

**USA Swimming
Meeting of the Central Zone
Lake Buena Vista, Florida
September 16-17, 2004**

**Forum Agenda
Tuesday, September 14**

The Central Zone welcomed and introduced USA Swimming Facilities staff members, Mick Nelson, John McIlhargy and Sue Nelson. The trio briefly addressed the forum group and invited all to contact them with any facility concerns.

Eric Nelson reported that no hosts had expressed interest in the 2005 Central Zone meets. Grand Forks ND was a maybe.

SECTIONALS

Discussion on the definition of CLOSED for Sectionals.

1. Central Zone participants/resident must compete in their assigned Sectional.
 - a. Can a Sectional determine that they wish to OPEN up their meet for outside Central Zone participants?
 - b. What if opening up Sectional puts entries "over the limit"? Central Zone members cannot/should not be shut out.
 - c. Formal legislation will be presented at Thursday's meeting of the CZ.
2. Junior Championships begin Long Course 2005. Juniors are 1 week after Nationals. Will this meet affect numbers for Sectionals? Sectional 2 & 3 met after forum to discuss a possible merge.

ZONE MEET

1. Is there an interest in adding the longer freestyle events and longer stroke events for the 10 & U and 11-12 age groups? There was discussion from LSC's that already offer those events at their LSC championships. A straw vote was taken and at this time, the meet format or adding of events will not occur.
2. Is it possible to run the meet Thursday-Saturday with Open Water on Sunday? Yes. Bidding hosts can offer up any day of the week options.
3. Is there a desire to potentially run a Mega Zone meet again? While there were many comments made about the limited facilities that could even host, that many swimmers would not get a second swim, and the format would have to be tweaked again, there was a majority in support of investigating the feasibility of a future Mega Meet.

BACKGROUND CHECKS

Julie and Eric tried to give answers to the background check proposed legislation. USA Swimming would like to do a pilot volunteer program. There are many unanswered questions and many feel that there needs to be more details on the procedure before consideration.

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THURSDAY, September 16

The meeting was called to order and roll call was taken. All LSC's were present except SD.

Murray Stephens and Mary Jo Swalley of the USA Swimming Board of Directors spoke to the Central Zone on the proposed legislation of background checks for coaches. The Q & A session lasted about 25 minutes and addressed issues of cost to what "offenses" would be red-flagged. Mr. Stephens and Ms. Swalley said that the sport of swimming lags behind other youth sports with regard to background checks on coaches. The process is not very clear and would be a work-in-progress. They thanked the delegates of the Central Zone and encouraged us to consider approving the concept and program for background checks.

The Agenda was adopted and the September 2003 minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT/APPROVAL: The balance in the account as of 9/3/04 is \$7,663.85.

CENTRAL ZONE CONSULTANT: Randy Julian reported that the Waterworks Committee would be coming out with some new posters from pictures/images of the Athens Games. Additionally, there will be a "Dummies Guide to Marketing for Local Clubs" available in the very near future.

ZONE DIRECTORS: Julie congratulated Eric Nelson for placing an athlete on not only the 2004 Olympic Team (Caroline Bruce) but also the 2004 Paralympic Team (Jarrett Perry). She also took time to thank many members of the Central Zone during her years as Zone Director – Non Coach.

RECORDS CHAIR: There were 17 new individual zone records broken at the 2004 meets and 12 relay records broken. There were no Open Water records broken.

AGE GROUP COORDINATORS: Michele DeLuna, Age Group Chair, reported on the Ohio Central Zone meet. There were great swims and friendly and helpful volunteers. There was an error in awards ordered, but host had protocol in place to collect mailing addresses of deserving athletes. Minimum awards quality should be considered.

Mike Lewellyn, Assistant Age Group Chair, reported on the Kansas Central Zone meet. He praised the meet with high marks across the board. Great facility and hospitality, even with the warm down facility across and down the street about a block from competition pool. He also mentioned the lack of quality for the awards.

OFFICIALS: Lucy Duncan, Officials Chair, reported that the Sectional meets have all been National Championship certified and that progress on the consistency of officiating will be communicated to all LSC Officials Chairs.

Mike Tchoukaleff, Assistant Officials Chair, reported that the Spring 2005 Sectional Meets Officials Application was now available.

ATHLETE REP: No report.

AGE GROUP PLANNING: Arlene McDonald thanked Kate Chronic for her work on the Age Group Planning committee. The committee has worked on 2 workshops that will be presented at convention.

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ADAPTED SWIMMING: There are 10 Central Zone athletes and 4 CZ coaches participating in the 2004 Athens Paralympics. Congratulations to all!! Julie read an email from Pam Redding who was unable to attend convention as she was in Athens for the Paralympic Games. A variety of disability groups were represented between the 2 Zone sites. There were 2 appearances in consolation finals by Swimmers with a Disability and there were also 2 American records broken.

SEXUAL HARRASSMENT SURVEY: Joe Oglivie addressed the CZ on the Sexual Harrassment policy statement adopted by the USA Swimming Board of Directors. There was a survey available to members of the CZ regarding the preferred method of dissemination, educational package, etc. He encouraged return of the surveys.

