

# METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

**PRESENT:** John McIlhargy, Mary Fleckenstein, Monique Grayson, Denise Byrne, Michael Zuppone, John Collins, Edgar Perez, Jonah Montgomery and George Rhein.

**EXCUSED PRIOR:** Tommy Luchsinger, Dave Ferris, David Ellinghaus, Andy Copley, Amine Boubsis, Emily Sullivan

**ABSENT:** Brian Hansbury and John Yearwood

1. **WELCOME/ROLL CALL:** John “Mac” McIlhargy welcomed everyone present and called the meeting to order at 6:48pm at Lehman College APEX in the Bronx.
2. **ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:**  
Unfortunately, we did not have a quorum at the meeting so the minutes of January 13, 2016 could not be approved.
3. **GENERAL CHAIR:** John McIlhargy
  - a. **Championship Meets** – they went very well. Congratulations to all our hosts for a job well done. And – in addition - the swimmers swam well!
  - b. **The Bronze Championships** will be coming up soon. Two meets will be held – South and North/Central Combined.
  - c. **Handling of New Business Items** – Mary reviewed what other LSC’s are doing on this subject – When they prepare their agenda, the following items are first: ***Welcome – Roll Call – Confirmation of Quorum***. A running number of members must be kept at all times to make sure that a quorum is still present in the room in order to vote, especially at the end of the meetings! We must be diligent about presenting a ***Consent Agenda*** ahead of time (needs to be included on the published HOD Agenda). ***By-Laws changes*** can’t be done in one meeting.
  - d. John Collins talked about the **Winter Senior Mets** – was the vote made in May 2015 for a one-time winter meet, or does it carry to the summer meet as well (we believe it was only for the winter 2016 meet to give more opportunities for our swimmers to achieve OT cuts) - The Senior Committee still believes that there are 2 issues: D final and scoring. The committee does not think there should be a D Final at all – if we score 18-under heats (C and D), we are actually eliminating a whole group of senior athletes that are older than 18. This is a SENIOR Championship Meet and all swimmers should have the opportunity to score. If we limit the C/D finals to 18-under swimmers, those heats should not score.  
Long discussion followed on ***requirements for eligibility to swim in Senior Mets*** – they must be more stringent and we must review the rules for who can swim in our senior championship meets,

we must update the time standards to be faster, and we must review and update our policies! Older Metro swimmers say that it used to be an honor to make it back to final at Senior Mets!!! Even if they were younger than 18 at the time, and earned the right to swim at finals by qualifying in the Top 16 – and maybe swim next to a 25-year-old swimmer (for example) – it meant something – this is a Senior level meet, not an Age Group meet! We must provide the best and fastest senior championship meet for our members. We need to go back to A-B-C finals (with the C final a non-scoring heat for 18-under).

- e. There is also a feeling that there is a gap between our Senior Championship and JO's – the 15-18 Team Challenge should be on a different weekend than JO's and have a prelims/ finals format. Discussion followed – meet could be like a **“Junior Mets”**. We must find a weekend to hold the meet (which is hard especially during the boy's high school season).
- f. Discussion also on clubs incorrect information (club actual address, email addresses, phone numbers, etc.)
- g. **Strategic Planning** – must have a meeting soon (mid to early April – before the 15th) to review the schedule offered to all age groups. This could be combined with the Technical Planning meeting to set the schedule for 2016-17 and to adjust the time standards. Strategic Planning committee is John McIlhargy, Tommy Luchsinger, Dave Ferris, Nikolai Mayorov, Kiki Hatziantoniou, and Stephanie Kaufman.  
[15-18 had 651 swimmers / 2,728 entries in 2015, and 663 swimmers / 3,066 entries in 2016]. The Zone Qual. meet must stay on our schedule.
- h. **ASCA Coaches Clinic** – April 23-24, 2016 at Lehman College APEX – Registration must be made through ASCA. Saturday: 9am-12pm and 2-5pm – Sunday: 9:30am-12pm – Open to all coaches including high school coaches.  
<https://swimmingcoach.org/portfolio/asca-metro-coaches-clinic-nyc/>
- i. **Hall of Fame** – Mac has scheduled a meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup>. The display is ready for delivery.
- j. **Warrior Games at West Point** – June 20, 2016 (most probably Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>) – this is a big Paralympic event
- k. **Update on Eastern Zone SC** – check officers reports
- l. **Phillips 66 Service Award** – **Steven Kessler** – Congratulations Steven.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT & FINANCE CHAIR:** George Rhein and John Yearwood

- a. John Yearwood (Finance) was unable to attend this meeting
- b. George went over the Balance Sheet (as of March 16, 2016) which was available to all for review at the meeting.
- c. Profit and Loss (September 2015-August 2016) was also available for review
- d. All 1099 were sent out and Taxes are done. Reports are almost ready to be sent to USA Swimming.
- e. Metro needs to have a Budget meeting soon.
- f. We may need to move some money into savings account or CD's – maybe 20% - and we must look at all our long term investments.

