

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, March 11, 2003

PRESENT: Ray D'Annolfo, Bea Hartigan, Holger Fietkau, Chris Sawicz, Barry Roffer, Dave Ferris, MaryAnn Senecal, David Ellinghaus, Monique Grayson, Georges Rhein, Lenny Galluzzi, and John McIlhargy.

EXCUSED: JoAnn McCaffrey, Mary Fleckenstein, Rich Finkelstein, Gil Smith, Christian Robledo and Ryan Emanuel.

1: CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, and INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm at the Flushing YMCA. Ray welcomed all members in attendance.

2: ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:

Corrections of the minutes of February 23, 2003: in # 11: Zone Team Coordinator: in box: "Swimmers that will make the Zone Team MUST hand *in*..." in # 6: Officials chair: Holger wants everyone to know that they did not get enough officials for the Friday night session. Bea Hartigan made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Chris Sawicz seconded the motion, which was then accepted by all.

3: GENERAL CHAIR: Ray D'Annolfo

- a) Ray gave a report on the General Chair's Meeting that he attended in Tampa, Florida, February 21-23, 2003. Ray acknowledged that Metropolitan Swimming is one of the top LSC in the way we run business! Metro does a great job and we make the right attempts. We should be proud of this. Financially, we are at about the half way mark! Ray mentioned that this was one of the best General Chair's meetings that he ever went to.
- b) Ray received the video "Hero". Clubs that have the USA-Swimming toolbox should have received it as well.
- c) USA-Swimming Marketing Partners Information:
 - "Tournament Gold" about hotel rooms for meets [<http://www.tournamentgold.com>]
 - "Hertz" about discounts for car rental [<http://www.hertz.com>]
 - "Ultimate Technique Swim Clinics" about opportunity of clinics for clubs, with Olympians, World or National Champion. [<http://usaswimmer.com/ultimate.php>]
- d) JoAnn McCaffrey is finishing the Metro Policy Book.
- e) Metro received 5 orange vests for Meet Marshals, from Kieffer.
- f) Review Section is doing a very nice job. Thank you all.
- g) Lehman College is looking for new arrangement – rental deal?

4: TREASURER'S REPORT: MaryAnn Senecal

MaryAnn gave her report. It will be included with the minutes. September to March: inflow is \$312,000; outflow is \$184,031.09. We have between \$120,000 & \$130,000 in CD's.

Dave Ferris made a motion to accept the report as presented. Bea Hartigan seconded the motion, which was accepted by all.

5: ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR: Bea Hartigan

- Almost all clubs have now sent their meet reports.
- One club went to the Review Board
- Too many clubs are still using the old forms for the meet reports. Please download new ones from metro website.
- Too many clubs are still not reporting cuts or no cuts at meets. If no cuts were made, please indicate so on form!
- A one page "list of things to do" will be sent out with the sanction applications.
- When hosting an Administrative Clinic, we must go over this list. Those attending the clinic should be the one doing the reports or at least supervising it.

6: OFFICIALS CHAIR: Holger Fietkau and Chris Sawicz

- Zone Qualifier Meet: some sessions started a few minutes late because there were not enough timers.
- Officials should wear long pants at finals of all meets run by Metro.
- At meets: problems with coaches standing on the side of the pool, in the path of officials.
- Reminder that Meet Marshals MUST be registered with USA-Swimming and must wear special shirts. Orange vests may be purchased through Kieffer.
- Still problems because not all swimmers know the signals. Coaches must train them.

**Coaches are responsible for teaching their swimmers
the whistle sequences prior to the start
102.14.4 (page 33 of 2003 Rule & Regulations book)**

- Holger gave a report on the February 23, 2003 meeting with officials' area chairs.
 - Beginning with the 2003 LC season, all officials working meet sessions MUST wear the appropriate credentials. It is the responsibility of the meet director to verify these credentials, and to assure the Referee that all in attendance are in compliance with this rule. If the officials present cannot produce such verification, the meet's results will not be counted as Official times.
- Reminder that the scratch rule must be in writing in the championship meet info. Coaches must be called in after each scratch. (p24 - 102.3; p73 - 207.7.9)

7: SENIOR CHAIR: Dave Ferris

Dave would like to implement a policy on timers for championship meets, especially a policy for teams that have been assigned a lane for finals and don't provide timers.

8: AGE GROUP CHAIR: John McIlhargy

Mac was here! Problems with teams that host championship meets and don't send their meet information package for review prior to mailing or posting it, or clubs that send it too late.

9: COACHES REPRESENTATIVE: Gil Smith

Gil was unable to attend.

10: ATHLETES REP:

Christian Robledo and Ryan Emanuel were unable to attend.

11: ZONE TEAM COODINATOR: Barry Roffer

Bus, hotel, meals are OK for Zones. Entries are done. We still need some coaches.

Mac proposes to give a stipend to the Zone Team coaches. He believes that \$75 per day would be fair.

12: REGISTRATION COODINATOR: Barry Roffer

Registration is quiet at this time.

