

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

PRESENT: Bob Vializ, Edgar Perez, Barry Roffer, Corinne Cody, Monique Grayson, Mary Ann Senecal, Eric Hertenstein, George Rhein, Larry Collins, Bea Hartigan, Mary Fleckenstein, and Zach Coleman.

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Paul Simco, Erik Heinemann, Paul Furbeck, Brian Brown, David Ellinghaus and Rich Finkelstein

All votes were considered by voting members only

1: CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, and INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting was called to order at 6:15pm at the YWCA in White Plains, NY. Bob welcomed all members in attendance.

2: ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:

A motion to accept the minutes of the BOD of February 21, 2009, was made, seconded, and approved by all. Minutes were accepted as posted on the Metro Web site.

3: GENERAL CHAIR: Bob Vializ

- a) Establishment of committees: We will be looking for volunteers for the following committees: Senior, Budget, Age Group, Technical Planning and Review. Information will be posted on the web site.
- b) Payment requests from Bea Hartigan, Paul Simco and Connetquot: All three requests were denied by the board.
- c) Team Excellence Program: the Coaches Clinic of April 18th was excellent. There were about 38 attendees, 2 USA Swimming representatives and 6 Metro Coaches speakers. Bob suggests that we relax the restrictions in the way the money is used but still have some restrictions in place. Coaches would still be asked to speak at the coaches' clinic. We will establish a committee (headed by George) made up of recipients of the grant money as well as some non-recipients.
- d) LIAC Meet Change Request: for their June 6-7 meet. They request to increase the number of sessions each day from 2 to 3. It must benefit Metro Teams. The board is in favor as long as only Metro Teams are added in the new sessions.
- e) Other Meet Requests: New York Sharks is adding a one-day meet May 31st. Sachem Swim Club is asking to move one event from the Saturday session to the Friday session (yes if all teams attending are OK with it). Every time there is a request for a change in a meet, Barry is asked to email all the teams that had entered that particular meet. The requests for changes can't come from the meet hosts to the visiting teams (as some coaches may feel uncomfortable giving their opinion on the matter to the meet host).

4: ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR: George Rhein

- a) Joe Stetz Officials Scholarship Winners: Elizabeth (Betsy) Weston of the BGC-N. Westchester Marlins (going to Columbia) and Andrew Katz of the New York Sharks (going to Brown). They will both be receiving their awards at the hall of Fame dinner, May 19th.

5: FINANCE CHAIR: Corinne Cody

- a) Budget Update: Nothing to present yet but Corinne will be preparing the budget soon. It will be voted on at the September meeting. There will be a BOD meeting about it in early September.
- b) Conflict of Interest Policy for board/committee members: Corinne gave out a statement to all members of the board and asked all to sign it. This would be good also for members of Committees to sign.

6: AGE GROUP CHAIR: Edgar Perez & Eric Hertenstein

- a) Long Course Zones: Will tentatively take place in North Carolina, August 12-15. There were no bids to host the meet. Volunteers were asked to help run the meet at Triangle Aquatic Center. *On May 15th, Peter Clark sent an email announcing that the 2009 EZ Long Course Meet was going to be held at Penn State - State College, PA. Thanks to Middle Atlantic for taking the lead on this meet.*

7: TECHNICAL PLANNING: Bob Vializ for David Ellinghaus who was unable to attend

a) Proposed 2010 SC Calendar:

February 18-21:	Senior Metropolitan Championships
February 26-28:	Metro Zone Team Qualifier
March 5-7:	Silver Championships
March 11-14:	Speedo Sectionals (Buffalo hosted by STAR Swimming)
March 13-14:	8&U Championships
March 19-21:	Age Group Championships
March 26-28:	Junior Olympics
April 1-3:	Eastern Zones (Rochester, NY hosted by FAST)

Originally proposed March 19-21 for JO's and March 26-28 for Age Group. Info was changed after the Eastern Zone Meeting.

b) Proposals:

1. To keep the 15-18 age group as timed finals at Junior Olympics. However, it is recommended that the 15-18s swim their timed finals during the morning prelims session.
2. To keep the 13-14 and 15-18 distance events in Junior Olympics. The proposal is to limit the events to 2 heats each. (Swimmers entered in the distance events can enter a 4th event that day in case they are scratched out of the distance event.) In addition, the proposal is to swim the distance events consistent with how USA Swimming ranks teams in its Virtual Club Championship. Therefore the 13-14 girls and 15-18 girls would swim the 1,000 free and the 13-14 boys and 15-18 boys would swim the 1,650 free.
3. To switch the eligibility period for Senior Mets to the first day of the previous year's meet (rather than the day after the meet concludes). This would be consistent with how USA Swimming establishes the eligibility period for senior level meets.
4. To require Metropolitan officials to serve as the timers at the Senior Metropolitan Championships (both SC & LC). This is a national certification meet and this would be consistent with USA Swimming's policies at its national championship meets. *This proposal will be sent back to Technical Planning for further discussion.*
5. To realign the teams for Silver Championships as follows: FAST, GAEL, & Silver Streaks to Central. All other teams would remain in the same areas.
6. To realign the teams for the Age Group Invitational as follows: Central Queens, Huntington, & LaGuardia to South. FAST, GAEL, & YMID to Central. All other teams would remain in the same areas.

