



USA Swimming

Central Zone General Chairs & Officers Conference Call

Monday, September 17, 2007 – 7:30 PM Central Time

SUMMARY NOTES

The Central Zone General Chairs and Officers met by conference call on Monday evening, September 17, 2007. Participating were: Jay Nimens (ND), Grant Richardson (ND), Mary Losee (MW), Scott Graff (SD), Bob Staab (OK), Ed Gbur (AR), Judy Hackney (IA), Mark Hesse (IN), John Witzel (CZ Assistant Officials Chair), Randy Julian (CZ Sport Development Consultant), Betty Kooy (CZ Secretary), KateChronic (CZ Championship Meet Coordinator), Eric Nelson (CZ Coach Director), and Arlene McDonald (CZ Non-Coach Director).

1. Old Business

- Golden Goggles: The 2007 Golden Goggles will be on Sunday, November 18, at the Beverly Hilton. Price will remain at \$1,000 per person. The anticipated cost of a hotel room is in the \$200-\$225 (plus tax) range. LSCs are encouraged to send representatives –reward your volunteer of the year, coach of the year, athlete of the year, etc, award winners by sending them to Golden Goggles. Central Zone LSCs may want to consider sharing tables.
- 2007 Convention
 - A. Sites for the 2009 Central Zone Championships: There will be two sites on the weekend of August 7-9, 2009. We currently have no formal bidders for these meets! North Dakota may consider bidding on the meet to be held at the Grand Forks site. There is a need for more bidders for the 2009 meets. General Chairs were asked to solicit qualified clubs in their LSC about bidding on these meets. Please contact Eric & Arlene by Sunday, September 23, with any interested hosts. Interested hosts should be prepared to discuss their bid at convention during the Thursday night (September 27) meeting of the Central Zone.
 - B. Elections/Appointments: The following Zone positions will be elected or appointed this fall: Zone Director – Coach (elected); Championships Meet Coordinator (appointed), and Disability Swimming Coordinator (appointed). Suggestions for qualified candidates. There is currently one nominee for the Central Zone Coach position (Bill Schalz – IL). Any other interested candidates should complete nomination form available on the USA Swimming website. The General Chairs are asked to send the names of qualified candidates for the appointed positions to Arlene & Eric by Sunday, September 23.
- MegaZone Advisory Committee: Many thanks to the LSC representatives to the MegaZone Advisory Committee. The committee has met by conference call three times this summer with its last conference call scheduled for Tuesday, September 18. The committee has recommended numerous changes to the original bid, which should result in a fantastic event next summer. General chairs received the summary notes from the previous committee discussions. The committee's recommendations will be brought forth at convention next week., and the group

will stay active throughout the year as the meet approaches. Arkansas and Midwestern will be appointing new representatives to the committee as their current representatives are moving to other LSCs.

2. New Business

▪ 2007 Convention

A. CZ Legislative Proposals: From Judy Hackney (IA)

Current Rule: (passed 9/17/04)

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.

Proposal to be added to current rule:

In an Olympic year, swimmers registered in the Central Zone who have at least one short course national cut may participate in another Central Zone sectional if that sectional is designated as an Open Sectional meet.

C. Convention Reports – Zone officers should please submit their convention reports in writing to Arlene and Eric no later than Noon (Central) this Friday, September 21. These reports plus the convention CZ meeting agenda will be emailed to all CZ General Chairs Friday afternoon. The General Chairs are asked to distribute these documents to their convention delegates upon receipt.

D. Other convention topics:

- (1) General Chairs should be recruiting their LSC representatives for the Championship Meet Evaluation Committee. This committee meets at convention and formulates legislative changes for our Central Zone Championship Meets. Lisa Ellis and Kate Chronic (CZ Championship Meet Coordinators) will co-chair this committee. Each LSC can have one athlete plus one other representative on this committee, both of whom must have attended or participated in a Zone meet in the past two years. Past meet directors will also be asked to serve. The names of LSC representatives to this committee can be emailed to Arlene and Eric prior to convention or turned in at the first Zone meeting on Thursday night at convention.
- (2) There has been some discussion about changing the Zone meet format to 3 ½ days. This may be presented for consideration to the Championship Meet Evaluation Committee.

▪ Review of Upcoming Board of Directors September Meeting Agenda

Mark Hesse inquired about the agenda item "Sectional Meet Funding Increase." While the details are not yet known, there is some thought that the current \$10,000 stipend needs to be increased because of escalating pool rental in certain areas of the country. There was a consensus that this is a growing concern in attracting sectional meet hosts.

- Outgoing/Incoming CZ General Chairs (since the 2006 Convention). Below is a list of the “retiring” General Chairs since last fall’s convention as well as their replacements. Please notify Arlene and Eric by Friday noon (September 21) with any additions to this list.

LSC	2006 - 2007 Outgoing General Chair	2006 - 2007 Incoming General Chair
AR	Ed Gbur	?
IL	Bill Schalz	Jane Grosser
IN	Arlene McDonald	Mark Hesse
LE	Bob Hepp	Al Carrero
MN	Dave Braun	Paul Lunsten
ND	Grant Richardson	Jay Nimens

- Other New Business: Club Leadership & Business Management Schools – Randy indicated that there is a push to bring the CLBMS to the LSCs and that he is attempting to get out on short trips to make this happen. Since the CLBMS are a requirement for Level 2 of the Club Recognition Program, there has been increased demand for the program. Randy indicated that the Club Recognition program is really taking off. Please contact Randy about scheduling a CLBMS in your LSC for clubs needing this program.

3. Announcements

- The Central Zone officers will have a convention breakfast meeting on Thursday, September 27, at convention. All Central Zone officers should meet near the front desk of the hotel at 6:45 AM on Thursday. A breakfast location will be determined then.
- Sectional meet hosts need to get their requests in early for the Sectional Meet referees. Please be sure that the meet director and LSC Officials’ Chair are in agreement about this nominee before submitting the request.
- General Chairs are asked to check with their LSC Officials Chair to be sure that they have submitted the names to USA Swimming for the October officials’ clinic.
- Many thanks to our Zone Championship summer meet hosts in Topeka and Cleveland! Great job!
- Kudos to the summer Sectional meet hosts in Minneapolis, Oxford, and Oklahoma City!
- Thank you to all the Central Zone LSCs for their support of this summer’s ConocoPhillips National Championships and Speedo Junior National Championships held in Indianapolis.
- Don’t miss these upcoming Grand Prix meets in the Central Zone: University of Minnesota (November 9-11 SCY); University of Missouri (February 15 LCM); Ohio State University (April 3 LCM); Omaha Swimvitational (June 5).
- Olympic Trials: Omaha Quest Center June 29 – July 6; Tickets are now on sale at TicketMaster. Be there!

4. Adjournment

Safe travels to convention. *We’ll see you all next week in California!*