

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING Wednesday, January 9, 2013

1: CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, and INTRODUCTIONS:

The House of Delegates meeting came to order at 7:20pm at the Lehman College APEX in the Bronx.

The list of Clubs in attendance is at the Metro office.

John McIlhargy welcomed everyone and wished a "Happy New Year" to all in attendance.

2: ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2012 House of Delegates meeting was made, seconded and approved by all. **Motion carries.**

3: GENERAL INFORMATION: John McIlhargy

a) Hurricane Sandy - Three Village Swim Club ran the Long Beach Snowball Mini Meet as a fundraiser for LBA who has been hit extremely hard by Hurricane Sandy of October 29, 2012. This was very successful. 12 officials volunteered for the meet; TVSC raised about \$14,000 for LBA; Sachem Swim Club gave the profit of their own meet's 8-under session on that same weekend to LBA; Hobie Swim gave \$1,000 of prizes and T-Shirts; Hasty Awards donated all the awards for the meet; and Harbor Seals made a \$1,000 donation. Gail Farrell gave a very emotional "Thank You" to all those that helped. Mac mentioned that we are one of the best LSC's in the Country in regards to helping each other!

b) Policies & Procedures Manual – at our last Board meeting in December, we reviewed some Proposals to Amend some Articles of the P&P Manual. We made some changes in terminology of Articles 311.2 but tabled the proposal to amend article 304.2. The updated P&P Manual will be posted on the Web Site as soon as possible.

Amendment of the Policy and Procedures Manual – Article 311.2:

311.2 *The following shall be submitted to the Administrative Chair within 30 days after each meet during the short course swim season and 30 days after each meet during the long course swim season or no later than August 15th for the long course swim season : a. ~~heat sheet~~ Meet Manager Team Fees Report (1 day prior to the start of meet) , b. ~~psych sheets~~ Meet Manager Team Fees Report (at the end of the meet) , c. ~~meet results~~, d. c. the post competition report, e. d. the income and expense report, and f. e a check for the meet surcharges. Host teams are exempt from paying surcharges on entries for their own swimmers in a non-invitational meet.*

c) Safe Sport – Thanks to Brian Hansbury for taking the job of Metro Safe Sport Chair. It will be a very big responsibility moving forward.

d) Hudson Valley North Area Chair – Corinne Cody is "retiring" from her volunteer position as Hudson Valley North Officials Chair. We thank her for the past eight swim seasons, since

September 2005, of exemplary support and guidance. Mark Amodio has accepted the newly vacated position.

e) May Elections: The following positions are up for election in May 2013: Age Group Chairs, Treasurer, Safety Chair, and Technical Planning Chair. If you are interested in being on the ballot for the May election, please email Mary Fleckenstein (Nominating Committee Chairperson) at metro.office@metroswimming.org.

f) Spring Sectionals - The Eastern Zone had a conference call about the Spring Speedo Sectionals. As a result:

a) In years where different courses (SC vs. LC) are offered, restrictions on competition are lifted, allowing North Section Eastern Zone Members to attend the South Section Eastern Zone Meets and vice-versa. Cap is set at 800 swimmers.

b) For teams from outside the Eastern Zone requesting to attending an Eastern Zone Meet, meet hosts may establish & select the number of outside zone participants that will attend the meet. Teams from outside the zone will not be permitted to enter bonus events.

c) As a result of the motions passed by the General Chairs, participation of Eastern Zone Teams is not restricted by jurisdiction.

Northern Section- Eastern Zone Meet Erie Community College, Buffalo, NY March 2 1-24, 2013

Southern Section- Eastern Zone Meet VA Tech Pool, Christiansburg, VA March 2 1-24, 2013

Time standards for both meets are posted on the Eastern Zone website.

4: TREASURER REPORT: Corinne Cody

The Financial Statements for Fiscal Years ending August 31, 2012 & 2011 were available. It included the Statement of Financial Position as of August 31 and the Statement of Activities for the years ended August 31. There are no surprises at this time and we project that we will be where we need to be.

