

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.
HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING
Wednesday, January 12, 2005

1: CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, and INTRODUCTIONS:

The House of Delegates meeting came to order at 7:26pm at the White Plains, YWCA.
The list of Clubs in attendance is at the Metro office.

Mary Fleckenstein welcomed everyone present and introduced Carolyn Johnson (new Safety Coordinator), and Brian Brown & Larry Collins (new Outreach Coordinators). Carolyn and Larry were unable to attend the meeting due to high school meets.

2: ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:

Corrections: #3a: General Chair: New Clubs are ~~recommended~~ **required** to attend one of those.

#7: Officials Chair: ~~Chris~~ **Kris** Sawicz. #9: Age Group Chair: Email **Eddie Larry** ~~Larry~~ with ideas. #17: Hall of Fame: The Hall of Fame banquet will take place on the ~~first~~ **first** Tuesday ~~after~~ **before** Memorial Day.

Holger Fietkau made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 26, 2004 House of Delegates meeting. Barry Roffer seconded the motion. Minutes were accepted as corrected.

3: GENERAL CHAIR: Mary Fleckenstein

1. The **Swimposium** is set for April 30, 2005 at Asphalt Green.
 - Ben Michaelson will be the athlete's Rep from USA-Swimming. Two groups: 12&Under (pool 1pm-4pm and meeting 5pm-8pm) and 13&Over (meeting 1pm-4pm and pool 5pm-8pm). It will be open to the first 100 athletes that apply. More information will be available soon.
 - Parents' education while kids are in pool.
 - Ira Klein will hold the meetings on Club Development (1-4pm and 5-8pm). All new clubs are required to attend and we recommend that all clubs attend! An enormous amount of information will be given at the workshops.
 - John Wilson will hold the meetings for officials.
2. Board discretionary fund: tabled to a later date.
3. Voting procedures: Each team is allowed three votes from three registered non-athletes.

4: TREASURER'S REPORT: Mary Ann Senecal

- The report was available at the meeting. September 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004: Overall balance is \$90,823.00 at this time.
- Bea Hartigan asked if a budget line that will not be used this year could be eliminated (10K). George Rhein said it was OK and to bring it up at the Budget meeting.
- A motion to accept the report was made by Bea Hartigan, seconded by Fred Fritsch and accepted by all.

5: FINANCE CHAIR: George Rhein

- Money that was invested in the spring made about \$14,000 as of now.
- A computer to be used at Metro meets was purchased.
- Contact George as soon as possible (and before May) if you have items for next year's budget.

6: ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR: Bea Hartigan

- Bea gave an outline of the Proposed Penalty for misbehavior at Zone Championships:
 - Proposal #1 – A swimmer who has been determined to have violated the Metro Code of Conduct at the Zone Championships shall be barred from competing in the next four (two Short Course and two Long Course) Zone Championships. Said swimmer will also be barred from competing in any Zone Qualifying meet during that period.
 - Proposal #2 – Said swimmer will be ineligible for meet stipends from Metro.
 - Proposal #3 – If the swimmer is a High School Senior or Junior at the time of the infraction, said swimmer shall be ineligible for the Joseph Stetz Memorial Scholarship. Furthermore, said swimmer will not be eligible for election as an Athlete Rep. for two years.

- Proposal #4 – It is required that a letter of apology be written by the athlete and sent to the Board of Directors.
- Proposal #5 – The offending athlete will be on probation for a period of one year from the date on which the offense was adjudicated and there was a finding of guilt.

These are in addition to the existing penalties of being sent home, barring from events etc. This list should be appended to the Zone Team Code of Conduct for two reasons: one is to make sure the athletes are given the opportunity to become aware on possible consequences; the other being that then the people hearing the complaint on site have it for reference.

- Meet Reports: almost everybody is up-to-date with their reports. Please make sure that you use the most current forms (available on the Metro Website). Information has been added on those forms!
- Meet announcements are required to be posted on the website. It is reminded that the information for warm-up and start times for sessions must give a specific time. The wording “no sooner than...” is not permitted. If changes need to be made, all clubs involved must be notified at least 7 days before the first session of the meet. Once the meet has been approved and a sanction has been given, **clubs can’t change the order of events, and can’t change the events being offered.**

7: OFFICIALS CHAIR: Holger Fietkau & Kris Sawicz

- Joseph Stetz Memorial Scholarship – 4 scholarships of \$500 each (instead of 2 for \$1000) – Information is posted on the website. Applications are due January 31, 2005. Please remind your seniors to apply.
- Future clinics for officials – check the website - contact Holger if you need clinics for new officials
- Meet directors: use the website to find officials for your meets.

