



MIDDLE ATLANTIC SWIMMING

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Middle Atlantic BOARD of DIRECTORS Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 8, 2007

Middle Atlantic Swimming Office, New Castle, DE

ATTENDEES:

Mike Seip - General Chair
Burt German - Finance V-Chair
Dan Sullivan - Operations
Fred Frank - Admin V-Chair
Dale Petranech - Treasurer
Matt Sprang - Age Group
John Carroll - At-large
Fred Killian - Secretary
Brad Bowser - Tech Planning
RuthAnn Joyce - Safety Co-chair
Patric Mills - Safety Co-chair (conf)
Stephanie Rozick - Sr Co-Chair (conf)
Cherita Gentilucci - MA Office

ABSENT:

Mike Gobrecht - Sr Co-Chair
George Breen - At-large
Glenn Neufeld - Sr. Coach Rep
Greg Fastrich - Coach Rep
Erin Fischer - Sr. Athlete Rep
Evan Reed - Jr. Athlete Rep

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order @ 7:01 pm by Mike Seip, General Chair.

Announcements:

- o Burt German and Fred Killian were given Lifetime memberships in USA Swimming, as announced at the recent USA Swimming convention. Both Burt and Fred expressed their appreciation to the Board for their recognition and generosity.
- o Greg Fastrich was elected by the coaches as the (Junior) Coach Rep.
- o The Elite Meet will be held at GCIT on the originally scheduled dates of January 25-27. The change was necessary to avoid a conflict at F&M; Matt thanked Burt for helping to re-schedule high school meets at GCIT on that weekend.
- o There were 65 attendees at the Referee/Starter re-certification clinic held October 7 at The Desmond hotel by the Officials committee.

Agenda:

Motion to amend Agenda to include under New Business: (a) NBR item from the spring EZ meet; (b) status of Sr SC Champ meet info; (c) West Chester pool situation; (d) SSC request for additional meet. Motion passed. Motion to adopt Agenda as amended passed.

Minutes:

Motion to accept minutes of the July Board meeting as presented; motion passed.

Treasurer's Report (D Petranech):

- o Report of current revenue and expenses attached (Sept 1 thru Oct 5). No unusual activity.
- o Current profit/loss statement shows Net Income of \$60.6K for last fiscal year with a few outstanding items. Ana Schwarz has been contacted regarding an audit of the accounts. Under recently passed USA Swimming regulations, a copy of the LSC Financial reports and tax returns must be sent to USA Swimming no later than five months after the close of the fiscal year.

Motion to accept Treasurer's report – passed.

Unfinished Business:

- 1) Travel fund (F Killian) - provided a revised Travel Assistance Policy (Article 4.1 in policy manual) to reflect current practice for distributing funds and the revised policy for allocating funds as approved at the July Board meeting (see attached.) Motion to amend Table 4.1 to reflect \$100 bonus and \$200 destination award for the SC Nationals in Atlanta; motion passed. Motion to amend section 4.1.C.3a to reflect a \$100 bonus award for the US Open meet; motion passed. Motion to adopt the amended policy; motion passed.
- 2) As a corollary item, Mike Seip reappointed the Travel Fund Committee as: John Carroll (chair), Stephanie Rozick, Burt German, Greg Fastrich and Kristen McCandless (athlete).
- 3) Financial policy (B German) – presented proposed revised Financial Policy (Art 3 in Policy Manual) reflecting changes to comply with recent USA-S insurance requirements. F Killian noted that the policy also includes new provisions for reimbursement of MA personnel traveling within the LSC to present clinics and workshops. Discussion ensued regarding some of the financial limits in the policy, which have not been updated in past 8-10 years. As USA-S adopted additional financial requirements at recent convention, the proposal was referred back to Rules for further revisions. Policies regarding bids and payment for Zone Team services and equipment will also be considered.
- 4) Travel Assistance Payments (B German) – Travel Fund payments for 2006-07 are:

	Budget	Paid
US Open	\$6,000	\$4,000
Spring meets	25,000	25,021
Summer meets	35,000	34,850

A total of approx \$2,150 in unexpended travel funds remain from the 2006-07 budget.

Additional unpaid requests are as follows:

US Open, late application from three TSC swimmers	\$ 1,200
Spring Sectionals, late request from GCIT (1), JW(1) and MSA (4)	300
Summer Nationals, late request from WSY (1)	600
Summer Juniors, late request from EMAC(3)	1,350

Total additional requests are \$3,450. Motion to approve additional payments to above applicants less 20% for late application, assuming the swimmers meet all other eligibility requirements; motion passed.

