

## Spring 2023 – MTHSSA General Meeting – April 29, 2023

Agenda:

- Review of the 2022-23 season.
- Discussion of last season's championship meets, any potential changes for next season.
- Discussion of high school division alignment, any potential changes for next season.

Attendance: Josh Tinley (Green Hill), Pat Killian (MBA), Polly Linden (Harpeth Hall), Drew Brewer (Oakland), Jacqui Wright (Wilson Central), Marion Knoll (SAS), Brian Williams (Henry Co.), Autumn Stewart (LaVergne), Jim Chapman (BA), Matthew Harry (Franklin), Erin Gould (Pope), Erin Springstead (Pope)

I. Last Season - report from Josh, President:

- MS meet headed in right direction (2022 = 469, 2023 = 538)
- Shout-out to MTHSSA Banquet, great to have divisions & division trophies back
- Recap of champions from HS Regions meet
- Recap of champions from MS Champs meet
- Recap of individual & relay State champions from Middle TN schools
- Recap of division champs **\*\*Pat has division trophies at MBA, if you did not collect yours at the Banquet - Pat will bring trophies to fall meeting - if you want your trophy before then, email pat.killian@montgomerybell.edu**
  
- **Proof of Time**
- See list of outstanding proof from Regions below.
- **If you have proof of time from Regions, must be submitted to Josh by June 1.**
- After June 1, fines will be enforced for failure to prove times.
- For times without proof, fines must be paid (\$25 per swim).
- Submit proof to Josh: tinglejos100@wcschools.com
- Submit payment to Polly. Please email Polly with questions: linden@harpethhall.org.
  
- **For future thought: division ties**
- Josh: we want a tie-breaker, we want proposals for the fall meeting
- Josh: one idea is to add up total points from dual meets in that season to break tie
- Coach1: total points seems like it would favor

## New Business:

### 1. Thought Exercise from April Parker (HFA): make Regions prelims-finals

- April - rationale: with State cuts set to get faster, State will be a long-term aspiration, Regions can be bigger focus for our swimmers
- Drew: do we know what time the meet ends? (2:30) what time would we have to start prelims warm-ups in order to fit finals in the same day?
- Angel Harmon (Div 2): Should we consider keeping state qualifiers out of Regions?
- Pat: consider difficulty of teams traveling into Nashville for prelims-finals meet; consider who will be making finals; Regions is a great day right now to have a big portion of your team together, before you take a smaller group to State
- Jacqui: prelims-finals is a huge burden on officials, so many volunteer hours
- Josh: think about other ways to make it fun, like recognizing biggest time drops (or heat winners)
- Angel Harmon (Div 2): all for finding ways to recognize swimmers, we have very few State qualifiers in our whole district (Pat: that is the spirit of division awards)
- Jacqui: can we do bag-tags at Regions like we do at State? As a reward for kids who qualify (Drew: I understand that it's a big expense) - Coach: could we build that cost in somewhere else like registration fee?
- Different voices of support for bag tags at Regions, building the extra cost into entry fee for Regions meet
- Note: 683 swimmers at Regions last year
- **\*\*The board will get cost and talk to Excel before fall meeting, vote for bag tags at fall meeting**

### 2. Thought Exercise from Josh Tinley: Post-Season awards for Middle School

- Coach (I'm sorry that I missed your name!): in favor of idea because some MS swimmers get to HS and fail to qualify for HS champ meets, end up quitting
- Josh: suggests that we should collect ideas from coaches about where you can get affordable awards etc. for your own team
- Jacqui: can we make a directory of helpful contacts (like for awards)
- Pat: not sure that extra attention for MS swimmers is always helpful - sometimes your successful MS swimmers don't get that same attention when they get to HS and you end up with bad attitudes

## Division Alignment

1. Summary of spirit/purpose behind division alignment.
2. Division 1: No proposed changes.
3. Division 2: No proposed changes—some new coaching contacts needed.

4. Division 3: Proposal to move Stewart Creek from Division 3A to 3B—new coaches at Siegel, Central Magnet.
5. Division 4: No proposed changes. Deborah Wiston taking over.
6. Division 5: Green Hill moving out. Matt Pierucki, Lebanon, division rep.
7. Division 6: No proposed changes—new coaches at Lipscomb, SCA.
8. Division 7: Much discussion of possibly moving Summit up to 7A and possibly moving Centennial down to 7B.
9. Division 8: No proposed changes.

Division 6, 7, and 8 will mostly stay the same for next season, but the board feels strongly that additional conversation needs to happen about division alignment in these divisions going forward.