**Coaches, or Team Manager, must check their database.
Many times the USS # birth date is different than
the swimmer's actual birth date, or the # are missing.**

13: TECHNICAL PLANNING: David Ellinghaus

- Two potential championship calendars have been proposed for the 2003-2004 short course season. The first proposal was given at the January general meeting and can be found in the minutes from the meeting. It would follow a progression similar to the one used in most recent years. The second proposal, discussed at a coaches' meeting at Senior Mets combined JOs and Zone Qualifying into one meet. This proposal can be found in the minutes from the February board of directors' meeting.

- The two proposals were discussed at the March board of directors' meeting and after much discussion the consensus of the board is to continue with the current progression and to use the calendar proposed at the January meeting.
- The discussion considered the merits and the drawbacks of each proposal. It was pointed out that the current progression was created several years ago to try to improve age-group swimming in the association at a time when it was suffering. It was noted that since the current progression has been implemented, age-group swimming in our association has become and remained very healthy. One board member also pointed out that our calendar is never full and that the current progression offers an extra meet and an additional opportunity for our top age-groupers to compete against one another.
- The discussion then turned to the concern many coaches have expressed that our Junior Olympics lack excitement and that moving them to March may help to create a better atmosphere. One board member noted that the last time he remembered JOs being exciting was many years ago when they were held in a six-lane pool at the end of January. He argued that the timing of JOs is not the issue but the effort the association and individual teams make to create an exciting environment at the meet is. He pointed out that the association is taking over the meet and that it will require commitment by all interested parties to make the meet better. Too many coaches, it was stated, complain but aren't willing to volunteer to do the work to make the meet better. It was also argued that a combined meet would require faster cut-off times and this is not the way to keep athletes, particularly boys, in our sport.
- The board listened to the opinions of the Age-Group Chair, the Senior Chair as well as the Zone Team coordinator. All three, after weighing the plusses and minuses of each proposal, indicated a preference to maintain the current format.
- **Below is the Metropolitan Swimming Board of Directors championship proposal for the 2003-2004 short course season:**
 - Silver Championships: February 6, 7, 8, 2004
 - USA-Swimming Nationals: February 11-15, 2004
 - Junior Olympics: February 19-22, 2004
 - Senior Mets: February 26-29, 2004
 - 8-Under Championships: March 6-7, 2004
 - Speedo Championships (Sectionals): March 11-14, 2004 – Long Course at Eisenhower
 - Zone Qualifier Meet: March 19-21, 2004
 - Age group Championships: March 26-28, 2004
 - Zones: April 1-3, 2004 at George Mason University (VA)

14: SAFETY COORDINATOR:

JoAnn was unable to attend.

15: ADAPTIVE COORDINATOR:

Mary Fleckenstein was unable to attend.

16: SWIM-A-THON:

Rich Finkelstein was unable to attend.

17: FINANCE CHAIR: George Rhein

George proposes to dedicate the whole meeting on April 8th to the budget.

Some lines that might be added: coaches stipend for Zones, SC & LC; relay only swimmers at Speedo Champions Series; club development grant; coaches to ASCA clinics; surcharges; etc.

George's email address: grhein CPA@aol.com

18: OLD BUSINESS:

- New Metro Records since last board meeting:
 - Annie Zhu (LGAC): 8-under girls 50 back: 34.91 at Zone Qualifier Meet
 - Annie Zhu (LGAC): 8-under girls 50 breast: 38.57 at Zone Qualifier Meet
 - Annie Zhu (LGAC): 8-under girls 100 IM: 1:13.92 at Zone Qualifier Meet
 - Sara Giberson (BASC): 9-10 girls 50 back: 30.41 at Zone Qualifier Meet

- Sara Giberson (BASC): 9-10 girls 100 back: 1:04.33 at Zone Qualifier Meet
- Timothy Nam (FLY): 11-12 boys 200 breast: 2:23.19 at Zone Qualifier Meet
- Matt Jacobson (BAD): 11-12 boys 200 fly: 2:11.63 at Zone Qualifier Meet
- BGNW 8-under boys 100 medley relay: 1:10.83 at 8-under championships
(Will Rappaport, Aaron Blacker, Danny Caiola, Charlie Carr)
- BGNW 8-under boys 200 medley relay: 2:40.90 at 8-under championships
(Will Rappaport, Aaron Blacker, Danny Caiola, Charlie Carr)

19: NEW BUSINESS:

- Budget will be talked about at board of Directors meeting. Requests should be made as soon as possible.
- Barry recommends that starting with 2004 SC Zones, all 10-under swimmers must attend the meet with their parents. The parents would take full responsibilities for their children (this policy is already established in 2002 for the long course Zone meet). Ten-Under swimmers would sleep, eat, and travel only with their parents. A reduced fee of \$50 would then be required for 10-under swimmers.
- Re-format Metro T/F Scratch Procedure to be included on all Championship type meets.
- What is happening with NY State high school season? Will the State change the usual schedule of girls in the fall and boys in the winter?

**Next Board Of Directors meeting:
Tuesday, April 8, 2003 at 7:00pm at Flushing YMCA**

**Next House of Delegates meeting: (Bid Meeting)
Wednesday, May 15, 2003 at 7:00pm at White Plains YWCA**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and approved by all.
Meeting adjourned at 9:48pm.

Submitted by Monique G. Grayson
March 15, 2003