5: FINANCE CHAIR: George Rhein

a) Prior to the HOD meeting, we met as a Board with an Investment Advisor about the Mutual Funds. The Finance Committee will meet with the Advisor and present their report to the Board.

b) Any Budget Request for 2013-14 (form is on the web site) must be received before April 1, 2013.

c) Health Insurance for Coaches – if we can get at least 50 coaches, we can get preferred rates – we are probably only 10 people away from that goal, and to be able to get a quote on it for Family and/or Single coverage. Please contact George about this (we need name, birth date, family or single status, and zip code).

6: ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR: Denise Byrne

a) Teams are reminded to send in their meet reports – a check is not sufficient! Financial post meet reports must be sent!

b) Denise also needs to receive a printout of the Meet Manager Entry Fee Summary Report (which includes scratches, alternates, exhibitions, etc.) dated one day before the meet and another dated one day after the meet is completed. Both report must be sent to Denise with the Post Competition Reports.

7: SENIOR CHAIR: Don Wagner

April training trip to Deerfield Beach, Florida with the Metro All Stars April 17-21, 2013

- a) The goal of the camp is to get some of Metro's best athletes together in a positive training environment, where they can challenge each other in a setting where the only thing they have to be concerned with is training hard and getting better.
- b) The top ten girls and top ten boys will be selected for the trip
- c) The selection is based on **open** power points
- d) Athletes must be 13 or older and must have been swimming and training in the Metro LSC for at least one year
- e) Qualification period is from the first day after Winter Speedo Sectionals 2012 (March 26, 2012) through March 24, 2013 (Spring Eastern Zone Sectional meet).
- f) Coaching staff is selected by number of athletes qualified and attending the trip. The staff must have at least one female and one male coach.
- g) Swimmers and coaches stay in the Deerfield INN in Deerfield Beach FL
- h) In February, a list will be posted and updated on the Metro web site with the top 30 girls and boys.
- i) On Monday, March 26th. Invitations will be extended to the Top 10 boys and girls, and they must accept within two (2) days or the "next in line" will be invited.
- j) Training will be in the Deerfield Aquatic Center with 2x2 hour long and short course practices per day.
- k) This Training Trip is subsidized for by Metro Swimming

8: AGE GROUP CHAIRS: John Yearwood and Edgar Perez

- a) Zone Qualifying Meet will be February 16-18, 2013 – This meet is for swimmers that will actually attend Zones if they make the team. Swimmers that have no intention of going to Zones should not be entered in this meet. This is not a meet to attend "to get better times".
- b) Coaches and Chaperones Applications will be posted on the Metro Website within the next few weeks.
- c) Distance Applications must be mailed to Edgar – We usually don't have many swimmers apply so if they want to go to Zones, they should send in their applications.
- d) Hotels have been booked for the Short Course meet (in Rochester, NY) and for the Long Course Zone meet which will be in Virginia.
- e) Hobie Swim has won the bid for Metro Zone Team apparel for the next 2 years.

9. COACHES REPRESENTATIVE: Amine Boubsis

Amine was not in attendance at the meeting

10. ATHLETES' REPRESENTATIVES: Julian Mackrel and Nicole Papsco

Julian and Nicole talked about the Junior Athlete Election and how to go about running this election. Normally it is done at Senior Mets but then we do not reach all of the 13-Over athletes. The deadline for nominations is February 9th to either Julian or Nicole. Maybe do it by email or through the Metro Athletes' Facebook Page. Contact Julian or Nicole for information. This page is for athletes only!

