

**New England Swimming  
Wellesley Community Center  
Wellesley, Massachusetts  
September 1, 2009**

**Members Present:** Laura Matuszak (GMA), Priscilla Davis (UN-NE), Mariella Allard (UN-NE), Mary Ellen Tynan (PSC), Bob Menck (UN-NE), Jamie Bloom (WYST), Ray Grant (SSA), Jessica Harrison (SAC), Carol Healey (UN-NE), Joe Frazier (BGSC), Matt Craven (SAC), Andy Disco (HHS), Debi Kesper (WTSC), Sherry Wingfield (NAS) **Guests:** Mary Riddell (NE-Office), Lisa Sholudko (LRAC), John O'Neill (LRAC), Andy Murray, Nadine Jesionek, Mike Harrison (SAC), J.J. Sabatino (EST)

**Quorum Established 7:01PM**

**Introduction of New Members, Laura Matuszak (GMA):** Laura introduced Andy Disco (HHS) as the new Junior Athlete Representative and Debi Kesper (WTSC) as the Junior Coach Representative. The At-Large Members are Kathy Dacey (UN-NE), Bob Menck (UN-NE), Amy Parratto (SSA) and Sherry Wingfield (NAS)

**Secretary's Report, Mary Ellen Tynan (PSC):** Laura Matuszak (GMA) asked that meeting minutes be approved via E-mail so that they can be posted in a timely manner. Procedure will be that the Secretary will send out the minutes. Any changes should be sent via "reply all" within 3 days of receiving the original draft. The Secretary will then make the revisions and post on the website. Motion made by Ray Grant (SSA) to accept the minutes of June 8, 2009 with minor typographical edits. Seconded by Bob Menck (UN-NE). Motion passes.

**Treasurer's Report, Carol Healey (UN-NE):** Accounts are as follows as of September 1, 2009:

Combined Checking Accounts: \$24, 935.28

Certificate of Deposit: \$53,496.88 (11 month), \$50,046.29 (9 month)

Money Market Account: \$128, 870.40

Business Savings Account: \$50, 283.87

We have awards, no need to purchase this year. Joe Frazier (BGSC) reported that based on the preliminary numbers for August, we should be on target to meet our financial goals for the fiscal year that ended August 31, 2009. Motion made by Priscilla Davis (UN-NE) to accept the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Mariella Allard (UN-NE). Motion passes.

**Reimbursement Requests, Mary Riddell (NE-Office):**

National Open Water Meet: Motion made by Ray Grant (SSA) and seconded by Joe Frazier (BGSC) to reimburse Eva Fabian (GMSC) \$300. Motion passes.

National Championships: Mary Riddell (UN-Office) reported that all swimmers who applied for reimbursement met the criteria of meet attendance except for James Fee (ABF). Laura Matuszak (GMA) read a letter from the James Fee's coach asking to accept his reimbursement request as we would like to encourage college athletes to return to compete in New England and that he had to leave on Saturday during Open to get to Nationals so he could only compete one day. Patrick Murphy (GMA) only provided \$594.24 in receipts. He did not submit a hotel bill. Motion made by Ray Grant (SSA) to reimburse Elizabeth Beisel (ABF), Laura Sogar (ABF), Christopher Rogers (ABF), Michael Ross (ABF), Alex Forrester (ABF), Caroline Vogel (ABF), Kaia Simmons (ABF) Nick D'Innocenzo (MAG), Katelyn (MAG) and Amanda Cecere (MAG) \$800 and Patrick Murphy \$594.24. Seconded by Mariella Allard. Motion passes. James Fee to be discussed later.

US OPEN: Mary Riddell (UN-Office) reported that all swimmers who applied for reimbursement fulfilled their obligations except James Fee (ABF) and Pat Biggs (ABF). Ray Grant (SSA) moves to reimburse Emma Jackson (ABF), Anna Senko (ABF), Patrick Murphy (GMA), Nick D'Innocenzo (MAG), Amanda Cecere (MAG) \$700. Joe Frazier (BGSC) seconded. Motion passes. James Fee (ABF) and Pat Biggs (ABF) will be discussed later.

