

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.
HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING
Saturday, September 20, 2003

1: CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, and INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting was held at the White Plains, YWCA. It came to order at 9:05am.
Ray welcomed everyone present. The list of Clubs in attendance is at the Metro office.

2: ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:

Gil Smith made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 15, 2003 House of Delegates meeting.
David Ellinghaus seconded the motion. Minutes were accepted as mailed.

3: GENERAL CHAIR: Ray D'Annolfo

- A. Convention: Ray D'Annolfo, Gil Smith, Bea Hartigan, Ginny Nussbaum, Dave Ferris, Mary Fleckenstein, Christian Robledo and Ryan Emanuel attended the 2003 Aquatic Sports Annual Convention that was held Sept. 9-14 in San Diego, California. Meetings were held all day.
- Safety manual can be downloaded from the USA Swimming website.
 - Sports Medicine: big push to deal with issue of disordered eating especially in girls; addition of a chiropractor on staff at the Olympics; study of swim suits vs performance;
 - *USA Swimming's Network Task Force on Asthma will be investigating the issue of pool chemicals and asthma (relationship vs no relationship, cause-effect vs none, etc). Dr Jim Miller is the chair of this Network Task Force, and also happens to be the current President of US Masters Swimming, a position that has no bearing on his involvement with this topic.*
 - *The skin cancer topic was discussed in response to an offer we received from a medical student who would like to help us establish a skin cancer awareness program for the swimming community (coaches, athlete, parents). Dr Scott Rodeo has taken it upon himself to discuss this idea with the medical student. We have not established any course of action for this proposal*
 - LSC workshops – review board section
 - Coaches meeting: big clubs wanted to eliminate the rule on recruiting. This is not good for small clubs. The House of Delegates voted to keep the rule in the 2004 rulebook.
- B. How can Metropolitan help you "The Swim Club". Sue Anderson is running seminars "Swimposium". USA Swimming offers this exciting and unique workshop for club coaches and board members to learn how to be more effective in leading and managing their team: leadership, team philosophy, cohesive coaching staff, board and parents support, organization, solid financial plan, teamwork! We are looking for other suggestions.
- C. Two workshops will be held at Colorado Springs:
- Adapted Swimming – January 23-24, 2004 (Mary Fleckenstein will attend)
 - Officials Chairs Meeting – October 24-25, 2003 (Holger and/or Chris will attend)
- D. Dan DeMarco of the Long Island Aquatic Club and reigning USA National 10K Champ was named "**National Open Water Swimmer of the Year**". Congratulations, Dan!
- E. SWIMS program for Top 16 and National Time Verification has been revamped.

4: TREASURER'S REPORT: Mary Ann Senecal

- Financial report of 9/1/02 through 9/31/03 will be included with the minutes.
Total inflows: \$438,675.00 – Total outflows: \$309,813.00 – Overall total: \$128,862.00.
- New checks have been ordered.

5: ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR: Bea Hartigan

Bea gave her convention report. It will be included with the minutes.

- Martha McKee passed away in June. She had worked very hard to make sure athletes got the recognition they deserved.

- Eastern Zone meeting: Spring 2004 will have same cuts as 2003; coaches will vote at spring sectionals on "whether open to all" is a good thing for Sectionals.
- 2005 – short course – March 10-13 at Nassau Aquatic Center
- 2005 – long course – combined section 1 & 2 at St. Mary's College in Maryland
- 2004 May meeting: Portsmouth, Maine

6: OFFICIALS CHAIR: Holger Fietkau & Chris Sawicz

- Clubs hosting meets should have a head timer and a head meet marshal.
- Clinic: October 7, 2003 at Flushing YMCA, 7pm: old and new officials
- Info for Officials Scholarship can be downloaded from the Metro website. Deadline is January 30, 2004.

7: SENIOR CHAIR: Dave Ferris

Dave Ferris was unable to attend the meeting. Ray presented his report.

- Dave directed the time standards committee to have separate guidelines for relay qualifications and individual qualifications.
- Spring 2005 will be a selection meet
- Spring 2006 will be "Spring Championships". It will be long course; week after men's NCAA; allow at least 200 18&under males; A, B and C Finals; Bonus events; unlimited events within US rules per day; prelims and finals for 800 & 1500; five days; no foreign teams; foreign athletes who are on US teams will be permitted to swim and score.
- Olympic Trials entry deadline: online (6/28/04); paper (6/29/04); fax (7/5/04).

