

# METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, June 6, 2012

**PRESENT:** Bob Vializ, Mary Fleckenstein, Corinne Cody, Monique Grayson, Marc Danin, David Ellinghaus, Denise Byrne, Amine Boubsis, Bruce Brooks and Dave Ferris.

**EXCUSED/ABSENT:** Julian Mackrel, Nicole Papsco, Edgar Perez, John Yearwood, and Rich Finkelstein. Colleen Driscoll, Rob Ripp, Ray Willie, George Rhein, and Don Wagner

1. **WELCOME:** Marc Danin called the meeting to order at 6:18pm at Lehman College APEX.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mary Fleckenstein made a motion to approve the minutes of the BOD of March 16, 2012. Bruce Brooks seconded the motion which was approved by all members in attendance. Minutes approved as published.
3. **GENERAL CHAIR:** Marc Danin
  - A. USA Swimming Convention – Greensboro, NC – September 11-16, 2012 (meetings start on September 12th). Members of the Board that will attend this year’s convention were asked to email their birth date, full official name, dates of travel and flights information to Mary as soon as possible. As of now, Marc Danin, Denise Byrne, Amine Boubsis, Monique Grayson, Mary Fleckenstein, and Dave Ferris will attend. Age Group chairs, Senior Chair and athletes were not at the meeting. They need to let Mary know of their intentions as soon as possible. All attendees need to remember that they must attend all of the Eastern Zone meetings as well as the House of Delegates (in addition to their other meetings).
  - B. Safety Position on the Board – Marc Danin will appoint a new Safety Chair as soon as possible (Marc had to resign as he is now the General Chair).
  - C. Hall of Fame Chair - Steve Newman resigned from his position as Chair of the Hall of Fame committee. A motion was made and seconded to appoint Mary Fleckenstein and Monique Grayson as the new Co-Chairs. All were in favor. **Motion carries.** A long discussion followed regarding the permanent physical site of the HOF and the amount of money that Metro would have to pay to start and maintain such a site. We will talk to Marty at Lehman again, but also start looking at other possibilities as well There may be more interest in a physical site that a virtual site. A decision about this was tabled until all possibilities and sites are investigated.
4. **TREASURER:** Corinne Cody
  - A. The Budget report as of 6/5/12 was available for all to review. We still have a surplus at this time.
  - B. Corinne and the Age Group Chairs reviewed the cost per athlete for the 2012 LC Zones in Richmond, VA. It will be the same as in 2011 - \$560 for swimmers 11 & Over - \$250 for swimmers 10 & Under.
  - C. Signatures on the Bank account must be updated. Corinne will let Monique know what needs to be done.
  - D. There may be a need to redesign the Joe Stetz Officials Scholarship procedures. There should also be better communication between the Scholarship Committee and the Board of Directors. A member of the Executive Committee should be included in the Scholarship Committee. There must be guidelines about who is invited and who pays to attend the Metropolitan Swimming Hall of Fame dinner.

- E. Update of the Metro Travel Policy - Mileage will be reimbursed at the **federal rate**. Tolls and Parking may be added. . A draft of the proposed updates will be posted on the web site 30 days prior to HOD meeting
- F. For Convention, please note that only the designated Metro Board members, athletes and National Committee Chairs are in the budget to be funded by Metro (BOD minutes Feb. 26, 2011). As a reminder, members attending the Convention must attend all of the Eastern Zone meetings as well as the House of Delegates (in addition to other meetings on their schedule). Each member attending is expected to be accountable and to give a report after Convention.
- G. Daily meal allowance – the per diem rate is to be the same as the standard rate set by USA Swimming.
- H. Board members and Age Group Chairs traveling to the Zone Meets should travel with the team on the team buses whenever possible. The Age Group Chairs, or a designated person acting as Zone Team Manager, will have their travel expenses reimbursed if they must travel ahead of time. Travel reimbursement for Metro meets must be approved ahead of time by the specific Chairs (Senior, Age Group, etc.).
- I. Reminder that Metro will only reimburse Officials for their initial background check expenses.

