

Meeting minutes
Ozark Age Group Committee
13 April 2002

The Age Group Committee of the Ozark Swimming, Inc. LSC met on 13 April at the Parkway Instructional Center. The meeting was called to order at 10:30a. Committee members in attendance were Paul Murphy (BGCD), PJ Keller (PKWY), Mo Stewart (SCSC), and Bill Price (SALU), Chairman. Absent were Kay Lynne Firsching (SLSS), Todd Gabel (RSCA), and Jason Cravens (GATR). Also attending the meeting was Dave Stevens (HEAT).

Item 1: Review of 2002 Division 1 short course meet

The committee was unanimous in its review of the new event program for the recent short course D1 meet. There was some discussion about the questions we received regarding the 10 & unders swimming only an "A" final. This is an athlete development issue and it was agreed by the committee that the meet format not be changed.

Item 2: 2003 Gold, Silver, Bronze times

The Ozark standards for 2003 were distributed based on the new formula approved by the Ozark HOD in January. We are now phasing in the 26th place time and using a 5 year average. The times will be distributed at the May HOD meeting and published in August following the Zone meet. The 2003 standards take effect on 1 September 2002.

The committee also discussed how the 15 & over standards would be determined in future. The 2003 standards for the 15 & over age group will be the same as the 13-14 age group. Beginning in 2004 data from the 2003 meet will be used to begin calculating the 15 & over standards. When this is started and in the event that the 13-14 standards are faster than the 15 & over times the committee decided that the formula will take priority over any motivational considerations.

Item 3: Proposal to include the 15 & over age group in the short course division 1 meet

As directed by the Ozark HOD in January the committee is proposing that the 15 & over age group be added to the SCD1 meet in 2003. We propose that the 15 & over age group use the same event list as the 13-14 age group and that the 13-14 Q-times be used for meet qualification until data becomes available to calculate time standards for the new age group.

Item 4: Long course division 1 (26-28 July 2002)

The committee agreed to use the 2002 Ozark SILVER time as a Q-time for this meet. This was done for two reasons: (a) the 10 & under age group will not be in the 2002 LCD1 meet leaving the meet with 3 age groups (12 & under, 13-14, and 15 & over) rather than the four that were in the meet last year, and (b) using the Ozark Gold times (as was previously planned) would cut the size of the meet in half. Although the meet needs to be smaller than the 2001 event cutting it in half is too much of a reduction.

The committee also agreed to use the short course meet program for the long course meet. This entails some notable program changes:

- The 1500 will be moved to Saturday following prelims.
- The 400 IM will be added for the 12 & under swimmers but it would be swum as a 14 & under event. This means that the 12 & under swimmers who enter this event would not be able to score age group high points *as 12 & unders* in this event. Team points will still be scored.

Item 5: Summer division 2 (6-7 July 2002)

The first Ozark Summer division 2 meet is planned for 6-7 July. It will be run in a timed final, short course format with the following changes:

- 8 & under and 10 & under events will be run in the AM session. There are no Q-times for these age groups. Any 10 & under swimmer may enter the meet.
- Swimmers 11 years old and up will follow a time trial format in the afternoon. This will be run similar to the Rockwood time trial that is not being held this summer. The full event list for time trials will be offered on both Saturday and Sunday.

Discussion was also held as to where the meet will be held. Dave Stevens (HEAT) is one of the hosts and reported that several sites are under consideration but none has been finalized.

Item 6: Zones

PJ Keller, Ozark Zone Team Head Coach, presented a travel cost comparison weighing the benefits of flying vs. busing to the meet this August. Since the meet is in Minneapolis, Minnesota the distance involved makes busing a travel time and team performance issue. Busing will also require an extra hotel night. Flying would eliminate these factors while introducing others peculiar to air travel such as cost and pre-planning. Even if flying to the meet the team would still need buses in Minneapolis.

■ The difference in cost to the LSC is large. The busing option would cost the LSC approximately \$2,500 while the flying option would cost \$24,000. These amounts represent total event costs (travel, hotel, uniforming etc.)

After some discussion it was agreed that busing was the best choice unless a better deal could be arranged with the airline.

■ Keller also reported that hotel costs will be lower this year. Rooms are approximately \$25 less than those in Indianapolis in 2001.

■ Applications for coaches will soon be available on the Ozark website and swimmer information packages are being finalized.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40a