8: SENIOR CHAIR: Dave Ferris

- Spring Speedo Champions Series 2005 – meet info is available on the website
- Senior Mets – February 3-6, 2005 – Entries are due soon.

9: AGE GROUP CHAIR: Eddie Lary

- Eddie made a motion to score the 15-18 age group at the 2005 Junior Olympics Short Course in February. David Ellinghaus seconded the motion which carried. This applies to this year only.
- The 1000 freestyle for 13-14 and the 1650 freestyle for 15-18 have been added to the events offered at this year’s JO’s (timed final events). Meet notice for JO’s is available on the website. All prelims will be in the morning, including all relays. 11-12, 13-14, and 15-18 will have prelims and finals (Top 16). 10-unders will have timed finals. Morning sessions will be held in two pools.
- Age Group Chair, Senior Chair and Technical Planning will meet to put together a four-year plan to be presented in May at the House of Delegates.

As per the new Eastern Zone rule, swimmers who have competed in a Speedo Champions Series (Sectionals meet) may not compete at Zones and are therefore ineligible to compete in the Metro Zone Team Qualifier meet.

Swimmers who have achieved a Speedo Sectional qualifying time but have not yet competed in a Sectional meet may still compete at Zones and are therefore eligible.

However, they may not compete in any events in which they have achieved the Sectional qualifying time.

- Only swimmers who will attend Zones if they make the team can compete at the Zones Qualifier Meet.

10: COACHES’ REPRESENTATIVES: Gil Smith

- **ASCA Age Group Coach of the Year:** must be selected by coaches. Send nominations to Gil. Ballots will be available in May. Suggestion: send Metro Coach of the Year to ASCA clinic to receive the award.
- **Coaches must have current certifications with them at all meets.** Meet directors should appoint somebody to go around and ask all coaches to see their cards. If a non certified coach is on

deck and an accident happens, then your insurance is null and void! List of coaches and their certifications expiration dates is available on the website. This list is updated almost daily. Coaches may not be on the pool deck if their certifications are expired. **Be prepared to show your card at all times.**

- Rich Finkelstein thanked the Board, on behalf of Charlie Lampasso who attended the Golden Goggles Award Dinner in Manhattan in November with Ray D'Annolfo. Pictures are available on the Flushing Flyers website.

11: ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVE: Ryan Emanuel & Anthony Mironov

- Anthony Mironov was unable to attend the meeting due to a high school meet.
- Ryan and Anthony have had a lot of discussions with the Athletes' Recreational Committee.
 - 7 or 8 swimmers have been discussing ideas for Senior Mets and Zones.
 - Main goal is to make each meet more exciting and more fun for the swimmers.
 - Swimmers getting stereo and monitoring the music at Senior Mets.
 - Preorder props online before Zones would save time and money.
 - Athletes want to elect 4 "**Metro Age Group Swimmer of the Year**" every year. Award would be given at the Hall of Fame dinner each year. **It would be given annually to a male and a female swimmer 14-under and a male and a female swimmer 15-over.**
 - Criteria for nomination need to be finalized – for example strictly performance driven, have at least JR cut to be considered in the 15-over age group, still be in high school, swam at least four Metro meets that year, have at least 3 years of swimming experience in Metro. They would be nominated by coaches, and then the board would narrow down the list. Athletes need help from Age Group Committee to finalize the nomination forms.
 - Voting process will be finalized.
 - There will be no 2005 recipient. It will start in 2006.

12: ZONE TEAM COORDINATOR: Barry Roffer

- Eastern Zones Short Course will be at GCIT in New Jersey. Hotel is Holiday Inn.
- Equipment will be ordered through Hobie Swim again.
- Coaches that are interested in attending Zones must apply.

