

**CENTRAL ZONE MEETING
2002 USA SWIMMING CONVENTION
DALLAS/FT WORTH, TX
SEPTEMBER 12-13, 2002**

Thursday, September 12, 2002 - 8:00 AM

The meeting was called to order by Michael Lawrence.

Introductions: Randy Julian, USA Swimming Central Zone Sports Coordinator, was introduced. Central Zone will introduce candidates but allow no campaign speeches.

Roll Call: All fifteen Central Zone LSCs were present.

Agenda: The printed agenda was approved with several additions including the Athletes' Report.

Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes as published. **Seconded. Passed.**

Secretary/Treasurer Report. Lists for mailing were distributed. Ten LSCs have already paid the 2003 dues. Current balance in the CZ account is \$6804.20. Expenses for the CZ Age Group coordinators have not been included for 2002 in the current statement.

Announcements: Julie Bare announced that hotel reservations for the 2004 Olympic Trials in Long Beach will be available on September 16. Those from CZ running for national office were introduced.

Orders and Reports:

SWAD: No action was taken as the current policy to include swimmers with disabilities at the CZ meet was given a two-year period prior to re-evaluation.

Athlete Report: Dustin Guidry reported on a random athlete questionnaire from the Wichita Zone Meet. A challenge was given the Zone to inspire the older athletes to attend and participate in the Zone meets. Athletes were reminded that they need to elect their athlete rep.

Zone Manual Update: Julie Bare presented the "substantive" Zone Manual changes and reminded delegates that the changes to Part A must be approved by the National Board of Directors prior to taking effect. The six items were explained:
Item 1 and 3: These are athlete items and the wording is taken directly from the athletes' manual.
Item 2: The section is worded to clarify current policy. The \$25.00 penalty was included to encourage dues payment in a timely manner.
Item 4: Change of date for mailing of Zone meet packets to participating LSCs is to give the LSCs more lead time. The meet is in template form so there is no reason for the later date.
Item 5: Item submitted to present maximum fees for Zone meet spectator admission.
Item 6: Item adds the specifics for "Failure to Compete".

Omnibus motion made to accept all except Item 5. **Seconded. Passed.**

Motion was made for maximum admission charge of \$3.00 per session. **Seconded.** Discussion pointed out that the fee may be set by the meet facility. **Motion to table.** Item will be addressed at the Friday meeting.

Zone Championship Meets:

The question is whether to accept bids for a single meet or two meets. **Motion** was made to suspend the 2-meet rule for 2003 to allow for the consideration of a single meet. **Seconded. Passed.** The dates for all bids for 2003 are August 6-10, 2003.

Kate Chronic submitted the dates for the 2004 Central Zone meets - August 6-8 and August 13-15, 2004 for the pool meets. (Olympic swimming events are August 13-21.) No LSC prefers August 13-15. **Motion** was made to accept August 6-8, 2004 as the dates for the pool events. **Seconded. Passed.**

Site Selection committee for the 2003 meet was announced by Michael Lawrence. Mike Lewellyn of MV will chair. Hank Enterline of OK, Duncan Olney of SD and Dustin Guidry, Athlete will make up the Site Selection committee.

Motion to accept the Mega-Meet proposal. **Seconded.** Discussion centered around the philosophy of two champions vs one champion, two heats of finalists vs four heats of finalists, providing more opportunities and not broadening the base, broadening competition by bringing in more/varied athletes, one zone meet as more encouragement for the 15-18 yr old to swim, too large a meet, Indy a draw, elitism at the age group level is not a positive, 4-days/1600 athletes could be handled

**Central Zone Meeting Minutes
September 12-13, 2002**

once in 20 years, meet is an out-of-the-ordinary competition/celebration. **Passed** 29.5 to 15.5 votes in favor of the mega-meet.

Elections: CZ needs a contingency plan for Coach Zone Director as Mike Lawrence is running for National Program Development Vice President. **Motion** was made to elect a coach zone director to serve a 1-yr term in the event that Mike is elected to national office. **Seconded. Passed.**

Nominations for zone offices are as follows:

Zone Director (non-Coach) - Julie Bare LE

Zone Director (Coach) - Eric Nelson, MV; PJ Keller, OZ; Paul Lundsten, MN

Secretary/Treasurer - Betty Kooy, MW

Assistant Zone Age Group Coordinator - Joel Shinofield, MN; Michele DeLuna, IN

Age Group Planning Committee (non-coach) - Arlene McDonald, IN

Motion to elect the three uncontested positions by acclamation. **Seconded. Passed.**

Elections for the contested positions will take place early in the agenda on Friday with brief presentations being allowed by the candidates.

