

# USA Swimming 2012 Convention Report

## Greensboro, North Carolina

### Monique G. Grayson

#### Wednesday, September 12, 2012:

#### **SWIMS Times Team Workshop**

- SWIMS Flow Chart Demonstration – how every components in SWIMS (Times, Registration, Deck Pass) are connected
- National Age Group Records since September 1, 2011 - 111 new NAG records  
Short Course records – 35 individual records and 16 relay records (5 female and 11 male)  
Long Course records – 54 individual records and 6 relay records (1 female and 5 male)
- Recap of the USA Swimming NAG Records as of July 23, 2012 (SCY) and as of August 24, 2012 (LCM)
- Recap of 21 World, American, and US Open Records from Olympic Trials in Omaha and 2012 Olympics in London
- Program Operations Report :
  - The Final list of National Top 10 times will be finalized on October 15<sup>th</sup> and certificates will be mailed by November 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - The 2011-12 Scholastic All America list is finalized. This was the first year of electronic submission of applications. Time Standards for SAA were considerably faster this year. The Eastern Zone had the highest number of applications (336) which means that the EZ is Fast and Smart!
  - SWIMS – Larry Herr gave a report on SWIMS statistics for 2011-12 and a report on the status of current enhancements:
    - 8,327,313 times from 8,388 USA Swimming meets were uploaded into SWIMS last year.
    - For 2013: additional upgrades to streamline the SAA process and evaluate the handling of the 25 yards times which cause problems within the system/records compilation
  - ConocoPhillips Athlete Reimbursement – athletes that ranked in the Top 100 in the World Rankings qualify for reimbursement from ConocoPhillips
- NTV Process Review:
  - Reminder: Name of all meets databases must follow the same format in all LSCs:  
for example: 2012 MR BGNW Marlins Distance Meet
  - Observed Meets – procedures for 2012-13 – Form “B” must be received by the LSC Times Representative ([Monique.grayson@metroswimming.org](mailto:Monique.grayson@metroswimming.org)) at least 2 weeks prior to the meet. Summer recreation league meets are not to be uploaded to SWIMS. **NCAA meets** requests must also be sent to the LSC Times Representative but are uploaded by USA Swimming, not by the Times Officers.
  - Approved Meets – paperwork and meet information must be sent to the LSC Times Representative in order to receive approval and a sanction number.
  - Results from Foreign Meets – teams must ask host for the results files.
  - Improvement of the Times Recon Process
- Rules and Regulations proposals:
  - R1 - Definition of Time Trials
  - R2 - to clarify the conditions under which time trials may be sanctioned, approved, or observed
  - R4 - require an LSC certification process for Administrative Official
  - R9 - eliminate the section on Record Attempts Against Time
  - R13 - Apply rule for minimum number of officials to approved competition
  - R14 - use of first day of meet for age determination even if meet is conducted over more than one weekend

- Zone Workshop Presentations (from April 2012) are available on the USA Swimming Web Site.

### **Technical Planning Meeting for the Eastern Zone:**

- Eastern Zone Open Water Coordinator. Policy for manual. Assign Officials. Cecil Gordon is EZ Representative on Committee from USAS
- Procedure Manual for credentials (10 deck passes for Non Athletes) does not specify SC or LC meet. This needs to be corrected for SCY and LCM meets.
- Discussion on adjusting time standards for distance events at SuperSectionals (or even for all events)
- Senior development meeting: suggestion to have a D final restricted to 18-under swimmers
- Questions re: LCM Sectionals in March for the EZ North section.
- Decision to restrict Time Trials to swimmers entered in Individual events only and eliminate the possibility of TT for Relay only swimmers. Passed.

### **USAS Welcome Reception by Risk Management Services**

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### **Thursday, September 13, 2012:**

#### **Like, Tweet, #howdoiusesthisstuff – Social Networking for Dummies:**

- Social Networking Services 101 – Can it be of value to LSC – Facebook pages for LSC, Clubs, Athletes
- Info on how Twitter and Facebook are used by some LSCs – News, Results, etc.
- Reminders: be authentic, transparent, and genuine – give, don't take – have goals – participate (don't lurk) – check spelling and grammar – spend a little time each day on your page.
- Use strong passwords (uppercase + numeric + lower case)
- Make a page for your club – page should be available to all members of your team, swimmers, coaches and parents – everything should be in the open.
- Be aware of privacy settings and problems