c) Recommendation for Senior Committee to Consider:

1. To eliminate bonus events at the Senior Metropolitan Championships. During the 2009 SC meet most events had well over 60 swimmers swim the actual meet cut during the meet. In some events the number was much higher. To help control the size of the prelim sessions it is recommended that bonus events be eliminated. Otherwise both the actual meet standards and the bonus standards will have to be reviewed.

d) Updated Standards for Metropolitan Championship Meets:

1. The LC standards have been updated and are now available.
2. The SC standards have been reviewed and there are no changes at this time. If the Senior Committee (and ultimately the General Body) does not agree to drop the Bonus Events from the Senior Metropolitan Championships, then the cuts for that meet will need to be reviewed.

8: NEW BUSINESS:

a) Don Wagner (Condors): 3 proposals:

- a. Senior Circuit Meets: *I believe there is a need to have three Senior Circuit meets in the summer in the Metro LSC. This would create a more competitive climate and give our senior swimmers three opportunities to race in a "senior" setting where they are not there for multiple hours between events and sessions. One in May would be a timed final meet and the other two would be prelims/ final/ in June and July competitions. The meets would have a minimum AA 13-14 qualifying time for the first year or a committee of senior coaches establish the "Q" times. I am asking our LSC to sponsor these meets in which case the third meet could be the Senior Mets which would also serve as the championship meet. If Metro will commit at least \$3,000 to help finance the meets, it will make a*

difference to the clubs that volunteer to host them since senior meets typically are not cost effective. I also think that down the road, these meets could be run by Metro and possibly qualify for funding from USA Swimming. West Point has agreed to host the second meet in June which fits into their academic schedule. West Point is a 6 lane 50 meter pool with new Colorado timing equipment including pads and a graphic scoreboard. Condors would be willing to host the first meet in the 3rd week of May.

Recommendation: This proposal should go to the Seniors Committee.

- b. **Funding for Zone coaches:** *I am proposing a stipend of 300 dollars for every coach selected to accompany the zone team on its winter and summer meets. The Zone meet is an LSC sponsored event and as such, we should make certain our best young coaches accompany the swimmers to this competition. It would allow the younger coaches a chance to be in a "championship meet" setting giving them valuable experience working together in a "team" environment making the meet and team the best they can be. As an LSC we spend a lot of money sending our best swimmers to zones, we should make sure we also send our best younger coaches.*

Recommendation: Past the deadline for this year's budget – must go to Age Group Committee.

- c. **Training camp:** *I propose we fund an annual training trip to the Olympic Training Center for the top 10-15 boys and girls in the Metro LSC age 13 and up. This would be open to the top Hy-Tek/VCC point scorers in the LSC. Swimmers on the National or Junior national team are not included in this total as they will already be making the trip with funding from USA Swimming. We would bring three coaches for boys and three for girls and the selection could be made on the number of athletes a team sends or based on application and experience. A process which we will formalize in writing to ensure it is fair and consistent. The cost would be minimal because most of the swimmers will have NRT's which would mean a very minimal cost for room and meals. The only significant costs to our LSC would be for airfare and coach's expenses. Currently, nine LSC's around the country are sending athletes on an annual basis and this number is going to grow making it more difficult to make this happen in the future. These swimmers will train, eat and be housed with numerous Olympians from many other sports who call the OTC home. It will be a great training experience for our Metro swimmers helping give them the confidence to continue swimming at a higher level.*

Recommendation: Past the deadline for this year's budget – must go to Seniors Committee.

b) **Larry Collins (BLUE) – LC Meet Proposal:**

- a. Summer meets close too fast and many Metro teams can't get in. Larry would like to have limits on the number of Metro Invitationals during the summer. For example, if a team runs 6 meets during the summer, only one could be an Invitational so that more Metro teams could get in. This may need to go back to T.P. so that we can vote on it in September.

c) **George Rhein:**

- a. Would like to extend the length of session at meets this summer from 4 hours limit to 5 hours limit. We will need to check on the USA-Swimming rule.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETINGS:

- Saturday, September 26, 2009 @ 9m – HOD at White Plains YWCA on North Street – Mandatory Meeting for all Clubs – One athlete 13-Over must attend as well

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved by all. Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm

Submitted by Monique G. Grayson – May 18, 2009