2018 Zone Report

Tom Walsh & Amy Leopold

2018 Zone Staff

To MSI BOD,

I felt the meet went well from a coaching aspect. The kids were well taken care of and swam very well. It was the smallest team in recent years and is a concern going forward as the representation for the state. This is something the LSC should look into and something that the new sports performance director should be made aware of.

I was happy with the overall process of the meet and the performance of the staff. There are some changes of how the groups are managed and who is in charge of groups at the meet. I think there should be an advertising for zone coaches’ applications to help get more people involved and to apply to be coaches.

I was very grateful to have the opportunity to be the head zone coach this year and very thankful to have Amy as the team manager. The team manager role is a huge task and she did an absolutely fantastic Job!

What went well:

* New Facebook page vs twitter: had much more engagement than in the past. I think it will be a good tool going forward to communicate with the team/LSC about deadlines, upcoming meets (ALL-STARS) and photo sharing
* Team dinner: great selection for picky eaters (more than one option for entree, buffet style). Food was ready when we arrived.
* Apparel organization: Elsmore thoroughly organized the boxes with a spreadsheet that was numbered that corresponded with the box where the bag could be found. This was extremely helpful!
* Kids had a lot of fun. One of the most successful zone meets as far as % of best times. Team comradery and energy were high throughout the meet.
* Young, energetic staff kept athletes’ nerves low, and drive high.

What needs work:

* Would love to have more diversity on staff. Different teams, some that are out of the metro, multiple levels of experience, etc. This would really add to the dynamic on the deck for the athletes and would assist with coach development throughout the LSC
* More help on apparel hand-out day; either from MSI or zone staff. It is challenging to staff for this when most of our staff is on deck at the state meet
* Square reader for zone table. Process any additional charges quickly via credit card. Avoid so much cash being kept at the table, gives flexibility to parents who want to use a different card than what is on file. (This has been discussed already with Bob Crunstedt)

Thanks,

Tom Walsh MN head zone coach

Amy Leopold MN Zone team manager