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

- a. Denise had a lot of work with her Club Excellence Program as some applications needed to be redone and verified again. Eight clubs submitted applications this year.

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

- a. Dave Ferris was unable to attend the meeting.

- b. John Collins presented a proposal from Dave Ferris - \$3,000 stipend per athlete for Olympic Trials. There must be requirements to get that amount of money. If a swimmer swims in Metro and attends OT in individual events – the stipend would be \$1,500 – If a swimmer meets all the Metro competition requirements for stipend (including Senior Mets plus 4 other Metro Meets each year) for 3 of the 4 years preceding Olympic Trials, then the stipend would be \$3,000.
- c. Moving forward – we will go back to 3 heats at finals at Senior Mets with A and B heat scoring – this is a Policy and Procedures decision! Also, coaches of teams that actually attend the Senior Meets should be the ones making the decisions about the meet format. Summer Senior Mets will follow the original format of 3 final heats A-B-C with the C final non-scoring and restricted 18-Under (the 4-scoring-heats format was voted on only for the Winter Senior Mets).

7. **AGE GROUP CO-CHAIRS:** Jonah Montgomery and Andrew Copley

- a. Andrew was unable to attend the meeting.
- b. Jonas said that JO’s ran smoothly and so did Silvers and 8-Under Championships.
- c. Preparations for Zones are going well – Jonas has been asked a lot of questions, which is good.

8. **ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVES:** Michael Zuppone, Emily Sullivan, Tommy Luchsinger

- a. Emily and Tommy were unable to attend the meeting.
- b. Michael Zuppone announced that the new Junior Athletes’ Representative is **Matt Keane** (Patriots Swim Club) – the email vote was held during Senior Mets and went very well. Welcome Matt!
- c. Michael suggested that athletes go on line and watch the Safe Sports video.
- d. Michael talked about the Metro requirements for Senior Mets and about 15-18 Challenge Meet.

9. **NATIONAL TIMES VERIFICATION /TOP 10:** Monique Grayson

- a. Nothing new - things are pretty quiet at this time.

10. **DISABILITIES:** Denise Byrne

- a. An article was written about a coach from Sachem – Lorraine Diehl – who is doing great work with a cerebral palsy swimmer (written by Andrew Capitelli (SJC-LI Sports Information) <http://sjcgoldeneagles.com/sports/wswim/2015-16/releases/20160303fw5zgo>)

11. **OFFICE MANAGER:** Mary Fleckenstein

- a. Registration numbers are up from last year at this time. Officials/other reflect moving many admin. officials to the official category this year.

**Registration as of March 14, 2016**

10,418 athletes  
 159 other non-athlete  
 592 coaches  
 340 officials  
 Total 11,389 registered members  
 83 registered clubs

**Registration as of March 14, 2016**

10,633 athletes  
 121 other non-athletes  
 616 coaches  
 261 officials  
 11,650 registered members  
 90 registered clubs/organizations

- b. A new Team was approved by USA Swimming this week – “**Swimmin**” – Drew Modrov is coach/owner swimming out of Central Islip High School on Long Island. Welcome to Drew and his team Swimmin!
- 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.

- 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.
- f. Reminder that Coaches Safety Training online certificate must be submitted with a current approved lifeguard certificate or a skills sheet.
- g. We should be all set for Zones next week – we are sending 120 swimmers, 8 coaches, 9 chaperones, 2 managers. Entries finalized and sent today.
- h. Eastern Zone Meeting – meeting is in Atlantic City May 6-8 – Metro is hosting. Hotel is arranged. Denise is working on a Metro notebook to pass out to participants.
- i. Website has had no major issues. Peter has done a great job getting things posted in a timely manner.
- j. There are currently 22 long course meets, plus JO's and Senior Mets
- k. There are 2 open water swims scheduled for this season.
- l. Elections will be held at the May 18, 2016 Mandatory House of Delegate Meeting. The open positions have been posted on the web site.

12. **OLD BUSINESS:**

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

13. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Proposal for the OT Stipend will be up for review at the May HOD meeting

14. **Next BOD Meeting – Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at 6:30pm at Lehman College APEX.**

15. **Next Mandatory HOD Meeting – Wednesday, May 18, 2016 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 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted by Monique Grayson  
April 3, 2016