NOMINATIONS were accepted for the following positions:

Zone Director (Non-Coach): Arlene McDonald

Secretary / Treasurer: Betty Kooy

Asst. Age Group Coordinator: Mark Davis

Age Group Planning (Non-Coach): Tony Young

Since all positions were unopposed, a vote by acclamation was proclaimed and approved. Congratulations and thanks to the above individuals for their willingness to serve.

2005 ZONE MEETS BID PRESENTATIONS

Grand Forks ND and Ann Arbor MI have both submitted bids to host the 2005 meets. ND requests an earlier weekend (August 5-7) while MI requests the later weekend (August 12-14).

A roll call of all LSC's on their preference for an early or late weekend was taken. The division did not appear even, so the Site Selection Committee will have to meet and report back at the Friday meeting. Mark Hesse was asked to chair the Site Selection Committee.

ACTION ITEMS:

MOTION: The dates for the Central Zone meets for 2006 shall be August 4-6 and August 11-13. PASSED.
FYI: LE-Cleveland is interested in submitting a bid for August 4-6. IN-Indianapolis may consider August 11-13. OK-may consider August 4-6.

MOTION: At the discretion of each section, the sectional meet may be opened to swimmers from outside the Central Zone at whatever qualifying times they so designate. No section shall accept into its meet any swimmer registered in the Central Zone who is from an LSC not assigned to its section. PASSED.

MOTION: The Central Zone should host a short course zone meet for all LSC zone teams. FAILED DUE TO LACK OF A SECOND.

The Thursday meeting was adjourned.

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FRIDAY, September 17

The meeting was called to order and role was taken. All LSCs were in attendance except for South Dakota.

ELECTIONS

The Athletes elected Sarah Sofelt (MN) to be the Central Zone Athlete Rep.

Paul Jones was appointed the Asst. Officials Chair.

SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT:

August 5-7 Grand Forks ND: AR, IL, IN, MW, ND, OK, SD & WI

August 12-13 Ann Arbor MI: IA, LE, MV, MI, MN, OH, OZ

Mark Hesse, 2004 Site Selection Chair, requested that anyone willing to serve on a Site Selection Task Force to please volunteer.

MEET EVALUATION COMMITTEE PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

MOTION: Adopted as amended

ENTRY DEADLINE: Each LSC shall receive a report of its team entries via email by noon Tuesday, August XX, 200X. Any corrections and/or omissions to the original entry should be submitted to the entry chair as soon as possible, but no later than 15 minutes after the conclusion of the general meeting. Entry fees are also due at this time.

MOTION: Adopted

Eligibility Provisions:

- D. Swimmers who achieve or exceed an individual event cut for the USA Swimming 18 & Under Championships prior to the 18 & Under Championship entry deadline may not enter or participate in that event or swim that stroke in a relay at the zone championship meet. This applies to times achieved during the zone championship meet time period. Entries for swimmer who achieve a 18 & Under Championship qualifying time AFTER the entry deadline for that meet must include the date the 18 & Under Championship qualifying time was achieved.

MOTION: Adopted

NEW SECTION: SCRATCHING FROM FINALS

- A. LSCs whose swimmers in the Final or Consolation heats on Sunday evening fail to scratch, shall be fined a \$100 penalty per swim.
- B. All funds shall remain with the meet host.
- C. Failure, on the part of the LSC, to pay penalties shall result in barring from future zone championships.

MOTION: Adopted

Update the forms in the zone manual/meet packet.

- 1. Remove officials sign up sheet from Meet Staff form (Officials Chair posts their own form).
- 2. Remove entry summary chart and financial totals (Hy-Tek generates this report).

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MOTION: Adopted

Entry procedures for Open Water.

- D. Entries for Open Water meet must be submitted either electronically or on the separate Open Water entry form. Changes and/or omissions to an LSC's Open Water entry must be made by 5:00 pm the day prior to the start of the open water competition.

MOTION: Adopted as amended.

Section B4, 2.a Zone Officials Chairs:

2.A.h

The Zone Officials Chair and the Assistant Zone Officials Chair, with the input from the Zone Championship Meet Director and LSC Officials Chair for that site shall select and appoint Zone Championship Meet Referees.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

CZ Manual – Website posting sufficient. Email copy or CD available upon request.

CZ Mailings – Email preferred.

CZ Dues – Due to mailing costs eliminated, should we reduce annual dues or find ways to spend our money? A Task Force to communicate on ideas on how to spend the excess money was formed. Many people volunteered to serve on this Task Force.

Central Zone cities bidding on 2008 Olympic Trials are Minneapolis/St. Paul, Indianapolis and Omaha.

ATHENS EXPERIENCE: Michael Lawrence shared his great experience in Athens with Team USA.

The Friday meeting was adjourned.

ALL MINUTES RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Lynn Kinstler
Indiana Swimming
Substitute for Betty Kooy

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SITE SELECTION TASK FORCE

| | | |
|---------------|----|--|
| Joel Rollings | WI | joelrollings@hotmail.com |
| Mike Beilman | WI | mikeyb53217@yahoo.com |

HOW TO SPEND THE MONEY TASK FORCE

| | | |
|----------------|----|--|
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