Motion to approve additional \$100 OW payment to a DST swimmer (N Vernon) who attended and received Junior Nationals travel support; motion passed.

Elections and Appointments:

Kristen McCandless (EMAC) was appointed as the Athlete Representative to the MA Board of Directors. Of note, Kristen also attended the recent convention as the MA Athlete representative.

New Business:

- 1) Cherita provided a 'draft' conflict of interest statement developed from a template obtained from the Nonprofit Financial Center in Chicago; the statement is for Officers, Directors and Staff – and is in response to recommendations in Sue Anderson's local governance presentation. Cherita was asked to determine whether USA-S had a recommended statement for use by LSCs. The Board tabled the matter for later consideration.
- 2) Spring JOs – Time Standards (M Sprang) – Spring JOs will be a 14 and Under meet beginning in 2008 with 11/12 and 13/14 Prelims in the morning and a 10&Under Timed Finals session in the afternoon. Matt proposed tightening the qualifying times using a 40th place performance from the last three years, with no time (generally) being lowered by more than 0.5 sec/50 yd. One purpose is to improve the

quality of the Championship meet. (This is consistent with an earlier policy adopted by MA for setting JO qualifying times; it was noted that the times have not been adjusted in the past three years.) Discussion points made that the cuts were too severe and would eliminate too many swims from JOs with no place for those swimmers to go. Allowing bonus swims was discussed. Motion made to set qualifying times as proposed with proviso that no time would be cut more than 0.5 sec/50 yd, except the 11-12 Girls 400 IM which would be cut to the 'A' time, and further to allow bonus swims (1 qual time gets 1 bonus; 2 gets 2 bonus; 3 gets 1 bonus; 4 or more gets 0 bonus – minimum standards for the bonus events will be the 2006-07 JO qualifying times); motion passed.

A contract for use of GCIT for JOs was presented and reviewed; Burt will review and sign the contract, if acceptable.

- 3) Bob Worrell (STRM) was present and requested permission to increase the entry fee by \$1 per event for the New Jersey State meet in December in lieu of charging admission to the meet. This was done last year and was favorably received. Motion to approve the request; motion passed.
- 4) John Carroll (JW) requested permission to add a \$2 per swimmer surcharge to all meets being hosted by JW at GCIT in order to offset the additional fee at GCIT when more than 250 swimmers participate/compete at either pool. Based on last year's attendance, several of the meet sessions (by pool) exceeded the 250-swimmer limit. Motion to allow JW to charge a \$1 per swimmer surcharge for their Blizzard (Jan 12-13) and Sweetheart (Feb 23-24) meets only; motion passed.
- 5) A hearing on the NBR appeal is scheduled via conference call for October 24. Mike has been asked to provide a summary account of the events prior to the hearing.
- 6) The meet information for the Senior SC Champs next March was reviewed. It was decided that the meet would be a Senior meet (i.e., open to all ages), have bonus swims similar to those at national meets. The entry deadline will be the Wednesday before JOs, with an exception to allow late entries from the Pennsylvania high school championships.
- 7) GRA had requested guidance from MA regarding a health matter at the West Chester University pool. The Board decided to refer GRA to the USA Swimming headquarters for advice.
- 8) SSC requested permission to hold a small (2-3 team) closed invitational on the November 14 weekend. There has been extensive construction at the SSC facility and they wanted to run a small meet before bidding on further meets. Motion to approve their request; motion passed.
- 9) Cherita reported that DST has apparently been unable to obtain a facility for the West Regional on the scheduled April 4-6 weekend, and may request to move the meet to the previous weekend (which is the same weekend as Mini-Champs.) If DST moves the meet, TD would also like to consider moving the East Regional to the same earlier weekend. The Board deferred any action on this until November in order to obtain more information.

Officer and Committee Reports:

None.

Mike indicated that he would like to hold approximately half of future Board meeting via 'conference call.' If done, he would expect that most, if not all, Board members would attend the non-conference meetings in person. Holding Board meetings via conference call would require that all reports and information to be discussed would be available to participants well in advance of the meeting – most probably via the website.

The next meeting is a House of Delegates meeting on November 12, 2007 at the Integrated Health Campus in Allentown at 7:00 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Killian, Secretary