Long Course Junior Nationals: Motion made by Ray Grant (SSA) and seconded by Joe Frazier (BGSC) to reimburse Jeffrey Thomas (ABF), Luca Spinazzola (ABF), Patrick Myers (ABF), Eva Fabian (GMSC), Maggie

D'Innocenzo (MAG), Erica Belcher (MAG), Jun Oh (MAG), Meaghan Grimes (MAG), Sara Li (MTSC) and Margaret Hutchinson (SAC) \$500. Motion passes.

As for James Fee (ABF) and Pat Biggs (ABF), general consensus is that they did not meet the requirements. Board discussed this last summer and voted no waivers. Matt Craven (SAC) makes a motion not to reimburse. Seconded by Mariella Allard (UN-NE). Motion passes.

**Reimbursement Policy 2009-2010, Laura Matuszak (GMA):** Laura reported that the placement of the summer Open meet makes it difficult for swimmers to compete at Open to fulfill their reimbursement requirement. Coaches must plan to get swimmers into New England meets earlier. Ray Grant (SSA) suggested that coaches can call meet directors and explain the situation and most meet directors will let a swimmer in. This coming year the calendar is: December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Short Course Nationals in Federal Way, WA

December 10<sup>th</sup> – Short Course Junior Nationals in Columbus, OH

June – 10K Open Water Nationals

August 3<sup>rd</sup> – Long Course Nationals in Irvine, CA

August 10<sup>th</sup> Long Course Junior Nationals in Irvine, CA

No US Open this year. Ray Grant (SSA) suggested that because the meets are in California next summer, might want to reconsider reimbursement amounts. Long Course Nationals in Federal Way may want to increase reimbursement amount (\$500). It is very expense to go there. Ray asks that dates in policy be changed to 2010 and correct typos. . Matt Craven (SAC) makes motion to approve and Ray Grant (SSA) seconds motion. Motion passes.

**Request for increased stipend from SSA for 14 & unders, Laura Matuszak (GMA):**

Laura thanked the officials and SSA for running the meet. Mary Riddell (UN-Office) received a request for an increased stipend from SSA due to the added 13-14 Age Group. Ray Grant (SSA) addressed the issue and is abstaining from the vote. Initially SSA bid on a 12 & Under meet. Then the 13-14 age group was added. That required additional pool rental for all day Thursday. Also, New England Swimming cut back the qualifying times, which reduced the number of swimmers that qualified to attend. This reduced the income to SSA. They made 17% less than last year and would like an additional \$1000. Sherry Wingfield (NAS) makes a motion to give them the money. Seconded by Joe Frazier (BGSC). Jamie Bloom (WYST) suggested that in the future, time trials could be used to generate additional funds, as there was time for them. Mary Riddell (NE-Office) reported that SSA made over \$19,000 in profit, but they did a lot of work getting sponsors, selling T-shirts, concessions, etc. They worked very hard and we want to encourage teams to use these avenues to generate funds. Bob Menck (UN-NE) asked what we normally reimburse for a 4-day meet. Laura Matuszak (GMA) pointed out that this was more than a 4-day meet as it was 3 sessions for 4 days. Sherry Wingfield (NAS) suggested we give them the money. Matt Craven (SAC) suggested we table this and listen to what Tim Murphy (BOSS) is requesting for an increased stipend at Open. We need these teams to step up to run these meets. Motion on the table is to offer SSA \$1000. Sherry Wingfield (NAS) rescinds her motion to hear from Carol Healey (SAC) about Open. Carol Healey (SAC) reported that profit from Open was just over \$6000. The original reimbursement was for \$3000, Tim Murphy (BOSS) is asking for \$5000. Ray Grant (SSA) makes motion to reimburse \$5000. Seconded by Joe Frazier (BGSC). Ray Grant (SSA) said these people are stepping up. Mariella Allard (UN-NE) reported this was discussed at Technical. When this happens and Open is a Senior Meet, they host team should get the Senior stipend. Bob Menck (UN-NE) asked what makes this a Senior meet. One set of time standards. This reduced the number of kids. Priscilla Davis (UN-NE) called for a vote. Motion passes. Joe Frazier (BGSC) makes motion to reimburse SSA and addition \$1000. Sherry Wingfield (NAS) seconds the motion. Ray Grant (SSA) and Carol Healey (SAC) abstain. Motion passes.

