting so the minutes of November 16, 2016 could not be approved.
3. **GENERAL CHAIR:** John McIlhargy
 - a. **Welcome Emerson Michael Copley!** Congratulations to Andy and his wife!
 - b. **Happy New Year to All** – Lots of issues in 2016 as many Members of the Board lost loved ones over the year.
 - c. **Absences at Meetings** – last minutes cancellations are not considered as excused absences. All BOD meetings are scheduled almost a year in advance.
 - d. **Strategic Planning** – Meeting Scheduled for the 28th may be moved to February 4th – Mac will contact the members of that committee.
 - e. **New Year's Planning Reports** – need ideas, options to present to all on the Strategic Planning Committee.
 - f. **2017 Senior Metropolitan Championships** – After speaking to USA Swimming, we will be following the National format and going back to scoring A & B finals only. C & D Bonus finals will be non-scoring heats limited to 18-under swimmers only. Meet info is posted on the web site.
 - g. **New York Build & Program a Pool Conference** – Friday, June 16, 2017 at 7:30am to Saturday, June 17, 2017 at 4:30pm at Long Island Marriott – organized by USA Swimming.
 - h. **Couple Phone Meetings with Mighty Mega Group - CA-PC-IL-IN-PV-MR-MI-FL** – Sharing information (of those LSC's – Mac is the only non CEO on the conference calls
 - i. **2017 Age Group Think Tank** – Saturday, January 21 at 10am – Topics will be "*Improving Summer JO's*", "*8-Under Championships*" and "*Winter Championship Meet*". USA Swimming is very concerned about age group swim meets and how to make them more fun, more accessible, especially for 12-under swimmers. Example: 2-hour sessions, specific stroke only (freestyle frenzy), IMR/IMX meets, anything to make it more interesting and fun; instead of two 4-hour sessions, do three 2-hour sessions (mixing ages differently etc.).
 - j. **Chuck Wielgus** - who joined USA-Swimming as Executive Director in July 1997, officially announced his retirement for the end of August 2017 (after more than 20 years guiding USA-S to unparalleled

achievement within the Olympic movement). We all wish him well.

- k. **Policies and Procedures Update** – we absolutely need to finalize the Manual as soon as possible. They have not been updated for a long time! All the By-Law issues in P&P Manual must be removed – P&P have to do with the Wet side of swimming while the By-Laws deal with the Dry side.

4. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** George Rhein

- a. Hard copies of George’s reports were available to all at the meeting:
- b. George went over the **Balance Sheet** (as of January 11, 2017) – Assets & Liability and Equity.
- c. **Profit and Loss** (September 1, 2016 – January 11, 2017) was also available for review.
- d. **Budget to Actual** (January 1, 2017)

5. **FINANCE VICE-CHAIR REPORT:** Julie Chen

- a. Julie was in Taiwan to take care of family matters. Her 32-pages report had been emailed to all.
- b. Metro still requests 2 signatures for all checks issued by the Office.
- c. Mac will schedule a meeting between Julie, George, Office Manager (Mary), and Mac.
- d. One of the top priority issues is to have an external audit. Mac would like Julie to be in charge of this. Long discussion followed on the subject.
- e. Julie also wants to review the investments.

6. **ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIRS:** Eric Fisher and Scott Draper

- a. Len Galluzzi Scholarship – we probably should set up a separate account for donations to this new scholarship. Mary explained to all how the Joe Stetz Scholarship line item is set up in Quick Book.
- b. Donations to the Len Galluzzi Fund should be sent to the office and made payable to Len Galluzzi Scholarship Fund and Metropolitan Swimming.
- c. Meet reports are coming in and the online forms are a real help as almost all reports are being emailed and fees are charged on credit cards. Mary added that because more and more people and teams are paying with credit cards, MR is taking a hit on the fees so most LSC’s tax an added fee for CC payments (2.5 to 3%) – Fees will need to be adjusted due to CC fees (especially for meets on OME). Discussion followed on this. We may need to add a “*Service Fee*”. Another way would be to pay through PayPal.

7. **SENIOR CO-CHAIRS:** John Collins and Dave Ferris

- a. John Collins was unable to attend the meeting.
- b. Dave is asking for a separate category for Top Times on the web site- LSC’s TOP 16 OPEN. This can be done by going through the SWIMS Database (at this time, our Top 25 come from Team Manager so that all 25’s for 8-under swimmers are included). TOP 25 for Age Group should really go down to Top 16 (not top 25).
- c. Records for 15-16 Metro Swimmers – we never kept those records – an email will be sent to Dom Boccio and Gerri Stepanek who volunteered to help on the Records.
- d. Senior Mets – ways to make it a real “Shave/Taper Meet” in Metro. May be needed to be held at a different time so teams would attend ready to swim! Dave and John would love to hear from coaches about ways to make Senior Mets more attractive to all. December is hard because teams love to do travel out of LSC to a taper/shave meet at that time. Long discussion followed.
- e. Coaches need to pump up their swimmers when they go to meets ... Lets all try to beat such or such team! This works!!! If we tried to have Metro’s fastest swimmers compete together at a meet, it would be a GREAT and FAST meet!!! But how to do that???
- f. Discussion on when teams attend shaved ‘tapered meets! In addition, teams love to go to away

meets!!!

