

**USA Swimming
Meeting of the Central Zone
Dearborn MI
September 14-15, 2006**

**Forum Discussion
Tuesday, September 13, 2006**

Central Zone LSCs were represented with the exception of North Dakota and South Dakota.

Zone Open Water Records: Zone Records Chair Betty Kooy discussed the seeming inconsistencies in open water courses and that open water records do not make any sense as they seem to be comparing very different things. It was mentioned that USA Swimming does not keep open water records. The recommendation to the meet committee will be to eliminate Open Water Records for the Central Zone.

Format of Zone Meets: Kate Chronic, at the request of the Central Zone general chairs and directors, distributed a questionnaire to all Central Zone LSCs. She received only four responses. For the most part the format of the meet is fine. The length of the sessions is always problematic but there were no good suggestions or solutions. It was recommended to resubmit the questionnaire at the Zone meets, particularly to Zone coaches.

Meet Evaluation Committee: Committee will be chaired by Mike Lewellyn and assisted by Lisa Ellis, Central Zone CZ championship meet coordinators. Each LSC needs to submit the name of one non-athlete and one athlete to sit on this committee. Meeting will be at 5 pm Wednesday in the lobby of the hotel.

Legislation regarding Safety Marshals: Legislation was submitted on behalf of the Central Zone Board of Directors regarding the required registration of meet safety marshals. It was recommended that the wording be changed to 'Central Zone' as there is no CZ BOD.

USA Swimming Elections: Eric Nelson recommended that everyone get to know the candidates. Bios are available online and in published format as well as interviews on video for the presidential candidates.

USA Swimming Foundation: Arlene McDonald requested that any LSC interested in sharing a table for the Golden Goggles awards, which supports the USA Swimming Foundation, contact Arlene. Cost per person is \$1000.

Background Checks: Pat Hogan of the USA Swimming Staff discussed the process for the background checks. Illinois and Lake Erie out of the CZ will be part of the pilot. If the legislation passes, the intent is to roll out the program several LSCs at a time. Background checks will be required of all coaches. It will be up to the coach to log on to the secure web site of the provider, pay the \$20 for the check, and submit the appropriate information. The prospective coach will be notified regarding the outcome of the background check and will have the right of appeal in case of a negative outcome.

Reminder: Attend the Diversity Workshop to be done by John Cruzat of USA Swimming.

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The meeting was called to order. Roll call indicated all LSCs were present.

Additions to the agenda included a report from Randy Julian, CZ Sport Development Consultant.

Secretary: The minutes of the 2005 meeting were approved as posted as printed and circulated.

Treasurer: Betty Kooy reported a balance of \$6755.35. All 2006-2007 dues have been paid with one exception. Expenses for the CZ observers for the summer meets have not been posted to the account.

Report from Randy Julian: USA Swimming has a folder for all LSCs with statistical analysis. These figures are used for the IMX scores and the Virtual Club Championships. Randy is requesting the need for volunteers to assist with race analysis – 3-5 per sectional both LC and SC meets. Randy mentioned the Disability Incentive Program and the Internet Challenge for Disabilities. Jim Devine will be presenting at the Disability Workshop. Items on table for circulation included Club Recognition, Background Screening, and the Coaches Quarterly,

Officers' Reports:

Zone Director: Eric Nelson reported on several zone activities for the year. There have been four conference calls for zone officers and CZ general chairs. Two newsletters have been published, emailed, and posted to the CZ website. CZ general chairs authorized the donation of \$1000 to the Eric Namesnik memorial. Pre-zone site visits were done this year for the first time by the two CZ Championship meet coordinators.

Zone Director: Arlene McDonald gave a synopsis of the Board of Directors meeting. Copies of the budget are available. The YMCA will adopt USA Swimming's technical rules as of September 1. John Cruzat has been added to staff to support Outreach. The Athletes Task Force has been discussing the hardship on athletes regarding convention attendance (missing school, etc). It is estimated that Katrina Relief will total about \$160,000 from Swimathons. USA Foundation business plan was shared.

Secretary: Betty Kooy stated that all meet information is being posted to the CZ website including meet invitations, meet results, contacts, etc. CZ is one of the few zones still posting this information regularly.

Age Group Planning: Julie Youngquist and Tony Young stated that the committee will now be appointed. This year they have opened communications with age group chairs from each LSC with the use of conference calls. Discussions have been held regarding retention, coach mentoring, IMX scoring Hy-Tek Power Points. Because participation has been poor, in the future Tom Avisious will be recording the conference calls so that all can get the information. The Age Group chairs need to share this information. This fall Sunday evening conference calls in October will discuss Open Water as an Olympic event to try to generate interest in Open Water swimming and in December, the USA Office will present information on nutrition and eating disorders. The convention workshops will include sharing and Q & A. Sue Anderson will offer materials on Parent Education and how to use the great information available from USA Swimming.

Athlete Representative: No athlete Report.