**5. ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR:** Denise Byrne

- A. Late meet report penalty. As per the HOD of September 26, 2009: *“Reports must be received on time, within 14 days after the meet, or the club loses the 20% exemption for their own meet entries’ surcharge. We will accept the postmark date! If some clubs can’t get the check with their report, they can add an explanation and a voucher”*. Question: what happens if it is an Invitational Meet where the team must pay the 20% surcharge on their own entries anyway. What would the penalty be then? A written notification must be mailed to teams that are late with their reports. If the report is not in within the next 10 days, the team will be sent to Review. Suggestion that we may need to change the period for submitting the reports to 3 weeks instead of 14 days.
- B. Discussion on the responsibilities of the Board of Directors which acts on behalf of the House of Delegates in between meetings. Members of the House of Delegates are also responsible for reading the minutes and stay informed about news, rules, updates and reports from the Board of Directors meetings.

**6. TECHNICAL PLANNING:** David Ellinghaus

- A. The Age Group Invitational is now the “Bronze Championship” with times 1/100 slower than Silvers. Some events were not previously offered at the Age Group meets but are offered at both Silvers and JO’s. David Ellinghaus recommends that the following events be added in the Bronze Championship: 500 free for 9-10; 200 back, 200 breast, 200 fly and 400 IM for 11-12. NT (no time) would not be permitted and swimmers must have a valid time in SWIMS to be allowed to compete in all events. David also recommends that the 500 free for 9-10 and the 400 IM for 11-12 be “heat limited events”. We will request the Age Group Chairs to look into this. The number of heats may be set depending on the timeline and on the pool being used for the Bronze Championships (6, 8 or 10 lanes).
- B. Quadrennial Plan for Metropolitan Swimming: it would be great if Age Group and Senior would come up with some goals for the next 4 years (example: How many Zone Meets can we win or how many OT Qualifiers can we have). Neither Age Group or Senior chairs were at the meeting.
- C. We have money in the budget for Coaches Clinics and it would be great if Metro would sponsor more Coaches Clinics. We could invite one “name” Age Group coach and/or on “name” Senior Coach to come and speak to the Metro Coaches. Maybe even get together with New Jersey and Connecticut. It is so worthwhile and it would benefit all coaches. Coaches, Age Group and Senior Chairs should work together to organize this.
- D. We need all Committees in Metro to give reports of their meetings. We also need to recruit more people to be involved in the committees!

7. **SENIOR VICE CHAIR:** Don Wagner

Don was not in attendance at the meeting.

8. **ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVES:** Julian Mackrel and Nicole Papsco

Neither Julian or Nicole were able to attend the meeting due to school commitments.

9. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Zone Team Coaches:

- a. Some coaches don't want to go to Zones as a coach anymore because they are not really allowed to speak to their own "club" swimmers if their age group is assigned to a different coach at Zones. The Board discussed that coaches will continue to be assigned an age group to work with/focus on a Zones. However, coaches should feel free to speak with their Club swimmers before and after races as they know their swimmers the best.
- b. Age Group Chairs must work together with the Zone Coaches to make sure that relay swimmers are chosen objectively. Coaches can start with the times from the Metro database but also need to be flexible and make the final decision about the relays at the Zone meet based on the way the swimmers actually swim at Zones. This has to go back to Age Group.

B. Coach of the Year Awards – criteria, timeline and procedures for selection must be reviewed.

C. Yearly "Statement of Principles" need to be signed by all Board members.

D. Splash fees for Trials and Finals also need to be raised by \$1 starting this September. This was not in the Minutes of the September 24, 2011 HOD. Trials/Finals for the short course season will now be set at \$5 per event; Trials/Finals for the long course season will be raised to \$6 per event starting in September of 2012.

10. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Question: do we still have a number of "Volunteer" session requirements for Metro Officials in order to maintain their certifications? Answer: Yes – 6 sessions for Stroke & Turn; 8 sessions for Starters and referees. Most of the Metro Officials are only working as volunteers.

B. Question: is there a mechanism in place that keeps track of the number of volunteer sessions of each Metro Official (for example at Senior Mets or other Championship meets)? Answer: Bruce said that it is available in the OTS (Officials Tracking System) database of USA Swimming. Long discussion followed – we need to help each other!

11. **ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved by all. Meeting adjourned at 8:32pm.

12. **NEXT MEETING:**

A. **Board of Directors Meeting:** Saturday, September 22, 2012 @ 9:00am at Lehman College

B. **House of Delegates Meeting:** Saturday, September 22, 2012 @ 10:00am at Lehman College

This is a Mandatory meeting

**103.3** The September meeting of the House of Delegates is a mandatory meeting. Each club shall have both a representative to the House of Delegates and an athlete representative to the Athletes Committee present. There is a \$100 fine for each person not in attendance.

Respectfully submitted

Monique Grayson

June 13, 2012