

Central Zone
General Chairs Conference Call
January 10, 2005, 7:30 p.m. CST
Notes

Present: Arlene McDonald, Eric Nelson, Randy Julian, Betty Kooy, Tony Young, Pat Hogan, Generals Chairs David Braun, MN, George Bruce, MV, Judy Hackney, IA, Tom Jones, AR, Arlene McDonald, IN, Dale Nickels, WI, Gerry Pfau, ND, Bob Staab, OK, Percy Verbrugge, SD. (Arlene wears two hats – Zone director and GC.)

Agenda was to be considered in reverse order.

Central Zone – Eric Nelson and Arlene McDonald

- Report of the CZ Officers Conference call included several goals for CZ. One is to communicate with the zone via Newsletters with all zone officers contributing and with the invitation to national committee members to also contribute.
- Several task forces have been formed. Eric Nelson is heading the zone meet site selection/expectations task force. Bids are needed. Task force intends to be proactive and let clubs know of the monetary rewards. GCs are asked to identify facilities within their LSCs which might be appropriate host facilities. The task force will look at ways to prepare the hosts as to what they can expect, give them some prep info/best practices/hospitality, merchandise, awards ceremony expectations, and open water concerns. Randy will look into specific areas for keeping historical data which should be passed on to succeeding hosts. Arlene discussed the report for National and will recommend some type of data collection format. Currently we only get what the Age Group coordinators submit. It was suggested that a better job needs to be done of site selection. Arlene requests that the GCs compile a list of teams within their LSCs who might host and make a list for Eric.
- Arlene discussed the allocation of Zone funds. GCs are asked to brainstorm on useful and beneficial ways to use the funds. Go back to your own boards and ask what could the CZ do for us at the local level.
- The Age Group coordinators will help the hosts of the summer meets. ND has hosted before so they should know expectations.
- Promotion of events within the CZ is a goal. Tony Young discussed the April 1-6 World Championship Trials in Indianapolis. It will be an outstanding meet. Fifty free tickets will be offered to CZ LSCs who can distribute them anyway. There will be ticket packages too. All LSCs said they would be willing to promote the event on their websites. Just send the information. MN was asked if there was anything they needed from CZ for the Disability meet. David indicated there was nothing needed at this point. There will be a Grand Prix meet in June in Indianapolis.
- Question was asked re expectations for Zones. There were no comments at this point. GCs need to think about the expectations and get back to the officers. Pat Hogan remarked that there are a lot of similarities between the Zones – there are

no outstanding differences. Improving communication and the conference calls are good steps to serving the LSCs.

- Eric and Arlene discussed the agenda for the GC meeting. They request that the General Chairs submit the job descriptions of officer positions within their LSC prior to the GC meeting. Arlene also mentioned the need for recruiting qualified people from within the CZ to run for national offices.

Other topics brought up.

MV – The dues increase made a huge impact on their seasonal membership. IA too.

WI – How do other LSCs measure performance in meeting LSC objectives?

HS questions – Missouri scored a huge success with HS/LSC conflicts. If anyone has HS concerns contact Pat Hogan.

Arlene – asked if any LSC had a gracious procedure for getting officials to retire at the appropriate time.

MN – discussed issues with clubs morphing selves into something other than what their original charter defines. Issue dealt with pool infringement. USA Swimming has no policies regarding ownership issues or pool/facility infringement issues. The LSC was caught off-guard and is receiving no help from national.

USA Swimming Topics: Randy Julian and Pat Hogan:

- Randy reminded GCs to get itineraries to Carol Burch. Some LSCs are sending their Adm Vice Chairs. There is a BOD meeting on Friday evening and the GCs are invited to attend if they are in Co Springs at that time. Bring your best practices to the GC meeting.
- Pat discussed LSC tax procedures and reminded GCs of two reporting requirements – file 990 (May 15) and send copy of year-end financial statements (signed off by finance committee and audited) to Jim Harvey at USA Swimming.
- Randy discussed goals for local clubs, what can better LSC swimming, funding issues particularly for senior swimming, retention of 15 and over athletes, HS swimming, LSC support etc. WI has had a thorough discussion of LSC goals which came out of their technical planning committee.
- Pat stated that SWIMS database has the capability of producing statistics that were never possible before.
- Reimbursement procedures were discussed. Many LSCs reimburse through clubs rather than individuals.
- Randy and Pat discussed some of the recurring issues that reappear in LSCs. The staff is compiling items which might require legislation.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m. CST.

Respectfully,

Betty Kooy

CZ Secretary Treasurer