**Open Water Champs, Laura Matuszak (GMA):**

Laura reported that Matt Emmert sent a letter requesting a stipend for the Open Water meet. The biggest cost is the timing system. And there is nothing in the budget right now. John O'Neill (LRAC) said that there will be two waves – the championship wave and an open wave. The Tuesday Night Athletic Foundation raises money for a great cause. Laura Matuszak (GMA) called for a motion. Joe Frazier (BGSC) made a motion for a \$1750 stipend

to cover the timing system. Seconded by Sherry Wingfield (NAS). Laura Matuszak (GMA) asked that Technical review our stipend protocol before the next meeting.

**Status of new website and search for new office coordinator, Laura Matuszak (GMA):**

Laura reported that our new website is up and running. The meet page will be different, but all information will be there. The website is free and Laura is doing the updates right now. All requests for official clinics, meet information, etc. will go through Laura to be posted. Bob Menck (UN-NE) asked if the Official's Chair should take over that portion of the website. Laura Matuszak (GMA) said that we can set up multiple users. Long-term that is the way to go. New England Swimming is paying for the domain name. Laura Matuszak (GMA) reported that 15 people were interested in the Office Coordinator position. There will be five brought in for final interviews and a selection will be made. Mary Riddell (NE-Office) noted that her main concern right now is the Top Ten. Laura Matuszak (GMA) will check with Rosemarie Meissner (GMSC) and Rick Osterberg as to the status of the Top Ten.

**Calendar, Ray Grant (SSA):**

Short Course: Looks good. Facilities for all end-of-season meets are set. Seniors will be at BU and hosted by GMSC. At the recommendation of the Age Group Committee there will be six Regional sites this year (up from five) and there will be an 8 & under session in the middle of the day so the 8 & unders can get in and out. Twelve and unders are at the Upper Valley Aquatic Center and 13-19 will be at MIT. Ray reported that only one weekend on the calendar was overloaded. Gave teams an option to move their meets. Ray Grant reported that there is a policy in place that to get a meet sanctioned after the calendar is set, the other teams that have meets that weekend are asked for their opinions. Also, if a bid is not in on time, the host team cannot charge a participation fee. There is a team that did submit a late bid that wants to charge a participation fee. Laura Matuszak (GMA) asked Age Group and Senior Committees to get their cut times in order. Once short course cut times are determined, start working on long course. Mary Riddell (NE-Office) reported that membership is up 400 this year. Ray Grant (SSA) will have a Quad Plan for long course after convention. John O'Neill (LRAC) gave kudos to Ray Grant (SSA) for putting together the Quad Plan. Matt Craven (SAC) will be working on the Regional Meet event order.

**Zone Meet Report, Sherry Wingfield (NAS):**

The Zone Team came in 4<sup>th</sup>. Sherry was pleased with the meet. She left Jamie Bloom (WYST) in charge. Great group of well-behaved swimmers. Laura Matuszak (GMA) would like team photo for website.

**Technical Committee, Mariella Allard (UN-NE):** Technical Committee met on July 25, 2009.

Stipends: The committee recommends that when the Open Championship is really a Senior Championship, as it is this year, the stipend should be the same as the Senior Championship stipend. The committee recommends that this would begin in the future, not this year. Matt Craven (SAC) made a motion to accept this recommendation. Seconded by Ray Grant (SSA). Motion passes.

