

Wisconsin Swimming, Inc., House of Delegates
Meeting Minutes: April 24, 2007
Waukesha South High School, Waukesha, Wisconsin

MEMBERS PRESENT: See attached sign-in sheet.

CALL TO ORDER: Drew Walden, General Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: Minutes of the January 2007, meeting were reviewed and approved with minor corrections.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS:

General Chair: Drew opened the meeting by asking for volunteers for the nominating committee. John Bradley, Jeanne Drzewiecki, Dave Anderson, Emily Schweitz and Susan Zblewski volunteered. The following positions are up for election at the next meeting: General Chair, Finance Chair, Officials Chair, Age Group Chair, Secretary and Safety Chair.

Everyone needs to be aware of the new rules regarding pool depth for teaching starts – the information is on the LSC website in the archive of news. The pool must be 6 feet in depth at a point measured 3 feet 3 ½ inches from the end of the pool to 16 feet 5 inches from the end of the pool.

Treasurer: Pat Lewno presented the financial reports. We are almost perfectly balanced. Peter Healy reported that our recent audit found us to be financially without errors or defects. The CPA said that Pat does a tremendous job.

Once again, Pat said that there are ten teams that have not turned in materials from their fall and winter meets. Do it now.

Administrative Chair: Jeanne Drzewiecki said that every one of the 7 long course meets offered this summer is coming close to or is going over entry and/or time limits. Waivers will not be issued to meets that go over both time and entry limits. The Age Group Committee brainstormed about what a meet might need to do to get a waiver, but came to no conclusions; ideas included eliminating relays and having positive check-in.

Meet bids are due June 12 for the Fall/Winter season; sanction requests on August 1; and the postmark date for meet reservations is September 11.

Age Group Chair Report: The 12 and Under Summer State Meet will have a timed final format; there will be a slight event order change. There will be one Silver Meet this summer in Waukesha. The 13/14 age group has been added; there will be no bottom time standard and the top is 1/100th below that state meet times. After this summer, we will evaluate the meet and whether or not it is meeting our needs.

The Zone Coaches have been selected: Wagner da Silva: Head 13 and Over; John Bradley: Head 12 and Under; they will be joined by Walberto Colon, Colleen Szerlong, Paul Hollub, Shane Ryan, and Paula Caucutt Dave Clark added that the zone budget has been passed – and that there will be team travel for everyone for this year's zone meet.

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Senior Chair Report: Dave Anderson reported that at the last Committee meeting they discussed expanding background checks to other registered members, such as officials and treasurers. The substance of the discussion was protection of the LSC and clubs from people in positions, particularly treasurers, who have had previous felonies.

The Schroeder YMCA has made it clear that meets have to be smaller (especially the 13 and over state meets) because of pressure on its facility and its membership. The facility has a limit of 575 total participants and not more than 475 per session. Therefore, some changes need to be made to the 13 and Over State Championship this summer. Options discussed by the committee included changing the event order, furthering tightening time standards and having no relay only swimmers. If these measures aren't enough, the committee also discussed limiting teams to A and B relays, and potentially just A relays.

A long discussion regarding these options ensued among the delegates. Questions raised included: What about a relay time standard? (Very hard to police; trying to eliminate bodies – which is what no relay-only swimmers does); What about eliminating bonus swim? (Once again, does not reduce number of participants.) What about limiting spectators in some way? Such as issuing tickets to teams or qualifiers.

The bottom line issue is that if we don't want to eliminate relay-only swimmers, then we have to eliminate something else.

The Committee will take this discussion into consideration and meet again and make their final decision.

The Committee also discussed the process by which officials are selected for State Championships. They would like to be involved. Sue Zblewski reiterated her desire to have a coaches' rep at her meetings. It was decided the Senior, Age Group and Officials Chair should meet to discuss this issue.

Joe Schweitz then brought up a point of order – should the House of Delegates be voting on the relay issues for the 13 and Over State Meet, rather than letting the Committee decide? A long discussion ensued on whether or not we should be voting on the meet information proposed by the AG/Senior Committee.

Ultimately there was a motion, seconded, to support the Committee's proposal to eliminate relay-only swimmers for the 13 and Over Summer and Spring (2008) Meets. The proposal passed in a ballot vote: 17 yes to 10 No.

Registration/Membership Chair Report: Carol Graham recently attended a valuable seminar in Tuscan.

Wisconsin's "open" period for background checks is over. 281 coaches completed their background checks. If you passed and did not receive your new green card, call Carol.

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The Volunteer of the Year will be voted on in June. Please get nominations in to Carol by June 15 – this is an important award.

Safety: Cathie Marty reminded everyone to keep certifications current – there is no grace period for new hires or college students. When teaching racing starts, the pool depth must be at least 6 feet.

Technical Planning: Dave Westfahl reported that the Travel Fund Share system is on its way to the Rules Committee. It will be voted on at the next meeting.

Athletes' Representative: Emily Schweitz ran a memorial fundraiser for Caleb Gottinger at the State Meet selling wristbands. At the meet, they raised more than \$3,000. Altogether, the fund raiser will make over \$5,000 from selling 1000 wristbands.

Camps Report: Joe Schweitz said that the Winning Spirit Camp will take place October 7 – one athlete per club between the ages of 12 to 15 will be invited. TYR will send an Athlete Rep.

Coaches' Rep: Wagner da Silva wondered if we should do something different when voting for coaches and athletes of the year. Please e-mail him with suggestions.

Disability Swimming: Karen Dionne reported that two Wisconsin swimmers will represent the U.S. at the 2007 Parapan American Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in August. Alex Dionne of the Schroeder YMCA qualified as the result of his world rank in multiple events. Tom Miazga, of Ozaukee Aquatics was also selected to the team due to his world rankings and times. Good Luck in Rio!!!

Officials: They have trained 79 stroke and turn officials and 6 starter/referees. Please continue to encourage parents to become officials.

George Geanon will attend the upcoming Officials' Chair meeting in San Antonio.

John Bradley expressed reservations about the insular nature of the Officials Committee. George Geanon and Sue Zblewski spoke to his concerns and again said that they welcome coaches' input at their meetings. They also talked about how they like to have officials representing all size clubs on the committee.

Records: Dave Joyce passed out printouts of new state records and asked that everyone review them carefully for errors or omissions.

Zones: Dave Clark is on the mega-zone committee for 2008.

Unfinished Business: We are looking for electronic templates for meet information.

New Business: Kelly Becherer and Tommy Miazga from OZ and Alex Dionne from Schroeder are among the fastest swimmers in the world in their specialties – please give them your congratulations!!!

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There will be a 24 hour relay swim at the Port Washington pool this weekend to raise money for pool improvements – they are trying to set a Guinness world relay record.

NEXT MEETING: June 26, 2007

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Roos, Secretary