13: REGISTRATION COORDINATOR: Barry Roffer

- Meet directors are reminded that they must email an export file to the Metro Office to verify swimmers' registrations at least one week before each meet.
- Registrations are effective as soon as the money is received! DO NOT ALLOW SWIMMERS IN A MEET WITHOUT PROPER REGISTRATION.
- Coaches must pass the ASCA Test before they can register for their second year of coaching. It is available online (under coaches section).
- Coaches must keep their certifications up-to-date!
- Kids that swam on another team must be transferred (\$5 fee for transfer).
- Use only club checks for registrations.

14: NATIONAL TIMES VERIFICATION/TOP 16: Monique Grayson/Mary Ann Senecal

- This year has been much better than last year. Most of the swimmers were registered before they swam in a meet. Please make sure that you check the roster of your swimmers that Barry gave you. Make sure that it matches your team manager roster. Let Barry know right away if some of your swimmers are "missing".
- Reminder: Approved meets and High School swimming championships must be approved for observation prior to the meets. Meet director must fill out Form B and send it to either Mary Ann or Monique, at least 2 weeks before the meet. Swimmers that want their times to be entered in SWIMS must complete request forms prior to the meet. These forms must be handed in to the meet director at the beginning of warm-up so officials can be assigned to "observe" those swimmers. Forms are available on the website.

15: WEB PAGE COORDINATOR: Monique Grayson

- Meet notices must be sent to the website

- Suggestions of what members want to see on the website should be emailed to Monique.
- Question came up about posting pictures from big meets (Jo's, Zones, etc). May need a release form to be signed as part of the Zones packet.

16: TECHNICAL PLANNING: David Ellinghaus

- Some teams run "invitationals" and some coaches are wondering if they are invited or not. What are the rules about those? TP will research this subject.
- Clubs must be sure that they fill out their meet reports correctly and remember to indicate clearly and accurately how many teams or how many swimmers had to be cut from their meets.
- Reminder that the host clubs don't have to pay the Metro 20% Surcharge for their own team entries – just for visiting clubs.
- Technical Planning is setting up a committee with Age Group Chair and Senior Chair to prepare a long range planning for the next four years, and to decide when Senior Mets, JO's and Zone Qual meets would be scheduled to best benefit the Metro Swimmers.
- If you send out meet information that says "first come, first served" and you realize that sessions will go over the 4 hours limit, you need to cut out the last team entered. Clubs may not move some events into a different session to free up space in another.
- It is reminded that the meet information for warm-up and start times for sessions must give a specific time. The wording "no sooner than..." is not permitted. If changes need to be made, all clubs involved must be notified at least 7 days before the first session of the meet. Clubs can't change the order of events, and can't change the events being offered.
- Long Course schedule:
 - July 10: Metropolitan Open Water
 - July 14-17: Senior Mets
 - July 21-24: Speedo Champions Series
 - July 29-31: Junior Olympics
 - August 2-6: Nationals
 - August 9-13: Junior Championships
 - August 10-13: Eastern Zones
- Metropolitan Long Course Schedule is attached at the end of the minutes.
- **Clarification on distance meets** for the season 2005-2006. These are the requirements to receive a stipend for Distance Meets:
 - 11-12 400 IM } (*can be held as 11-14 400 IM but awards must be given to 11-12*
 - 13-14 400 IM } (*and 13-14*)
 - 10-under 500 free} (*can be held as 12-under 500 free but awards must be given*
 - 11-12 500 free } (*to 10-under and 11-12*)
 - Open 1650 free

All these events must be held on the same day. The 1650 free may be held in a separate session on that same day to allow more swimmers to participate. Teams that want to add events to this list must ask the Board ahead of time, in writing, for an exception to this rule.
- The board will review the need to add to the distance meet budget if more than 5 teams bid for distance meets. At the moment \$5000 is set aside for 5 stipends of \$1000 each.

17: SAFETY COORDINATOR: Carolyn Johnson

Carolyn was unable to attend due to a high school meet.

18: HALL OF FAME: Len Galluzzi

- The Hall of Fame banquet will take place on the Tuesday before Memorial Day.
- There are 40 electors on the committee. 35 of them voted this year. Len needs addresses for Bobby Hackett and Rick Carey.
- Three new members were elected to the Hall of Fame for 2005: Ray D'Annolfo, Ray Ruddy and Cristina Teuscher.
- Len will be in contact with people at Eisenhower, or at the NYAC at Travers Island, or in Queens.
- Please check the website for more information on the Hall of Fame Dinner.