Zone Bid Presentations:

Because of the single meet format, two bids were withdrawn. Presentations were given by the Dayton Raiders/ MAKOS/ Miami of Ohio and Indiana's IUPUI complex. Open Water at Miami was planned for Monday following the meet. A variety of housing arrangements are available. An Athlete Village was part of the presentation. Indy will host Open Water on Wednesday prior to the pool events, is planning Opening Ceremonies and will swim 3 heats in finals to address the combining of the two meets and less second swims.

Meeting was **adjourned** at 9:55 AM - to convene again Friday at 3:30 PM.

Friday, September 13, 2002, 3:30 PM.

Meeting was called to order by Michael Lawrence.

Roll Call: All fifteen LSCs present.

Ballots were distributed. (Actually it was make-your-own ballot time.)

Chuck Wielgus was present for questions from CZ regarding the dues proposal.

Announcements: Pat Lunsford was called home for a family medical emergency. Mike Tchoukaleff was appointed Assistant Zone Officials Coordinator. Gail Dummer and Pam Redding are available as resources to all Sectional meets for inclusion of Swimmers with a Disability in those meets. Candidates for national office present were introduced.

Zone Mega-Meet proposal: **Motion** to accept the four-day format as submitted by Indiana. **Seconded. Passed.**

Elections: Runoff between PJ Keller and Eric Nelson needed.

Zone Director - coach (1 year) - Eric Nelson (after runoff)

Assistant Age Group Coordinator - Michele DeLuna

Athletes - Nicole Alfrey (after runoff)

Report of Central Zone Meet Evaluation: Recommendations for changes to the Zone Manual:

1. Add to Open Water section: When a bid is made to host the Central Zone meet, the host club shall contact the USA Swimming Open Water Committee to enlist a local long distance swimming, marathon, open water or triathlon organization for pre-meet planning, on-site set-up and meet direction. The host club will maintain responsibility for meet results, awards and venue contracts. Purpose: Safety of all athletes entered in the Open Water portion of the Central Zone Championships.
2. Delete the 200 relay events for 13-14 and 15-18 age groups. Purpose: Safety for older athletes.
3. Change under Meet Format: G. Warm-ups shall be conducted according to Host LSC Warm-up Rules and Safety Guidelines. The LSC Rules and Guidelines shall be included in the Meet Information Packet. Purpose: To conform

**Central Zone Meeting Minutes
September 12-13, 2002**

with Host LSC safety and warm-up procedures.

4. Regarding Scratches 6.A Scratches: All individual events will conform to USA Swimming National Scratch procedure Guidelines (207.5.9 A-E). Purpose: To conform to USA Swimming Championship Scratch Rule. (All other sections/suggested changes were withdrawn.)

5. Regarding Awards Ceremony 9.D.b. 13-18: Shall be presented at the end of each stroke series (13-14, 15-18).

Omnibus motion to accept all changes. Three were pulled. All were dealt with individually.

1. **Motion** to accept. **Seconded. Passed.**

2. **Motion** to accept. **Seconded. Failed.**

3. **Motion** to accept. **Seconded. Passed.**

4. **Motion** to accept as changed. **Seconded. Passed.**

5. **Motion** to accept. **Seconded. Passed.**

Motion from Michigan Swimming: For states such as Michigan who have stringent starting depth requirements, all relays will default to 400 relays (not to be duplicated) and such information will be clearly stated in the bid packet. Purpose: To allow all LSCs an opportunity to bid to host a zone meet. **Seconded. Passed.**

Site Selection Committee Report: The site selection committee of Mike Lewellyn, Hank Enterline, Duncan Olney and Dustin Guidry recommended that Indiana/IUPUI be awarded the bid for the 2003 Mega-Meet. **Motion** to accept. **Seconded. Passed.** Committee cautioned host that they will probably be looking at a meet with 1800 swimmers.

It was mentioned that the Zone Manual changes that were considered “housekeeping” had not been accepted. **Motion** to accept the “housekeeping” changes in the Central Zone Manual. **Seconded. Passed.**

Motion that the maximum admission fee per session for spectators at the CZ meet of \$3.00 be taken off the table. **Seconded, Passed.**

Motion to accept the \$3.00 maximum. **Seconded. Failed.**

Motion that admission fees, program cost and a range for parking fees must be included in the bid packet and meet information. **Seconded. Discussion** regarding various scenarios. **Passed.**

Central Zone Web Site: Brian Hindson of the Communications Committee stated that the Communications Committee will be recommending that each Zone have its own web site with the portal links on the USA Swimming Web Site. The sites are to be maintained by each Zone and guidelines for minimum inclusion will be formulated and communicated to the Zones by the Communications Committee.

