

**METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.**  
**HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING**  
**Saturday, September 25, 2010**

**1: CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, and INTRODUCTIONS:**

The House of Delegates meeting came to order at 9:06am at the Lehman College APEX in The Bronx, NY.

The list of Clubs in attendance is at the Metro office. Mary Fleckenstein welcomed everyone present at the Fall House of Delegates' meeting and reminded all to check in at the back table and get their club's registration packet.

**2: ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:**

Bob Vializ made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 12, 2010 House of Delegates meeting. David Ellinghaus seconded the motion which was accepted by all. Minutes were accepted.

**3: GENERAL CHAIR:** Mary Fleckenstein

1. **Reminder** – Each club gets 3 votes – members voting must be registered with USA-Swimming. Clubs that are delinquent are not allowed to vote until they become in good standing again.
2. **Important Information on New Legislation from USA Swimming:** Five Board members attended the USAS convention in Dallas, Texas, September 15-19, 2010. Many changes were voted on at this year's convention:
  - a. **Athlete Protection Policies:** (Don Wagner) - this has been posted on the Metro Web site. It went into effect immediately on September 18, 2010. Policies and guidelines have been approved. Make sure that you and all your coaches read them! Make sure that all the coaches are aware of this and that all clubs are well aware of what's going on. This policy protects both the coaches and athletes. If anyone suspects that misconduct is going on that violates the Athletes Policies, it must be reported to USAS Board of Review. Failure to Report is not acceptable. There are also legal requirements for reporting for each State! Any massage of swimmers must be done by a Certified Physical Therapist or Massage Therapist, not by a coach!!!
  - b. **Background Check of Non Athletes members effective January 1, 2011:** (Bruce Brooks) – All officials and other non-athletes members must be registered with USA Swimming and must take the background check. The requirement is intended for those who, by their job or assigned responsibility, have regular interaction with athletes. This is not intended to include meet volunteers such as timers, marshals, computer operators, etc. Existing members who have background checks that will expire before the new program is up and running will be permitted to delay renewal until the new system is available, with no consequence or interruption of membership. There are other implementation dates that are important as well such as Background Checks for all Non-Athlete Members and Education that must be completed once those programs are developed in the next month or so. Check <http://www.usaswimming.org> for the most up to date information. All Chaperones must be registered with USAS and have a background check!
  - c. **Minimum Coaches Ages:** all coaches must be at least 18 years-old. Swimmers can "assist" coaches as long as they work together on the same lane! To coach a lane by themselves, coaches must be registered as a coach and must be 18.
  - d. **Swimmers practicing with Clubs must be registered:** All "college" swimmers that were ever registered as athletes, and that are practicing with their club teams during breaks or vacations, MUST be registered to get in the water. There is no "grace period" on this.

- e. **Pre-employment screening:** Clubs will be required to use USAS approved pre-employment screening providers to conduct screens on new coaches, new employees and new volunteers who are required to be USAS members.
  - f. **Advertizing on Suits Clarification:** make sure advertizing on suits is small and that there is no more than 2. This does not apply to T-Shirts.
  - g. **Club Safety Coordinator:** This is not needed anymore.
3. **LEAP Program: LSC Evaluation and Achievement Program** - Metro achieved Level 1. It was a very long process. There are 59 LSCs in the Country and we were the 13<sup>th</sup> LSC to complete it. We are now working on Level 2 (there are 3 levels). All this is to make sure that the LSC is running its business as a business!
  4. **Club Development Program:** USAS is suggesting that all Clubs do this. All Clubs should be at least done with Level 1.
  5. **Recruiting and Transfers:** Action, other than through general advertising, by a coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative, or employee of a swim club, or a USA Swimming or LSC employee, either through direct contact with an athlete or the encouragement of others, to recruit or otherwise encourage an athlete who is already a member of a USA Swimming member swim club to compete for or become a member of the swim club with which the acting party is affiliated, unless the acting party receives prior written approval to recruit or encourage the athlete from the coach of the athlete's existing USA Swimming-member swim club or contact is initiated by the athlete, the athlete's parent or authorizes representative. Soliciting swimmers to your club from another club is illegal! Please remind your parents that they can't do this. Complaints must be addressed to the Metro Board.  
Transfers: swimmers that switch teams must swim unattached for 120 days. They must provide a transfer form and pay the \$5.00 fee. This goes to Barry Roffer at the Metro Office. A club may not deny a swimmer to swim or to transfer to another club. If a family owes money to the club, it is the club's responsibility to go after the money. Metro will not get involved, USAS will not get involved. If you go to Small Claim Court, and you have a legal document, this must go to Barry and USAS and at that time, the swimmer(s) will remain unattached until the case is resolved. Long discussion followed.
  6. **SC Zone Fees have Changed:** EZ has changed their payment structure for the sc meet: used to be a flat fee and now a per entry fee of \$5.00.

