

MARYLAND SWIMMING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
October 7, 2004

Meeting was called to order at 7pm.

Directors Present: John Ferrari, Sheryl Lepisto, Jamie Cahn, Chad Craddock, Tom Himes, David Collier, Chris Pulley, Brendan McElroy, Debbie Sakell, Liz Brabson, Pete LaGow, Kim Easterday, Linda Sue Lottes, Donna Considine, Pat Kaplan, Marta Iler, Dee Gass

Others Present: Grace Ratliff (RAID), Karen Cooper-Coleman (BCSC), Erik Collins (Maverick Swim Club – PVS)

Adoption of Minutes of May Meeting: Approved

Chairman's Report:

- The General Chair submitted and reviewed a list of proposed goals for each position/committee for the 2004-2005 season.
- The focus will be on meeting the needs of the swimmers, coaches and parents. Including holding a Meet Director's clinic in May, development of position/committee descriptions, improvement of timeliness of responses to clubs, parents and coaches.
- KCO team has folded after losing their pool. The meet they hosted will go up for bids.
- Jeff Tagel has accepted the Senior Coach Representative position after the resignation of Chris Gibeau.
- Erik Collins, from Maverick Swim Club (PVS) addressed the meeting to discuss his request to transfer membership from PVS to Maryland Swimming. This action would require the approval of both the PVS and MSI House of Delegates. Coach Collins' reasons for seeking the transfer are to avoid recruiting conflicts because of his past coaching positions in PVS. He coaches a small club, is not looking to run meets and trains out of the Prince George's Community College and PG Sports & Learning Complex.
- There may be a need to convene a House of Delegates meeting to elect vacant positions, to consider bids for the old KCO meet, to consider the Maverick Swim Club request and any additional items ready for review. As a result, the matter concerning the Maverick Swim Club will be included on the House of Delegates agenda without any recommendation from the Board.
- Consideration is being given to doing a mandatory Meet Director seminar in late May or early June to make sure all the host clubs are up-to-date on issues and matters on running a meet.

Admin Vice-Chair Report:

- Legislation Committee – The Bylaws Proposal was approved, without revisions, at the June House of Delegates meeting. Phase II will focus on position/committee descriptions, structure of the board, and athlete election process.
- Fine Letters – a total of 16 fine letters were sent thus far in 2004:
 - 1 – failing to appear for finals
 - 11 – entering unregistered athletes into meets
 - 2 – doubling of fine for non-payment by due date

Senior Chair: No report**Age Group Chair: No report****Secretary: No report****Treasurer:**

- The Board was reminded that when submitting bills for payment, they also need to provide information on what budget category should be charged.
- Sanction fees should not be submitted to the Technical Planning when applying for a sanction number but should be included in the post-meet accounting form.
- A current income statement was provided and reviewed.

Technical Planning:

- Long course zone jackets will be ordered next week
- KCO meet bid will be posted on the website for Board consideration
- The time standards for the Champs meet have been slightly revised and are ready for posting.

Registration:

- The registration training clinic was attended by all clubs except one new club and a summer league rep.
- One club, with registration problems, has been asked to change their registration representative and the new rep will be trained.
- There are a lot of new and transferred athletes being processed.
- One new club in Southern Maryland has applied for membership with an additional 2 – 3 new clubs being considered.

Coaches' Rep: No report**Athlete's Rep:**

- The athlete rep submitted the following proposal to restructure the nomination and election process of athlete representatives to the MSI Board. The current process is inefficient and does not attract candidates for the position. A secondary goal is to increase the profile of the athlete representative position and raise awareness of the importance of athlete input to the Board:

- That the election consider of two parts: a nomination period and a voting period.
- The self nomination period will be open to all qualified athletes in the MSI LSC and should occur from December 1 – January 31. A coach recommendation might also be requested to see which swimmers would make good candidates.
- The position will be advertised on the MSI website and at meets where eligible athletes would be participating.
- A system of voting should be devised to include athletes over the age of 13.

The Legislation Committee will work with the Athlete Rep to develop the appropriate bylaw revisions for consideration by the House of Delegates.

- A website has been set up for athletes at athletesquarterly.com. The site includes forums and a message board.

Officials Chair:

- The annual officials clinic was held on September 26 at McDonogh.
- 20 new S&Ts apprentices attended.
- The clinic was only moderately attended due to conflicts. Efforts will be made to schedule next year's clinic on a weekend other than Sunfest.

Records:

- 200 records were broken during the short and long course seasons, including numerous National Age Group records.
- The MSI records coordinator will handle all NAG applications for MSI athletes, including those held outside of the LSC. Please send her the required information for processing the application.
- Due to the large number of records broken, an additional supply of certificates and pins will be needed.

Top 16 / MSI 5 Tabulator:

- Database is up-to-date
- 1 NBAC relay team has the top time in the country

Safety:

- The coaches safety training was held in September with only 2 attendees
- Coach's safety training will be scheduled twice a year – once in the fall and another in the spring. Alternative training is not easy to obtain and coaches are encouraged to take advantage of the training sessions being offered.
- Lifeguard certification does count as safety training.
- The updated US Safety Training course is not ready and more studies on diving safety are being done.
- A facility safety checklist is now available and posted on the website for use by the Meet Safety Director. The Safety Committee will develop a MSI form for distribution and use by Meet Safety Directors and Meet Referees.

- A new Report of Occurrence form is now available and will be posted on the website. The Officials Chair was asked to notify officials about the location of the new form.

Open Water/Distance/Camps:

- There was good weather for Sunfest this year with 320 participants.
- Single-day registration was utilized by 32 swimmers which made it possible for them to compete.

Adaptive:

- Travis Mohr was awarded the Tricia Zorn Award for the second year in a row.
- Both Jessica Long and Travis Mohr represented the USA at the Paralympics in Athens with the following results:
 - Jessica Long:
 - Gold – 100 M Freestyle (Paralympic record)
 - Gold – 400 M Freestyle (Paralympic record)
 - Gold – 4 X 100 Freestyle relay
 - 5th – 50 M Freestyle
 - Travis Mohr:
 - Gold – 100 M Backstroke (American/Pan American record)
 - 4th – 200 IM
 - Silver – 100 M Breaststroke
 - 5th – 100 M Freestyle

Equipment:

- Both Colorado systems have been serviced
- More Velcro strips and power strips have been added

Outreach:

- The unity meet will be held July 30-31 to attract minority programs both in and out of the LSC and to help develop a “circuit” of minority meets.
- A “save the date” notice will be set out to clubs to hold the date for the event
- The Outreach Coordinator will be seeking help from the LSC for officials and organizers.
- Outreach has begun looking for ways to focus on the “bottom” level swimmers, not just the elite to include an LSC funded scholarship programs or other ways to attract minorities and under-privileged athletes to the sport.

Swim-a-thon: No report

Zone Coach/Manager:

- 88 swimmers competed for MSI at LC zones

- MSI finished 6th in mens/womens/overall
- Comments indicated the athletes liked the pre-meet “get together” which gave them chance to meet the other team members and bond as a team
- Goal for the future is to find more “family-friendly” accommodations

Awards:

- New AAAA tags are being ordered.
- Suggestions on how to recognize our athletes are welcomed.

Webmaster:

- Requests for a searchable database for athletes times have been made but would require additional software. As an alternative, it was suggested that we link to the USA Swimming SWIMS database which already provides this function.
- Some clubs continue to post meet notices late which result in frequent questions to the webmaster.
- Clubs are requested to provide more information to recognize swimmers from their club.

Hall-of-Fame: No report

Old Business: None

New Business: None