8: AGE GROUP CHAIR: Mary Fleckenstein

Long Course Zone Report:

- Long Course Zone Meet was held at Pittsburgh in August 2003. This year, Metro took 3rd overall – 3rd for girls and 3rd for boys. We had lots of good swims. We set 2 meet records – Kelly Bunster (11-12 girls 200 fly) and Sara Giberson (10-under girls 400 free). There were also 3 Metro records – Sara Giberson (9-10 girls 50 & 400 free), and Kelly Bunster (11-12 girls 100 fly).
- Ryan Emanuel did a fantastic job as athlete rep. He was a great cheerleader and team leader and represented the Metro board in a very professional way.
- Thanks to all the coaches – Ed Kropp, Lenny Galluzzi, Siggy Rudokas, Erica Gerlach, Wendy Brown, Jay Porteus and George Rhein. Each coach worked double time and the swimmers appreciated it.
- Some problems and/or suggestions:
 - Hotel: rearrange meal schedule for 11-12s (swimming prelims in the afternoon and staying at pool to swim finals right after). They needed to eat between prelims and finals.
 - Bus: Suggestion that on the last day of the Zone meet we arrange for a room at the pool for the bus drivers to spend the afternoon to rest.
 - Equipment: some were missing and some had logo problems. We need to have a better handle on what we order and be very specific with the vendor.
 - Swimmers leaving early: Once again we were faced with swimmers wanting to leave early (some swimming only one event on the first day!). Metro needs to create a form to be filled out, for kids that drive home with their parents at the end of the meet.
 - Chaperones: there is still need for more. Reminder: Teams are required to provide a chaperone if they have 4 or more swimmers.
 - Three swimmers were sent home for disciplinary reasons. It will go in front of the board.
- Contact Mary if you are interested to join the Age Group Committee.

9: COACHES' REPRESENTATIVES: Gil Smith

Gil Smith gave his report of the Convention.

- Gil attended the Top 16/SWIMS meeting. The 17-18 relays will be eliminated. It will be replaced with a single age group: 15-18, which is used in almost all age group meets.

Reminder: Clubs hosting meets must send a full meet backup within 2 days of the meet:

Clubs hosting meets in Queens & Long Island:

send full meet backup to Mary Ann Senecal at msenecal@optonline.net

Clubs hosting meets in NY City and Counties North of City:

send full meet backup to Monique Grayson at mggrayson@aol.com

Meet names must be as follows:

2003-MR-Meet Name-Host Club (example: 2003-MR-Polar Bear-HYB)

- Club Toolbox: check USA Swimming website for information.
- Clubs Services and Programs: everything is on the USA Swimming Website.
- Best fundraising programs: Swim-A-Thon and Swim Lessons Programs.
- Survey on camps: Each LSC can run up to 4 camps per year. We ran one last year!

**Congratulations to Dragos Coca of the La Guardia Aquatic Club
2003 ASCA Age Group Coach of the Year**

10: ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVE: Christian Robledo

Ryan Emanuel was unable to attend. Christian was happy to see many athletes at the meeting, even though 45 teams were not represented.

- LC Zones: swimmers liked the meet and the hotel but not the equipment.
- Talk about Junior Nationals: it will be held long course only in the summer of 2005, one week after Nationals.
- Many swimmers present at the meeting signed up to be on different committees.

11: ZONE TEAM COORDINATOR: Barry Roffer

Barry thanked Mary for giving most of the report on long course Zones.

Next spring: meet will be held at George Mason University in Virginia. Hotel has been reserved.

Coaches interested in coaching at the 2004 short course Eastern Zones in Virginia, April 1-3, should contact Mary Fleckenstein as soon as possible

12: REGISTRATION COORDINATOR: Barry Roffer

- 2004 registration is now \$50 for athletes and non-athletes.
- Club application has changed. Make sure you use the right one.
- Coaches must correct their Team Manager database. Take all asterisks (*) out; use the athletes' correct middle initial; do not use a "Z" instead (except if the swimmer's MI is a Z)
- All registrations must be done on disk from team manager.

All Registration info must be correct:

Last name, full first name, preferred name, middle initial, correct birth date.

Example: *Smith, Robert, C, Bobby, 01/01/97, male*

Once that is done, click "rebuild ID" to make sure team manager has the right info.

- Use separate checks for Club registration (\$150), athletes' registrations (\$50 per swimmer), non-athletes registrations (\$50 per coach/official/non-athlete), and transfers (\$5 per swimmer).
- Send proof of certifications for **all coaches**. Second year coaches must have passed ASCA test in order to register for their 2nd year!
- All "New" clubs must attend a Leadership / Business management course during the first year of membership (and it's great for the "old" ones too).
 - October 16 & 17: Eastern State Clinic taught by Tom Avischious at Cherry Hill, New Jersey (info is at www.swimclinic.com)

- October 18 at Connecticut Swimposium taught by Sue Anderson in New Haven (www.ctswim.org)
- November 11-12 in Alleghany Mountains - Pittsburgh
- New Head coaches of new clubs must also attend such course.