Championship Meet Coordinators: Lisa Ellis discussed the spring site visits to the meet hosts. These visits were primarily for trouble-shooting and to let the meet host know what the expectations of the CZ are for hosting the championship meets. Mike Lewellyn discussed the questionnaires. The responses have been published and circulated. Both were very successful swim meets. Comments were the same as usual. It was mentioned that one scenario was presented to the site visitor and changes were made for the meet. Mike recommended CZ watch and see if that trend continues. Both were good, experienced hosts. Immediate responses were made and complaints were handled the first day of the meet. A question was asked regarding use of the stipend from USA Swimming and whether it was used for athlete enhancement. There is a place on the report to USA Swimming as to how the funds were spent. Both Mike and Lisa were at Oklahoma. Mike was also at the Indianapolis site.

Officials Chairs: Mike Tchoukaleff is ending his 4 year team. He expressed his thanks to all officials and mentioned that he really appreciated the typed applications. Applications for officiating numbers were as follows: Spring: Canton-27; Chicago-23; Oklahoma City 26. Summer: Bloomington-13, Columbia-22, Minneapolis-32. The Zone meets had applications for 22 at Oklahoma City and 16 at Indianapolis. These are the numbers of those who submitted the applications, not actually working the meets. Paul Jones will move to the position of CZ Officials Chair. An Assistant Officials Chair will be appointed by the CZ directors.

Zone Records: Betty Kooy reported that 9 new pool records were set at the summer Zone meets – 4 at Indianapolis and 5 at Oklahoma City. Also 5 Open Water records were set at Oklahoma City. The new records have been posted to the CZ website. The recommendation was made that CZ no longer keep Open Water records because of the inconsistencies of the courses.

Disability Swimming: Hank Enterline noted the change in name to Disability Swimming and the need to update the CZ manual. He also mentioned the Internet Challenge and the Scholastic All America opportunities for Disability Swimmers. USA Swimming has a new incentive program to attract disabled athletes to participate in USA Swimming meets which will come in the form of a rebate of \$40 per disabled athlete. \$50,000 is available for the remainder of the Quadrennium.

Updates from 2007 CZ Meet Hosts:

Bob Happ discussed the Cleveland State site including improvements to the pool, scoreboard, etc. There will be a separate warm-up pool. Lodging will be available in a dorm (former hotel) for teams traveling together, and there will be hotel packages for others. Cleveland is a Continental hub so air travel is possible. Open Water date has not been determined – but site will probably be Lake Erie.

John Dicus of the Topeka Swim Association said a hotel packet is available. He can be contacted at jdicus@capfed.com. Website is www.swimtsa.com. Meet is at the Capital Federal Natatorium. Topeka is 60 miles west of Kansas City. Seating capacity is 1250; warm-up facility is 250 yd away from the facility. Open Water will be on Thursday prior to the meet. TSA hosted in 2004 and will run meet similarly. Information will be posted on the CZ website as it becomes available as well as on the TSA website.

Championship Meets Reports: Mike Lewellyn gave the report for the championship meets committee. There were some hot spots at both meets and some negative and some positive. Fixes are possible with either legislation or other ways. Recommendations will include awards 9-16 for all age groups and 1-8 for relays, the allowance of surcharges, and the levying of a \$100 fine for not submitting financial forms to the CZ Secretary/Treasurer. Suggestions include team meal availability on site (at least on registration day), caps on admissions fees, not charging 8 & unders, offering family tickets, and consistent fee

structure. Discussion included the CZ taking a stronger stance on admission and guidelines for the coordinators for admission charges.

CZ Meet Site Bid Presentation: Motion was made to accept one bid/one site/one weekend for a megazone meet in 2008 from Indianapolis. Seconded. Approved. Mark Hesse of Indiana made a presentation for the Indianapolis site for August 6-11, 2008. The challenges of 2003 will be addressed. Reason to host is to be part of a capital campaign for the natatorium - "Preserve the Memories". Many partnerships in Indiana have been formed to assist with the meet. The host requests the formation of an advisory committee to include representation from all CZ LSCs. There will be an AquaZone vendor village. A proposed schedule of events was presented. The Open Water venue will be Eagle Creek. Julie McKinney presented information on the campaign for the natatorium along with items to be renovated and repaired. Todd Greenwood discussed the Indianapolis visitor experience and that Indianapolis is a flexible city which supports all events. A customized welcome, website, hotel information, coordinated housing and other options are all part of the supported visitor experience. This meet is to be a celebration of Central Zone swimming! Each LSC is requested to designate one person for the advisory council for this meet and send that person's name to Arlene McDonald.

Site Selection Committee: No committee is needed because of the acceptance of one bid.

Nominations of Officers: Nominations for non-coach director and secretary were requested from the floor. No nominations were made. Motion was made to accept Arlene McDonald as non-coach director by acclamation. Seconded. Approved. Motion was made to accept Betty Kooy as secretary treasurer by acclamation. Seconded. Approved.

Requests from Officers: Arlene requested that the CZ manual be updated and requested volunteers to help with the task. Betty will be taking names. Arlene also requested recommendations for appointed offices (officials coordinator, disability coordinator, and championship meet coordinator) in addition to those already submitted. Please contact Arlene or Eric with candidates.