- g. Mac added that Janet Evans Invitational is open for a taker ... does Metro want to take it over?
8. **AGE GROUP CO-CHAIRS:** Andrew Copley
- Andrew was unable to attend the meeting.
 - See # 3.i above for info.
9. **ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVES:** Emily Sullivan
- Matt Keane, Robert Frawley and Tommy Luchsinger were unable to attend the meeting.
 - Application form for the new Junior Athlete Representative is available on the Metro Web site. All applications are due no later than February 10, 2017 – it should be sent to Emily and matt but also to the Administrative Vice Chairs.
 - Reminders to the athletes to make sure the suits they wear at competitions are approved by USA-S.
10. **OFFICIALS:** Mark Amodio
- Mark was not in attendance at this meeting.
 - There are 7 meets being held the weekend of January 13-16 – Lots of officials are needed to have a full staff at all meets!
11. **NATIONAL TIMES VERIFICATION /TOP 10:** Monique Grayson
- Not much at this time.
 - High school sections are sending their Requests for Observation (Form B) which **MUST** be received at least 10-15 days **BEFORE** the meet!
12. **COACHES CHAIR:** John Yearwood
- Need a Think Tank to talk about our Senior Championships
 - Many coaches wants to be more involved
 - The Board positions should be cultivating their committees and add new board members but they need to understand that there will be work to do!
 - Coach of the Year Voting** – most of the time it's a popularity contest!!!! All votes should be going to a neutral email address (like for the athletes).
 - We need to do something different like "***Coach of a 1st time National Swimmer***" or "***Young Age Group Coach***" and/or change the criteria for the nominations!
 - Recognition – Gold Medal (Bronze or Silver Clubs) – Record breakers
 - WE NEED TO RECOGNIZE and REWARD EXCELLENCE IN METRO!!!** VCC – Gold Medal Clubs - etc
 - Metro Record Breakers are now posted on the man page of the web Site!
13. **TECHNICAL PLANNING:** David Ellinghaus
- David was unable to attend the meeting!
 - The Long Course Season Bid Information went out and is up on the website!
 - Andy Copley is looking into having Summer JO's going Trials/Finals
14. **OFFICE MANAGER:** Mary Fleckenstein
- Registration numbers are up from last year at this time. Officials/other reflect moving many admin. officials to the official category this year.
- | <u>Registration ending 2016</u> | <u>Registration as of January 11, 2017</u> |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 11,125 athletes | 10,441 athletes |
| 131 other non-athlete | 85 other non-athletes |
| 663 coaches | 556 coaches |

385 officials	366 officials
Total 12,354 registered members	11,376 registered members
91 registered clubs	85 registered clubs/organizations

- b. Clubs numbers are down due to several reasons – 4 clubs combined into 2. A few clubs were planning to be combined, which did not happen. They are in the process of getting the club applications in now. There are several college teams that have not yet renewed.
- c. **Coaches still not getting their certifications in on time.** They receive an email generated by USA Swimming reminding them they have 30 days. Many calls and emails the day/night before or during a meet. Not sure how to make it any clearer to coaches that if a certification is expired they can **NOT** be on a pool deck in any capacity. Also, Clubs/Coaches not using their club portals to see what is needed. Deck Pass is also available to coaches to see their certifications. Should not need to call the office and ask “What do my coaches need”
- d. Also, **officials/meet directors not checking credentials on deck.** Coaches with expired certifications are allowed on deck. Referees and meet directors are not allowed to accept an updated certification if the coaches card is expired. The coach must submit to the office and the certification must be entered in the database. DECK PASS is live – if it is not on deck pass it has not been entered. Coaches can also print a temporary card from deck pass. There are no excuses for coaches not to have proof of membership and certification. **This is a huge liability for Metropolitan Swimming AND the Host Team.**
- e. Reminder that we no longer print official’s cards – they must print their certification card from OTS and deck pass on the computer. Meet personnel are reminded that deck pass on the phone is acceptable form of proof of membership – as long as it is live!
- f. Reminder that Coaches Safety Training online certificate must be submitted with a current approved lifeguard certificate or a skills sheet.
- g. Recons – getting a little better but still need to work on having teams update and rebuild ID#’s. They need to let any meet director know when something has been updated or it will appear on next meet. Legal names must be used. If you send a change for a spelling of a name of a registered swimmer – just email the info, otherwise it creates a new swimmer!!!
- h. Clubs responded well to the addition of drone statement to meet announcements – waiting on only a few updates at this time
- i. Website has had no major issues. Peter has done a great job getting things posted in a timely manner.
- j. It would be helpful when emails go out that responses are sent. Even if there are no objections – an acknowledgment is good.
- k. New York City Parks – conference call set up in February – METRO, NYCP and USA Swimming – long talk about this subject

15. **OLD BUSINESS:**

No Old Business that was not mentioned before during the meeting.

16. **NEW BUSINESS:**

No New Business at this time!

Next BOD Meeting – Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 6:30pm at Lehman College APEX.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved by all. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by Monique Grayson
January 22, 2017