13: TECHNICAL PLANNING: David Ellinghaus

- Recommendation #1: A motion to keep Senior Mets Long Course as Timed Finals was made by David Ellinghaus, seconded by Gail Farrell, and accepted by all. **Motion carries.**
- Question: hold the meet in the morning or in late afternoon as in 2003? This item will be tabled until the January House of Delegates.
- Scratch Rule: David Ellinghaus made the following motion, which was then seconded by Gail Farrell and accepted by all – **Motion carries**:
 - If a swimmer misses a race, the referee has the discretion to put that swimmer back in his/her other events of that day.
 - A swimmer who does not show up must be positively checked in for the rest of the weekend by the end of the session, or swimmer is out of the meet.
- Recommendation #2: A motion to accept the re-alignment of the three Metro zones for Age Group Championships: North, Central, and South was made by David Ellinghaus, seconded by Paul Fortoul, and accepted by all. **Motion carries.** There are about 6,000 swimmers in Metropolitan Swimming. We will try to have no more than 2000 swimmers in each zone.
 - **North**: Aqua Gems, Big Blue, BGC-N, Westchester Marlins, Club Fit, Condors, Gael, Middletown Rec., Marist, Minisink Valley, Monroe-Woodbury, Newburgh, Northern Dutchess, New Rochelle, Pine Bush, Pacesetter, St. Columba Dolphins, Saw Mill Ace, Silver Streaks, Suffern Sea Lions, Team Rockland, Viking, Washingtonville Seahawks, West Point, White Plains Middies. (About 1945 swimmers)
 - **Central**: Asphalt Green, Apex, **Badger Swim Club**, Big Apple Marlins, Blue Arrow, Brooklyn Seahawks, Cross Island, Douglaston, Dolphin Swim Club, Flushing Y, Harbor Seals, Jewish Community Center, **Long Beach, LI Express**, Manhattan Kraken, La Guardia, New York AC, New York City Aquatic Club, New York Parks & Rec., **Nu-Finmen**, Riverbank, Shorefront Y, Twelve Towns, Wagner Aquatics, 92nd Street Y. (About 1975 swimmers)
 - **South**: Connetquot, East End, East Hampton Y, Farmingdale, Hauppauge, Half Hollow Hills, Huntington, Islip Aquatics, LI Aquatic C., Lindenhurst, North Shore, Old Westbury, Sachem, Team Suffolk, Three Village, West Islip. (About 1975 swimmers)
- **Proposal #1**: Technical Planning proposes to keep the **Age Group Meet** as is: 1/100 sec. slower than Zone Qual. standards. Swimmers with 5 or more Zone Qual. cuts would not be eligible to participate in Age Group Championships. A motion made by David Ellinghaus and seconded by Barry Roffer was withdrawn after discussion on this proposal. **This proposal will be tabled for a year.**
- **Proposal #2**: David Ellinghaus made a motion to standardize the format of our Age Group Championship meets. Eric Hertenstein (Farmingdale Swim Club) seconded the motion, which was then accepted by all. **Motion carries.**
 - To limit **JO's** to three (3) events per day per swimmer. Time trials will be allowed (no more than two [2] per swimmer for the weekend).
 - That swimmers be allowed to swim up to five (5) events per day at **Silver Championships** (this is a qualifying meet for JO's).
 - That swimmers be limited to four (4) events per day at the **Age Group Invitational.**
 - That swimmers be limited to three (3) events per day for **Zone Qualifying Meet** (trials/finals meet) but that 10-under swimmers would be allowed to swim up to five (5) events per day.
- 2004 Metropolitan Age Group Time Standards and Senior Metropolitan Time Standards were available at the meeting. Those standards are available on the website as .pdf file and as a Team Manager import file.