Randy Julian reminded LSCs that Swimposiums are available and to contact USA Swimming or Randy if an LSC would like to request a Swimposium.

Julie Bare and Pete Malone expressed the thanks of the Central Zone to Michael Lawrence for his outstanding leadership for the past three years and wished him well in his new position on the USA Swimming Board of Directors.

Meeting was **adjourned** at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Kooy
Central Zone Secretary

Central Zone Forum
September 10, 2002

Introductions: Central Zone Officers were introduced. Randy Julian, Central Zone Sports Coordinator for USA Swimming was introduced.

Announcements: Section meets need to turn in location and dates to officers. An assistant officials coordinator needs to be appointed. Please submit names to officers for said position. Meet evaluation committee needs to be formed. Site selection committee also needs to be formed. Please submit names to Julie Bare.

Purpose of Forum: To discuss the Speedo Champion Series Meets (aka Sectionals):

1. Open or closed
2. Alignment
3. Championship protocol
4. Inclusion of disability swimmers
5. Mega-meet in 2003
6. Officials
7. Sites for spring 2004 meets.

1. Open or closed: Central Zone meets are currently closed. It was the consensus of the group that they remain closed.

2. Alignment of LSCs for sectionals:

There was a suggestion to combine 2 sectionals for spring with the object of faster standards. The USA Swimming contribution would be \$10,000 (not \$20,000). Region VIII doesn't have facilities currently. Hence it sets standards for a specific number at its meet. Iowa, in consideration of numbers and travel distance, is seeking something different. We could revisit the alignment.

1. A revisit of open or closed meets: It was suggested to make the long course meet open. The geographic/travel issue was discussed. Meets are still closed.

3. Championship protocol: Each sectional is different - regarding the quality of awards, goody bags, etc. The consensus of the group was to leave it alone. Each section has the prerogative to determine what it will do.

4. Inclusion of disability swimmers: It is strongly suggested that each section be required to develop a policy for inclusion of swimmers with a disability.

5. Mega-meet for sectionals in 2004 long course, pre-Olympic trials, open to all LSCs in Central Zone in June. After discussion, it was decided to hold two meets in July. Stanford has the National Championship meet for the 1st week of August in 2004. The Grand Prix meets are available all spring and summer so the mega-format is not needed. Region VIII will keep its date on the 2004 calendar. Spring national meet will be February 11-15.

6. Officials: Discussion of difficulties in getting officials. Some are doing double duty to meet national championship certification requirements. Officials chairs need to get officials national championship certified. Referees need to send officials' evaluations to the Central Zone Officials coordinator and the National Officials Chair after the completion of the Sectional meets.

7. Sectional contracts. The Zone Directors are responsible for communicating to National the location of the meets. Hence each section must let the Zone Directors know where those meets are and who the hosts are. Forms were circulated to each section for reporting purposes. Purpose: To facilitate communication with USA Swimming so that sectional contracts are distributed in a timely fashion.

General forum adjourned to allow each section to meet and discuss their own issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Kooy
Central Zone Secretary

SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSED CHANGES TO CZ MANUAL

From Section A

ITEM 1 5.7.4 ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE

- (1) Shall actively participate at the USAS Convention.
- (2) Shall coordinate athlete representation for the Zone at Convention.
- (3) Shall assist in setting and meeting yearly position goals.
- (4) Shall provide pre- and post-Convention reports to the LSC athlete reps and contact those reps a minimum of two additional times per year.
- (5) Shall maintain and update a current list of LSC athlete representatives in the Zone.
- (6) Shall ensure that new LSC athlete reps receive a copy of the Athletes' Manual and all appropriate information.
- (7) Shall keep all records/information for the next Zone Athlete Representative.

ITEM 2 7. DUES AND FEES: Each Member LSC shall pay such annual dues and fees to the Zone as may be determined from time to time at the annual meeting. The dues and fees for the subsequent year shall be due and payable to the Central Zone and given to the Secretary/Treasurer at least thirty (30) days prior to by the conclusion of the annual meeting. LSC dues not paid by the conclusion of the annual meeting will incur an additional \$25.00. ~~The~~ Current annual dues are \$100.00 per LSC.