11. OFFICIALS CHAIR: Bruce Brooks

- a)* Winter Senior Mets has been approved as a National Certification meet. USA Swimming certifiers (one of them a 2012 Olympic Games Starter) will be training our officials, on deck, for the duration of the meet.
- b)* Bruce announced that Corinne Cody will step down as Area Chair at the end of December 2012. Mark Amodio has accepted the position of Area Chair for Hudson Valley North. Thanks to Corinne for her work over the years.
- c)* Bruce would like to increase the number of Officials in Metro, especially from teams that do not host meets (but do attend meets). We have about 170 registered officials at this time.

12: REGISTRATION CHAIR: Mary Fleckenstein

- a)* As of January 8th Metro has 9,103 registered athletes (we ended last year with 9,7880 athletes; 716 individual; 77 clubs/organizations.
- b)* Teams must remember to be very careful with their registrations – creating too many duplicates when they spell names wrong on re-registrations (William one year ... Billy the next year)
- c)* Please check your registrations – use your USA Swimming web page club portal – it is easier than always checking with Mary. It is available to you 24/7
- d)* Too many teams waited till the last minute to get registrations in – this creates havoc in the first weeks of January – and metro cannot be responsible to be sure that your last minute registrations will get your swimmers in a meet – please register them on time
- e)* Coaches need to check their cards – first batch of background checks are due to expire at the end of January – Mary will NOT be sending out reminders to every coach – don't look at your card on Friday night and say you need a new one by Saturday – Mary can't help you then!!! It is all in a database the we do not control – so please plan accordingly – backgrounds will be taking about a week or so to be done without any complications – so if you are due at the end of January – take it now! Same goes for your certifications – Mary (at the Metro Office) is a part time person – she can't be expected to work 24/7 because coaches forget their certifications were up – please plan ahead!!!

13: NATIONAL TIMES VERIFICATION: Monique Grayson

- a)* High School (Form B) & College Meets (Form A) Observation Requests must be emailed to Monique at least 2 weeks prior to the first day of the meet
- b)* A minimum of two (2) USA Swimming officials must be on deck to observe those meets
- c)* For all Metro 12-under meets, if possible, use 2 back-up buttons (plungers) on each lane! It helps to verify the finish time accuracy
- d)* Check splits – especially in backstroke and when there is a NS – very often, the final time is “hidden” in the splits
- e)* Remember to set up all meets databases and meet names as follows (example):
2013 MR BGNW Marlins Mid-January Meet

14: WEB PAGE COORDINATOR: Monique Grayson

Nothing new at this time.

15/16: SAFETY COORDINATOR & SAFE SPORT CHAIR: Brian Hansbury

1. New report of occurrence has been posted on the website. All teams need to submit info online to US Swimming the paper copy is no longer needed nor is it accepted.
2. Currently we are just publishing the info regarding the new Meet Announcement Requirements
 - a. No Deck Changing allowed – Disqualification from Meet
 - b. No Cameras behind the blocks or in locker rooms
3. Upon returning from the Safety In Sport Conference Jan. 27-29 in Colorado Springs, Brian will make a full report to the board and the HOD on the new bylaws and suggested rules for travel and social media that US Swimming is putting into place. Mac, Mary and Brian will be attending this Conference.

17: HALL OF FAME: Mary Fleckenstein and Monique Grayson

Nothing new at this time.

18: DISABILITIES COORDINATOR: Denise Byrne

Nothing at this time

19: SWIM-A-THON: Richard Finkelstein

Nothing new at this time

20: OPEN WATER COORDINATORS: Rob Ripp and Colleen Driscoll

Rob and Colleen were not present at the meeting

21: DIVERSITY: Ray Willie

Ray was unable to attend the meeting. Mac said that Ray is asking to resign from Diversity. Mac will let us know who he will appoint to replace Ray.