Meeting was adjourned.

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Friday, September 15, 2006

Roll call indicated all LSCs were present.

Request from Officers: Names for championship meet coordinator and disability coordinator are requested. John Witzel of Minnesota has been named as Assistant Officials Coordinator. If you have names for the 2008 Zone Meet Advisory Committee, please give those names to Arlene – one from each LSC. Please give names to Betty for those who wish to tackle the job of revising the Zone Manual.

New Business:

Proposal for change to CZ Handbook, Section A 9. 1 Amendments from Mike Lawrence.

The purpose is to ensure that amendments presented are supported by at least one member LSC prior to consideration by the entire membership. Wording as follows with additions in italics:

9.1 AMENDMENTS – Any provision of these guidelines (Section A) not proscribed by USA Swimming may be amended *by a member LSC* at any meeting of the Zone by two-thirds (2/3) vote. At least thirty (30) days written notice must be given *by the submitting LSC* to every LSC representative of a proposed amendment.

Motion to accept proposal. Seconded. Passed.

Second part to proposal:

Addition at end of 9.1: *Notice may be satisfied by distribution of proposed amendments to the general chair of each member LSC.*

Motion to accept proposed addition. Seconded. Passed.

Recommendation on Open Water Records: Motion was made that CZ delete Open Water records. **Seconded. Passed.**

Announcement: Joyce Lanphere of the Scholastic All America Committee announced that Central Zone was 3rd with the number of applicants. MV and OZ had the highest number of applicants from the Central Zone.

Legislation proposals from Championship Meet Evaluation Committee:

CZ R-1:

Section B, III, Meet Host Responsibilities; 3. Post Meet

D. Financial Reports: Submit all financial reports to the Central Zone Secretary/Treasurer *and Zone Directors* ~~and USA Swimming~~ no later than thirty (30) days following the last day of competition.

*Failure to submit all financial reports to the Zone within thirty (30) days shall result in a fine of \$500.00. Submit all financial reports to USA Swimming no later than sixty (60) days following the last day of competition. **If fine is not paid, no bid will be accepted until the fine is paid and reports submitted.***

Motion to accept. Seconded.

Motion to amend fine of \$500. **Seconded. Passed.**

Motion to amend to add penalty that host's failure to comply will preclude host from bidding for future CZ championship meets. **Seconded. Passed.**

Motion to accept as amended. Seconded. Passed.

CZ R-2:

Section B, V. Conduct of Competition; 5. Entry Procedures

C. Entry fees for the Meet

d. *Athlete surcharges – according to local LSC guidelines*

Motion to accept proposal. **Seconded.** Discussion re regulating admission charges, including surcharges in bids, etc.

Motion to charge each LSC \$150. **Seconded. Failed.**

Motion to accept. **Seconded. Failed**

CZ R-3:

Section B; V. Conduct of Competition; 11. Awards

A. Individual Pool and Open Water events:

a. 1-8 place: medals with neck ribbons

b. 9-16 place: ribbons ~~for 12 and under only~~

Motion to accept. **Seconded.**

Motion to award down to place scored (in the event of the megazone meet scoring through 24).

Seconded. Defeated.

Motion to strike ‘with neck ribbons’. **Seconded. Defeated.**

Motion to accept as originally presented. **Seconded. Passed.**

B. Relay events:

a. 1-3 place; medals with neck ribbons

b. 4-8 place; ribbons

Motion to accept. **Seconded. Passed.** (Note that this is currently being done and in meet template but has been inadvertently omitted from Section B.)

CZ R-4

Section B; II, 4.E.i – Meet Bid procedures – Spectator Expense

i. Spectator Expenses: List admission fees, ~~cost of program and heat sheets,~~ and potential cost of parking, ~~and any related facility costs.~~ *Meet host shall adhere to fees stated in the submitted bid.*

Motion to accept. **Seconded.**

Motion to change wording to *finalized meet information.* **Seconded. Approved.**

Motion to strike *any related facility costs.* **Seconded. Approved.**

Motion to accept as amended. **Seconded. Approved.**

Memos:

- Age Group Chair Conference Call will discuss Open Water swimming.
- Please support upcoming competitions within Central Zone with attendance and participation.
- Tony Young of IN gave a preview of the ticket packages available for CZ as well as 50 free tickets to CZ LSCs for the upcoming national championships in Indianapolis.
- Randy announced 6 Club Leadership schools in Indiana – they are open to anybody and FREE. Randy will be emailing an updated list.
- Coaches were reminded of the online coaches clinics.
- General Chairs need to look at a 2009 calendar and be prepared to select date preferences at the next conference call – July 31-August 2, August 7-9, August 14-16, or preference for one weekend. Bids for 2009 are encouraged – and outdoor facilities are encouraged to bid.
- The athletes elected Jake Grosser (IL) as their athlete representative for Central Zone.

Motion to adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Kooy, CZ Secretary