#### **Webcasting your events:**

- USA Swimming and its partner iHigh demonstrated how you can easily webcast any event through iHigh's free and easy to use technology. Revenue is generated by selling ads, heat sheets, etc.
- iHigh.com – it is a digital platform. Watch a meet from your home!
- USA Swimming Channel – all swimming all the time
- USA Nationals, Juniors, Golden Goggles, etc are broadcasted.
- Works with any Camera but high level quality is better

#### **Registrations best Practices Workshop:**

- I arrived late to this meeting due to the "Webcasting Your Event" workshop.
- Explanation re: OTS (Officials Tracking System)
- Deck Pass (free) and Deck Pass Plus (\$1.99)
- Adobe FormsCentral – how to create great forms , email lists, excel forms, etc.
- Custom Fields may be added in SWIMS.
- Review of LSC Portal

#### **Safe Sport Presentation:**

- Athletes Protection Program has been renamed to Safe Sport Program
- Review of Policies and Guidelines: Provide specific, mandatory rules that must be followed at all levels of the organization; provide additional best practices that protect all members of the organization; solicit feedback on policies and guidelines in practice and use the feedback to review and propose updates

- Screening & Selection: Establish the organization's first line of defense against predators; provide tools to evaluate which individuals are allowed to become members, employees, and volunteers.
- Training & Education: Provide tools and resources for the USA Swimming membership community to increase understanding and awareness of abuse in sport and abuse prevention; create opportunities for education and training; review and update efforts based on industry findings.
- Monitoring & Supervision: Observe interactions and react appropriately at the local and the national levels; provide clear expectations of behavior for both adult-youth and youth-youth interactions.
- Recognizing, Reporting & Responding: Empower membership to recognize red flag, abusive behavior, or signs of abuse in athletes; make reporting channels clear and accessible; remove barriers to reporting; establish clear responsibilities for NHQ, the LSC, and the club on how to respond to reports.
- Grassroots Engagement & Feedback: Create connection between the national and the local levels; establish clear communication channels going both ways; solicit feedbacks and communicate how the feedback was incorporated into change efforts.

### **Get Parliamentary Skills:**

- Parliamentary Procedure – Roberts Rule of Order
- What is Parliamentary Procedure – set of rules for conducting business at meetings and public gatherings
- Why is Parliamentary Procedure important – because it allows everyone to be heard and to make decisions without confusion
- A Fixed Agenda or Order of Business – Call to order; Minutes; Officers' Reports; Reports of Special Committees; Special orders; Unfinished Business; New Business; Announcements; Adjournment
- How do Members get their say? Present motions - second motions - debate motions - vote on motions
- There are 5 General types of Motions: Main motions; subsidiary motions; privileged motions; incidental motions; motions that bring a question again before the assembly
- Questions relating to motions: Is it in order; can it be amended; may I interrupt the speaker; do I need a second; is it debatable; what vote is needed; can it be reconsidered
- How do I present my motion? Obtain the floor; make the motion; wait for a second; Chair states the motion; expand your motion; Chair puts the question
- The method of voting on a motion: Voice; Roll Call; General Consent; Show of Hands; Ballot

### **Eastern Zone Meeting**

- Special Presentation to Georges Breen – 50<sup>th</sup> Convention) – Also introductions from Chuck Wielgus, Bruce Stratton, Susan Woessner and Frank Busch
- Approval of Minutes of May 2012
- Financial report was accepted as presented
- Approval of Agenda
- Report of Zone Championships:
  - LCM Sectionals August 1-4, 2013 – STAR – Niagara
  - LCM Age Group Zones: August 7-10, 2013 – as of now will be in Ithaca, NY depending on hotel rooms situation due to NASCAR event at the same time
- Report of Officers – Directors Reports
- Technical Planning Committee Report
  - Time standards for SuperSectionals
  - EZ Open Water Coordinator/Director
  - Spring Sectional Meets: North LCM; South SCY – A motion was made and seconded to not reconsider the North section running Winter Sectionals in LCM.
  - Relay only swimmers will not be allowed to swim in Time Trials
  - Operation procedure: recommendation re-writing the credential criteria for SCY and LCM meets
- Athlete Representatives Report
- Unfinished Business:
  - OW proposal – tabled to May – review qualifying parameters - need of a coordinator
  - Eastern Zone Policies & Procedure Task Force