Reminder:

Every "Metro Championship meet" Info Packet must be reviewed for approval by Technical Planning Committee and Age Group Committee before posting on the website.
Meet hosts (Silver Champs. & Age Group Champs.) must email their info to:
bgnwmarlins@aol.com and to mjfleck333@hotmail.com

14: SAFETY COORDINATOR: JoAnn McCaffrey

- Club registration form must include the name of the club's Safety Chair. Must be a non-athlete member of USA-Swimming.
- All accidents reports must be sent to JoAnn McCaffrey.
- Names of Clubs certified trainers must be given to JoAnn.
- It is the coaches' responsibilities to keep their certifications current. Don't let them expire. Send copies of updated certifications to the Metro office.
- USA-Swimming adopted R-6 rule 103.2 Water Depth: In pools with water depth less than 3'6" (1.07 meter) at the starting end, the swimmer must start from within the water. This rule will be in effect as of May 15, 2004. (Since January 2003, the rule has been that in pools with water depth of less than 4 feet at the starting end, the swimmer has the choice to start from the deck or from within the water.)

15: HALL OF FAME: Len Galluzzi

- Lenny mentioned that the manner in which the coaches had to give the swimmers apparel at Zones was poor.
- The Hall of Fame nomination forms will be available October 1, 2003. All forms must be returned no later than December 1, 2003.
- The HOF Committee wants to be able to contact nominees before January 1, 2004 to check their availability to attend the HOF Dinner.

16: ADAPTED AQUATICS CHAIR: Mary Fleckenstein

- Metro is still looking for swimmers with disabilities. USS is making a conscientious effort to include swimmers with disabilities. We have the opportunity to step up and reach out.
- Meet directors are asked to include a statement that swimmers with disabilities are invited and encouraged to attend their meets.
- Metro can send swimmers with disabilities to Zones. We have not had anyone come forward. Please check USA-Swimming website. Look at classifications to see if any of your athletes fit in any category.
- Some of the most amazing swims are made by swimmers with disabilities.
- Once again a reminder that we have "Swimmers with Disabilities" booklets: Officials; Coaches; Parents; LSC's; Swimmers. It's a great resource. See Mary if you need them.

17: SWIM-A-THON: Rich Finkelstein

There is nothing new at this time. Contact USA-Swimming if you want to hold a Swim-A-Thon, or contact Rich Finkelstein.

18: OLD BUSINESS:

- **Reminder:** Clubs hosting meets must send a full meet backup within 2 days of the meet:
 - Clubs hosting meets in Queens & Long Island must send full meet backup to Mary Ann Senecal at msenecal@optonline.net
 - Clubs hosting meets in NY City and Counties North of City must send full meet backup to Monique Grayson at mgrayson@aol.com
 - All clubs must continue to also send a CL2 file of their meets to Mary Ann for Metro Top 8 database.
 - Meet names must be as follows: 2003-MR-Meet Name-Host Club (example: 2003-MR-Polar Bear-HYB)
 - Clubs attending International meets must ask for a full meet backup or a CL2 export file. They must send those to Mary Ann or Monique as well

- All relay names must be included. Names must be entered in right order, especially lead off name.
- Transfer forms are very important! Coaches must include them with registrations.
- LIAC meet of October was not on the Metro website even though it had been bid on in May. The meet is on for October 25-26.
- Some clubs still owe entry fees from long course Junior Olympics: BAM (\$7); FLY (\$815); GAEL (\$26); IA (\$6); LBA (\$7); LIAC (\$1119), LIE (\$3); and RED (\$20).
- Clubs that are cut from meets must contact Bea Hartigan.

19: NEW BUSINESS:

- Bob Vialez, new coach from West Point, announced that their October 31-Nov.1-2 meet was cancelled.
- Harbor Seals are having problems with their pool regarding Board of Health and occupancy. They are asking for help in this regard. It was suggested that they contacted Mary Illich (Insurance/Risk Management Administrative Assistant) at millich@USA-Swimming.org and the Insurance people at Colorado Springs.
- Aqua Gems meets were available at the back of the room.
- Four Condors meets were available as well.
- A representative of the Three Village Swim Club mentioned that cost of hosting a meet is getting higher every year, especially for pool rental. They are asking Metro to look at a reduction of the 20% charge on meet fees.
- May 2004 Elections: General Chair, Administrative Vice Chair, Senior Chair, Coaches Rep., Finance Chair and Secretary.
- Mary Fleckenstein made a motion to adopt a rule of a minimum of 3 eligible events in order to swim at long course summer Zones. Gil Smith seconded the motion. After long discussion, this issue was tabled until next January.

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:15pm was made by Christian Robledo, seconded by David Ellinghaus, and accepted by all.

Dates of House of Delegates Meetings:

January 14, 2004 (7:00pm – Summer meets bid meeting)
 May 12, 2004 (7:00pm – Bid meeting for 2004-05)
 Both meetings to be held at the White Plains YWCA

Submitted by Monique G. Grayson
 September 25, 2003