19: ADAPTED AQUATICS CHAIR: Corinne Cody

- There is an opportunity for a coach and official to attend the championship meet in Minneapolis, Minnesota next June 9-11. Applications are posted on the web page.

20: SWIM-A-THON: Rich Finkelstein

- Swim-a-Thon® is the **only** pledge for length swimming program recognized by USA Swimming and USA Swimming insurance. Swim-a-Thon® is a registered trademark owned by USA Swimming. Holding a Swim-a-Thon® without a contract would be a violation of this trademark. Any other type of swim for laps, lap-a-thon, etc. is also considered by the courts to be a violation of the registered Swim-a-Thon® trademark.
- Check USA-Swimming Website at Swim Clubs/USA-S Programs & Services/Swim-A-Thon.

21: OPEN WATER COORDINATOR: Bea Hartigan

- The Metropolitan Open Water Championships will be on Sunday, July 10th.
- Bea has requested approval from the Town of Huntington, approval from the Coast Guard, and a sanction for Masters and for Metro.
- It has been discussed to present more medals in the Age Group events (example: 1-6 instead of 1-3). Coaches, please let Bea know if you will support the only Open Water Championship in Metro so we can decide if we need to offer more medals.

22: OUTREACH COORDINATORS: Brian Brown and Larry Collins

- The committee is trying to bridge the gap between non USA-Swimming teams and Metro teams in the area.
- We need to make them aware of what USA-Swimming can offer them and try to get them to join USA-Swimming.

23: OLD BUSINESS:

There is nothing at this time.

23: NEW BUSINESS:

- David Ellinghaus made a motion to give clubs the option to charge different entry fees for **long course meets only** (those are meets held in a 50 meter pool instead of a 25 yd pool): up to \$4 per individual event for timed finals; up to \$5 per individual event for Trials/finals; up to \$10 per relay event. Mary Ann Senecal seconded the motion. A discussion followed on pool rental fees. Many clubs running long course meets are not making a lot of money but we would like to see more long course meets in Metro. Show of hands: 30 for the motion; 4 against; **motion carries**.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm was made by Holger Fietkau, seconded by Gil Smith, and accepted by all.

**House of Delegates – Winter Meets Bid Meeting:
Wednesday, May 11, 2005 (7:00pm)
at the White Plains YWCA**

Next Board of Directors meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2005 @ Eisenhower Park

Submitted by Monique G. Grayson
January 20, 2005

LONG COURSE SEASON – SUMMER 2005 CALENDAR

May	7-8	YMID Age Group Invitational – SC
	11	Metropolitan House of Delegates/Bid Meeting at White Plains
	14-15	LIAC Spring Kickoff Invitational – LC – 4 sessions – timed finals
	14-15	Long Island Express – LC at Hoffstra
	21	Newburgh Sharks Distance meet – SC – 2 sessions
	22	Badger Age Group – LC – 1 session
	June	4-5
10-11		Brookhaven LC Invitational – TVSC
18		Brookhaven LC Invitational #2 – TVSC
18-19		AGUA Invitational – LC
18-19		NYC Redtails LC Invitational at Riverbank State Park – 4 sessions
19		Long Island Express – LC at Hoffstra
25		Condors Swim Club – Summer LC at Clarkstown Middle School
29		Long Island Swimming – Jr. Met Invitational #1 – 1 session – LC
July	2	Condors Swim Club – Summer LC at Clarkstown Middle School
	6	Long Island Swimming – Jr. Met Invitational #2 – 1 session – LC
	8-10	Sachem Summer Meet - LC
	9-10	Long Island Express – LC at Hoffstra
	10	Metropolitan Open Water Championships
	13	Long Island Swimming – Jr. Met Invitational #3 – 1 session – LC
	14-17	Summer Senior Mets LC – Timed Finals - TBA
	17	Badger Age Group (or June 26 if Sr. Mets is at Lehman)
	21-24	<i>Summer Speedo Champions Series – Eastern – St Mary, MD</i>
	23	Condors Swim Club – Summer LC at Clarkstown Middle School
29-31	Summer Junior Olympics – LC – at Lehman College	
August	2-6	<i>Conoco Phillips National Championships</i>
	9-13	LC Junior Championships
	10-13	Summer Eastern Zones