Time Trials: The committee recommends that teams running championship meets run time trials if at all possible and also open time trials to swimmers not attending the meet. Carole Healey (SAC) made a motion to approve. Seconded by Sherry Wingfield (NAS). Bob Menck (UN-NE) noted that all meet information says "at the discretion of the meet referee" This new recommendation is no different. Ray Grant (SSA) opposed swimmers not attending the meet in time trials. It is a big problem as it is difficult to verify registration during a meet. Bob Menck (UN-NE) agrees. Bob Menck (UN-NE) suggested that teams put their specific time trial information in the meet information. Motion on table to accept recommendation. Motion fails so it will go back to technical.

Championship Meet Committees: The committee recommends that the Meet Committee at a championship meet consist of the meet director, the meet referee, the age group or senior chairman (whichever one is appropriate), another coach, and an athlete. The five member should be from separate teams. Carol Healey (SAC) made a motion to approve. Seconded by Ray Grant (SSA) Motion passes.

Age Group Qualifier and summer "End of Season" Meet: The committee recommends that the Age Group Qualifier and the summer "End of Season" Meet not be protected and not include assigned timers from other teams. Carol Healey (SAC) makes a motion to approve. Seconded by Matt Craven (SAC). Ray Grant (SSA) reported the "End of Season" Meet is never on a protected weekend and that if the Age Group Qualifier meet is not protected,

SSA will not run it. Bob Menck (UN-NE) suggested that this recommendation go back to technical to address timing assignments. Motion goes to vote and fails.

*Open Warm-ups:* The committee would like to have open warm-ups, ideally at all meets. Pace lanes and sprint lanes still would be included. However, there was some concern about how this would work at in season meets so the committee would like to begin with championship meets to see how it works. No motion so goes back to technical.

*Coach meeting at championship meets:* The coaches on the committee recommend that coaches' meetings at championship meets be held every day at the end of warm-ups so that the meet director and the coaches can discuss changes in meet format and any problems which might have occurred. Sherry Wingfield (NAS) made a motion to accept. Jamie Blooms (WYST) seconded. Bob Menck (UN-NE) reported that coaches don't want a meeting. It is better to have a meeting at the end of a session. Ray Grant (SSA) noted that changes in meet format should not occur in the middle of the meet so there would be no need to discuss this at a meeting. Sherry Wingfield (NAS) asked how younger coaches will learn if there are not meetings at the championship meets. Motion goes to vote. Motion fails.

*Late Entries:* The committee discussed the problem of late entries at championship meets. There was agreement that late entries should be accepted if there was room. There could be a "punishment" for the late entries – fine, seeded at the end, etc. Motion made by Bob Menck (UN-NE) to accept. Seconded by Joe Frazier (BGSC). Ray Grant (SSA) noted that MIAA allows late entries but they are seeded at the end. Joe Frazier (BGSC) said that CT Swimming has a good policy on this. Motion fails.

*Age Group Committee and Senior Committee:* The committee recommends more input and oversight by the age group committee and senior committee in the running of championship meets so that problems could be solved before the meet begins. Bob Menck (UN-NE) made a motion to accept. Seconded by Laura Matuszak (GMA). Bob Menck (SSA) noted there will be issues with having entire committees involved. Motion fails.

*Age Group Championship Meet Size:* The committee discussed the "problems" with time standards at the 14 and under meet. Some events were quite under subscribed. One suggestion was to have A and B time standards so that A times would be guaranteed and swimmers with B times would be added after the A entries had been accepted. The advantage would be fewer "light" entries; the disadvantage would be that it would be difficult for teams and coaches to plan ahead. Laura Matuszak (GMA) asked that due to time constraints this be taken up at next meeting.

*Deadlines for updating times and adding events:* The coaches on the committee think that a deadline for adding new events and updating times should be later than 5PM on the following Monday because this deadline is difficult for the coaches who have other jobs. On the other hand, a later time is difficult for the meet director who has to get up the next morning for work. Laura Matuszak (GMA) asked that due to time constraints this be taken up at next meeting.