22: TECHNICAL PLANNING: David Ellinghaus

a) Championship meets bids:

- a. We have a bid for an Open Water 5K and Age Group Championship Meet at Huntington Bay on July 14, 2013 – this is a combined bid from Metropolitan Swimming and Long Beach Aquatics – Bea Hartigan spoke about this Open Water meet. David asked Bea to get in touch with the Metropolitan Swimming Open Water Chairs regarding this meet and to report back to Technical Planning.
- b. Senior Mets weekend will be Thursday-Sunday, July 18-19-20-21, 2013 – the Senior Chair is working on the facility that will be available to run this meet.
- c. Junior Olympics of July 26-27-28, 2013 – we have one bid: LIAC at NCAC – no other bids were submitted so JO's Long Course 2013 go to Long Island Aquatic Club.

b) Metro Meets Bids will be available at the end of the minutes (Page 8)

19: OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Nothing new at this time

20: **NEW BUSINESS:**

Rachel Stratton, AGUA, brought up the subject of last summer Sectional Stipends for her team. Agua attended an out of Eastern Zone Sectional meets and requested a Travel Stipend for all her swimmers that qualified within the Eastern Zone Summer Sectional Standards. She believed that as long as her swimmers made the LC Eastern Zone time standards, they would be eligible for a travel stipend, even if attending an out of EZ Sectional Meet. Discussion followed. David Ellinghaus and Rachel went over the minutes since 2008. David really believes that moving forward we should go with what had been decided in 2008 and allow teams that go out of LSC for their Sectional meet to still get a Travel Stipend for their swimmers that qualified based on the EZ Standards. As we do not have a quorum tonight – we can't vote on this tonight. This will need to be decided on at a later date.

**May House of Delegates – May 15, 2013 at 7pm at Lehman College APEX
This is the Short Course Season Bid and Elections Meeting
Please come prepared (forms are on Metro Web site)
BOD Meeting will probably meet at 6pm**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved by all. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm

Respectfully submitted
Monique Grayson

January 17, 2013

PS: A letter from Gail Farrell (LBA), received after the HOD meeting, is attached on Page 7.

Long Beach Aquatics is better than ever thanks to some very special people!

Monday, October 29 2012 is a day that changed us forever. We went to sleep, not knowing what the morning hours would bring, never in our wildest dreams did we imagine the destruction we would wake up to. Just looking out our window, seeing 3 boardwalk ramps on the corner should have told us right then and there, “this was no ordinary storm”, but it wasn’t until we ventured outside that we saw the true devastation and destruction of Sandy.

While most people were trying to salvage what they could of their lives, our first thought as LBA coaches were “did the recreation center survive?” All it took was a simple ½ mile walk to find the devastating answer. At first glance, a small glimmer of hope seeing the structure was still standing. However, it didn’t take long to see the sad truth; we couldn’t walk in the front door due to debris blocking the entrance, the side door was being blocked by a tipped over refrigerator, finally a simple move of a door off the hinges provided access. Both gyms were destroyed, the office was unrecognizable, then we took the walk up to the pool balcony. It was eerily quiet, and honestly looked as if nothing happened. Of course, when you stop to realize how the pump room is 4 steps down to you realize, this is bad. Without a pool, how does a swim team of 300 survive?

The answer; with the help of truly amazing people! Our older groups were already training 3 days a week at the long beach high school, however it would take more than that to accommodate everyone. Thanks to Arnie Epstein, the athletic director at Long Beach High School, we were able to get additional hours 5 days a week to have practice. Eisenhower Aquatic center was also made available to us, due to the unwavering support from Nassau County Legislator Denise Ford, Neil McCarthy , Joy McCarthy, Scott McDonnell & Kate McDonnell. Needless to say, the parents of Long Beach Aquatics have been more than patient and understanding of the unusual, irregular practice schedules, sometimes driving as far as an hour and half one way from the Brooklyn, Far Rockaway & Queens area, just to have their kids practice for an hour.

So many Metropolitan teams have been supportive of us, opening the pools to our displaced families, to give our swimmers some sense of normalcy (Westchester Wolverines, Connetquot Swim Club, & Hauppauge Swim Club have gone above and beyond). Each year, the first Sunday of January, Long Beach Aquatics always hosts the Snowball Mini Meet for 8-under Swimmers only, we were devastated to think that this would be the first year in over 25 years that this meet would not take place.