From Section B

ITEM 3 1.1.E. ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE

- a. Shall actively participate at the USAS Convention.
- b. Shall coordinate athlete representation for the Zone at Convention.
- c. Shall assist in setting and meeting yearly position goals.
- d. Shall provide pre- and post-Convention reports to the LSC athlete reps and contact those reps a minimum of two additional times per year.
- e. Shall maintain and update a current list of LSC athlete representatives in the Zone.
- f. Shall ensure that new LSC athlete reps receive a copy of the Athletes' Manual and all appropriate information.
- g. Shall keep all records/information for the next Zone Athlete Representative.

ITEM 4 III.1Ec. Send complete Meet Information packets to the Central Zone Directors and each participating LSC permanent office or Secretary, or General Chairman, and Age Group Chair by June 15 May 15. Include instructions that the LSC office must distribute to all appropriate persons ~~(LSC clubs with participating athletes).~~

ITEM 5 V.7. **OTHER FEES**

- A. Meet Program - not to exceed \$4.00/session or \$10.00 for all sessions.
- B. Finals Heat Sheets – not to exceed \$1.00/session.
- C. Admissions – ????
- D. Final Results – not to exceed \$10.00.

ITEM 6 V.9 **H. Exceptions for Failure to Compete**

- a. The Referee is notified in the event of illness or injury and accepts proof thereof;
- b. A swimmer qualifying for a consolation final or final race scratches from finals in accordance with E above;
- c. It is determined by the Referee that failure to compete is caused by circumstances beyond the control of the swimmer.

Central Zone Meet Evaluation Committee
Legislative Changes/Recommendations

VI. Competition-Open Water

3. Central Zone Specific Information

Add the following new section:

D. The host club shall contact the USA Swimming Open Water Committee to enlist a local long distance swimming, marathon, open water or triathlon organization for pre-meet planning, on-site set-up, and meet direction. The host club will maintain responsibility for meet results, awards, and venue contracts.

Amended with addition at the beginning: When a bid is made to host the CZ meet, the host team will indicate in their bid if they will be hosting an Open Water meet. If so.....(as follows in the original).

VII. Championship Meet Schedule of Events – Day 3

Delete events 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90. (all 13-14 and 15-18 relays of 200 distance).

Part B, Section V. Competition; 2. Meet Format G.

~~G. Warm-ups shall be split for the preliminary sessions (two 40 minute sessions, with an additional 15 minute session for starts and pace work only). The times and lane assignments for the 40 minute sessions will be announced at the Pre-Meet meeting, with lanes assigned according to LSC team size and alternating early/late time assignments. The coach shall have charge of the assigned lane. The time and lane specifications for the start and pace session will be announced.~~

G. Warm-ups shall be conducted according to Host LSC Warm-up Rules and Safety Guidelines. The LSC Rules and Guidelines shall be included in the Meet Information Packet.

Part B, V. Competition, 6. Scratches:

6. Scratches

~~A. "scratch box" will be available until the start of the Pre-Meet meeting on the day prior to the first day of pool competition to scratch from a preliminary or timed final event (except the 800 or 1500 free). No penalty exists for failure to scratch. All individual events will conform to USA Swimming National Scratch Procedures Guidelines (207.5.9 A-E).~~

~~B. A positive check-in is required for the 800 and 1500 free on the day of the event. Failure to check in will not result in penalty, however, Once checked in, the swimmer must compete or be barred from the next individual event in which the swimmer is entered. The "next individual event" shall mean the next individual event in which the swimmer is entered, either that day or the next meet day.~~

~~C. A positive check-in is required for all relay events on the day of the event. Relay cards designating the swimmers' names and meet ID numbers shall be submitted to the meet management on the day of the relay. Scratches must be declared, with no penalty for failure to scratch: according to Section A (see above).~~

~~D. If a swimmer wishes to scratch from the finals of a preliminary/finals event, the swimmer shall declare to the referee or designee his/her intention within 30 minutes of the posting of the preliminary results. The swimmer must further inform the referee or designee within 30 minutes of the posting of preliminary results from the swimmer's last individual event of his/her decision.~~

~~E. Failure to compete in a consolation or championship final event shall result in swimmer being barred from his/her next individual event.~~

~~FD. First and second alternates shall be announced with the Finals qualifiers. These alternates shall not be penalized if unavailable to compete in the finals.~~

Part B, V. Competition, 9. Awards

D. Awards Ceremony

~~b. 13-18: presented immediately following the conclusion of the championship heat for individual events, and after the last timed final heat for each relay and distance event. Shall be presented at the end of each stroke series (13-14, 15-18).~~