*Relays at Championship Meets:* The committee recommends adding the 200 free and medley relays at 13 and over championships. Bob Menck (UN-NE) makes a motion to approve. Ray Grant (SSA) seconded that motion. Ray Grant (SSA) asked Matt Craven (SAC) what the recommendation of the Age Group Committee is. Matt Craven (SAC) said it is in favor. Motion passes.

**Convention, Laura Matuszak (GMA):** Will be held September 15-20, 2009 in Chicago. Delegates are Laura Matuszak (GMA), Ray Grant (SSA), Matt Craven (SAC), Tim Murphy (BOSS), Jamie Bloom (WYST), Jessica Harrison (SAC), Andy Disco (HHS), and Priscilla Davis (UN-NE). All delegates must make their own arrangements. Ray Grant (SSA) suggested people look at Southwest and fly into Midway – low prices. Laura Matuszak (GMA) said that they will meet for dinner on Thursday or Friday.

**Banquet Speaker, Laura Matuszak (GMA):** They are working on several speakers. Budget is \$2500. Hopeful that we can book Mary Descenza or maybe Maritza Correia.

**Athlete's Report, Jessica Harrison (SAC):** Jessica welcomed Andy Disco (HHS) as the new Junior Athlete Representative.

**Coaches' Report, Jamie Bloom (WYST):** Jamie reported that a woman from out-of-town contacted her. She had E-mailed several New England coaches asking for a place to train for her swimmer when they were in town this summer. Not one of the coaches responded to her. Jamie asked that coaches please respond to E-mails, even if you cannot accommodate. Laura Matuszak (GMA) wants the website to become user friendly to coaches and athletes. Perhaps create blogs to improve communication.

**Official's Report, Bob Menck (UN-NE):** Bob said it was a great season. Mike Harrison (SAC) is the meet referee for Open Water Championships. There is now going to be Open Water certification for officials. USA Swimming is trying to be proactive. Frank Ching will be the meet referee for the December Senior meet. A subcommittee is working on a Referee's CD and Bob would like to add information to the officials portion of the website. Relays at Open Champs were an issue. At the National level there are no name changes; only order of relay may be changed at the blocks. We need to define the relay protocol. Bob reported that we have the opportunity to send two officials to National training in Texas. Bob also reported that at Regional meets he will try to get gifts for the officials like pens, lanyards, etc. as many of our officials attend the Regional meets.

**Other:**

Mike Harrison (SAC): At open Water there will be a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 waves. There will be men and women championship waves, Collegiate, Age Group and Masters. The championship waves must wear legal USA suits, not wet suits and two suits are not allowed. For the other heats it does not matter. Jamie Bloom (WYST) asked if there was any thought on using times from this race to qualify for others, Mike Harrison (SAC) said it is best to use the closed course mile time.

Laura Matuszak (GMA): (1) Laura will follow up with Kathy Dacey (UN-NE) on the status of the foundation. (2) Laura will follow-up on interactive tools. (3) Laura would like to see long-term detailed job descriptions for board members. (4) Laura discussed the Policy and Procedure Handbook. When we make changes, technical should update and confirm with the Secretary and the Office. (5) Laura would like to see an interactive newsletter. (7) Two contributors to the board have left – Pam Warner and Rick Osterberg. Mary Riddell (UN-Office) and Mary Ellen Tynan (PSC) will look into gifts.

Mariella Allard (UN-NE): Non-profit information was sent to Joe Frazier (BSC) and Kathy Dacey (UN-NE).

Matt Craven (SAC): Will contact Dan Warner (NSSC) to set time standards. Mary Gentry (NCAC) will hopefully have by the end of the month and then they will set for the rest of the quad. Plan hopefully.

JJ Sabatino (EST): Thanked Zone staff for the experience.

Next meeting:

Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at 7PM at the Wellesley Community Center.

Motion to adjourn made by Priscilla Davis (UN-NE), seconded by Jamie Bloom (WYST). Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Tynan , Secretary  
New England Swimming