That was until our Swim Angels at Three Village Swim Club reached out to us, and offered to host the meet with any and all proceeds going to LBA. One Three Village parent in particular Lynn Pozmanter was instrumental in securing donations, for each event and even donations for each Block. A very small team Harbor Seals also donated \$1000 to the cause! Hobie Swim designed amazing t-shirts (featuring an adorable snowman: “ swim for the beach”) and donating all proceeds back to LBA. Sachem Swim Club hosted a meet this same weekend, and donated all proceeds from the 8-under session to LBA as well.

We are truly humbled by the outpouring of support by so many people & Metropolitan teams during a very difficult time. While the final numbers have not been tallied, it looks like a total of \$16,000 has been raised for LBA! This money will go towards helping to cover the costs of renting Eisenhower pool to help getting us back to a “normal” practice routine! So from the bottom of our hearts, we thank each and every one of you who has helped to make LBA better than ever!

LONG COURSE SEASON – SUMMER 2013 CALENDAR

May	3-5	Condors Swim Club – May Meters Matter Invitational – 7 sessions at Felix Festa
	4-5	Patriot Swim Team – Invitational – 4 sessions at Lehman
	11-12	Long Island Aquatic Club – Spring Kickoff Invitational at NCAC – 6 sessions
	15	<i>Metro House of Delegates – Elections and SC Season Bid Meeting – at Lehman</i>
	17-19	Long Island Express – Invitational – 7 sessions at Hofstra
	18-19	New York Sharks – May Madness – Open Metro Meet – 4 sessions at Felix Festa
	19	Badger Swim Club – Open Metro Meet at Lehman – 2 sessions
	25-27	Asphalt Green – Gotham City Challenge – Open Metro Meet – 4 sessions
June	7-9	New York Sharks – Summer Sizzler– Open Metro Meet – 5 sessions at Felix Festa
	8-9	Long Island Aquatic Club – Summer Classic Invitational at NCAC – 6 sessions
	9	Badger Swim Club – Open Metro Meet at Lehman – 2 sessions
	14-16	Long Island Express – June Jamboree Invitational – 7 sessions at Hofstra
	14-16	Condors Swim Club – Summer Solstice Invitational – 7 sessions at Felix Festa
	22-23	Long Island Aquatic Club – Summer Fun Invitational at NCAC – 4 sessions
	22-23	Riverbank Redtails – 10 th International Invitational at Lehman – 4 sessions
	25-29	<i>Phillips 66 National Champs & World Championships Trials @ Indianapolis, IN</i>
July	3	Long Island Aquatic Club – Junior Met #1 Invitational at NCAC – 1 session
	10	Long Island Aquatic Club – Junior Met #2 Invitational at NCAC – 1 session
	12-14	Condors Swim Club – July Jubilee Invitational – 7 sessions at Felix Festa
	13-14	Long Island Express – Summer Sizzler Invitational – 4 sessions at Hofstra
	13-14	Patriot Swim Team – Firecracker Invitational – 4 sessions at Lehman
	14	<i>Open Water 5K and Age Group Championship @ Huntington Bay</i>
	17	Long Island Aquatic Club – Junior Met #3 Invitational at NCAC – 1 session
	18-21	Senior Mets LC Championships – Location TBA – Metro-run Championship
	26-28	Summer Junior Olympics hosted by LIAC at Eisenhower Park
30-8/3	<i>U.S. Open – Long Course - at Irvine, California</i>	
August	1-4	<i>Eastern Zone SuperSectionals – Long Course - at Buffalo, New York</i>
	5-9	<i>Speedo Junior Nationals - Long Course - at Irvine, California</i>
	7-10	<i>Eastern Zone Age Group Championships at Richmond, Virginia</i>