#### **4: OFFICIALS:** Bruce Brooks

We really need to train more officials. This is important and also required in order to achieve the LEAP 2 Program. Contact Bruce at [bruce.brooks@metroswimming.org](mailto:bruce.brooks@metroswimming.org) or [bbrooks124@gmail.com](mailto:bbrooks124@gmail.com)

1. Clinics - All dates are available on the Metro Web Site -
  - a. Flushing Y - new officials - October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9am
  - b. Orange County Community College - September 30<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Valley Central - October 7<sup>th</sup> and November 6<sup>th</sup>
  - d. Meet Directors Clinic at Boys & Girls Club in Mount Kisco - October 9<sup>th</sup> at 1pm
  - e. Condors - October 16<sup>th</sup>
2. Metro Officials Area Chairs:
  - a. Hudson Valley North: Corinne Cody
  - b. Hudson Valley South: Bob Fitzsimmons
  - c. New York City: Kris Sawicz
  - d. Nassau County: Ari Nakkab
  - e. Suffolk County: Nelson Gonzalez

#### **5: FINANCE:**

1. **Treasurer Report - Corinne Cody** - Year ended on August 31, 2010. We ended the year in the black! Report was available at the meeting. Reminder that clubs paying coaches or others as consultants must make sure they are consultants. Look at the information posted on the Financial page of the web site. 1099 must be issued to any person earning more that \$600 in a calendar year; and also file the 1096 with Federal Government. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made, seconded and approved by all. **Motion carries.**

2. **Budget for 2010-11 – George Rhein** – Budget for the Quad Game Plan was available at the meeting. George went over the budget. There will be a Diversity camp in March in Philadelphia. Also Metro Elite Camp. The Metro office will also get a credit card machine that we will be able to use for payment of SC and LC Zone meets, as well as transfer fees, or registrations during the year. A motion to accept the Budget was made, seconded and approved by all. **Motion carries.**

**6: HALL OF FAME:** Steve Newman

Steve has been appointed to chair an enhancement committee to evaluate the nomination process, criteria, location and anything else that goes along with HOF. It could grow to include aquatics in the Metropolitan area. As of now, 32 out of 59 bios of HOF inductees are available on the Metro Web Site. We are looking into maybe having the Induction ceremony at a weekend luncheon instead of a week night dinner, reviewing the Nomination Process, find a permanent location for the HOF, review and complete the History of Metro. All info and ideas should be emailed to Steve as soon as possible [sn100@optonline.net](mailto:sn100@optonline.net) (or Metro address [steve.newman@metroswimming.org](mailto:steve.newman@metroswimming.org))

**7: REGISTRATION COORDINATOR:** Barry Roffer

1. **Coaches' certifications on the Metro Website:** Notice that the coaches' page has changed dramatically. Expirations dates will not be listed on the web site. If one certification expires, name of the coach will come off the website! There are teams right now that have no coaches with current certifications which mean no insurance! Go back. If you don't see your name, you are not current!
2. **Reminder:** Email team manager registrations files and rosters and send checks or vouchers. Also send Club Applications (Metro and USAS). \$150 per club registration; \$57 per swimmer and per non-athlete. New swimmers must be registered right away. All re-new by December 1, 2010.
3. **Contact Barry:** best way is to email Barry if you need to contact him. Write part of the question in the Subject area so that you will know what the "yes" or "no" or "done" means when you get the answer!

**8: OLD BUSINESS:**

None at this time.

**9: NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Brian Brown is asking Metro to recognize Short Course Meter records and also Open Records. He also would like Metro to submit a Top 10 all-time list for all age groups. Question: who will do the research? As of now, Top 10 is generated through SWIMS. Brian will start working on this. A motion to accept this proposal was made, seconded and approved by all.

**House of Delegates Meetings 2010-11:**

- **Wednesday, January 12, 2011 – 7:00pm at Lehman – LC 2010 Bid meeting**
- **Wednesday, May 11, 2011 - 7:00pm at Lehman – SC 2011-12 Bid meeting & Elections.**

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved by all. Meeting adjourned at 10:27am.

Submitted by Monique G. Grayson  
October 4, 2010