- Elections:
    - Zone Director Coach – Ed Dellert, NJ
    - Athlete Rep: swimmer from New Jersey
    - Secretary/Treasurer: Boots Hall
    - Diversity Chair: Miriam Lynch, PV
    - Age Group Development Committee member – non coach – Tim Husson, PV
  - New Business:
    - By-Laws to be reviewed in May
    - Diversity Camp in June (check MA web site)
    - Long discussion on site for LCM Age Group Zone meet
    - Jim Wood: have the EZ May meeting at least twice a quadrennial in the EZ Zone
    - Bill Marlin: allow athletes with disabilities at Sectionals
  - The May Eastern Zone meeting will be held in Fort Lauderdale in May 2013. Dates TBA
  - Awards/gifts were given to Marci Callan (NI) and to Cherita Gentilucci (MA).
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## **Friday, September 14, 2012:**

### **Intro to OME for LSCs-NHQ & LSC's Working Together**

- This workshop was run by Josh Fowler as well as Peter Blum and Larry Herr.
- As a host, what is hard about setting up a meet so that the entries are done through OME.
- I actually really would like to start using OME for Senior Mets this year and was very interested in the whole process of setting up all aspects of the meet through the OME system. All is connected to SWIMS.
- Josh went over every aspect of the process, step by steps, and this was absolutely wonderful.
- The 2-hour meeting was not long enough in my opinion.
- I spoke to Don Wagner about actually trying this for the Winter Senior Mets.

### **There's an APP for that- The digital world of swimming**

- Hy-Tek Meet Mobile needs an active internet connection at the meets. Without it, even if you use MM4, you will not be able to upload the results.
  - Active Swim Cloud includes:
    - Active Meet Mobile (Psych sheets, heat sheets, events timeline, meet results, team scores)
    - USA Swimming Deck Pass Plus (meet results)
  - With Meet Mobile, you can control what is seen on meet mobile. Programs can be sold. People can buy heat sheets as soon as the meet is seeded. Event timeline is available.
- Deck Pass App
  - is used mostly by the 11-12 age groups but 66 % of users are 8-18 year olds. 4.6 million patches have been earned – 50 million patches are given by coaches
  - There are patches for everything but coaches can only give patches to swimmers that have deck pass on their cell phones or iPads.

### **The Choice – Virtual LSC Office or Permanent Office**

- I attended this meeting late due to the Digital World of Swimming meeting

### **Eastern Zone Meeting**

- We were asked to come back for another Eastern Zone Meeting re: the site for LCM Age Group Zones in Ithaca in August 2013
- Hotel accommodations are reduced considerably due to the NASCAR Races that weekend. Possibility of hosting swimmers in the dorms – no air conditioning and no blankets!
- Niagara was asked to research this further before October 15<sup>th</sup> and prepare info to be presented to the General Chairs of each LSC by that time.

## **USA Swimming House of Delegates Meeting (Friday night)**

- Memorial Presentation (a red carnation was placed in the vase in memory of Ron Olsen and all other deceased members)
  - President's Report by Bruce Stratton
  - Presentation to Life Members (Barry Roffer was mentioned as he was awarded the Life Membership upon his retirement)
  - Presentation to past Board Members (including JoAnn Faucett, Eastern Zone - AD)
  - USA Swimming Awards – among them:
    - Michigan won the Safety Poster Contest but Metropolitan was one of the finalists!
    - Katie Ledecy, the youngest athlete in the U.S. delegation at 15, blew away the field to capture the gold medal in the 800m freestyle and set a new American record. Katie was there to accept the Phillips 66 Performance of the Year Award
    - Michael Phelps was not in attendance at the HOD to accept the Athletes Appreciation Award!
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## **USA Swimming House of Delegates Meeting (Saturday Morning)**

- Membership Report
- United States Sports Insurance Company Report
- Credentials Report
- USA Swimming Board of Directors Elections
- United States Foundation Report (President Bill Maxson & Executive Director Debbie Hesse)
- State of the Sport Report by Chuck Wielgus (which included the Video by USA Swimming Olympic Team "Call me Maybe")
- 2013 Budget Report by Tom Hasz
- Rules and Regulations – by Dan McAllen – There will be a new sentence to be added in all meet information and sanction application re: deck changing which is now prohibited.
- Vice Presidents Reports Requiring Action
- OIOC Elections results
- Old Business
- New Business
- Adjournment (at 1:45pm)

## **Aquatic Awards Banquet**

Submitted by Monique G. Grayson  
Metropolitan Swimming Secretary  
SWIMS – National Times Verification Officer

September 19, 2012