

NE Swimming Board of Directors Meeting
The Needham Sheraton, Massachusetts
June 12, 2018 *tentative minutes*

Board Members:

Present: (19) Priscilla Davis (UN), Matt Craven (CRIM), Brian Crawford (ESC), Sean Geary (CRIM), Betsy Russell (CS), Arthur Athanas (YNS), Mary Buckley (KING), Sean Geary (CRIM), Bob Menck (UN), Erin Mary Ackerman (CRIM), Ken Galica (UN), Malicia Policard (ICMY), Jake Eastman (PSC), Sasha McNeil (PHX), Aaron Zhu (SOLO), Meghan Feran (SOLO), Lisa Black Sholudko (UN), Janet Harty (YNS), Jay Craft (KING)

Absent: (6) Jordan Arnold (CRIM), Chris Sheppard (CS), Anne Kaufman (UN), Joe Frazier (UN), Rick Osterberg (UN), Harry Homans (ABF)

Guests: (7) Mary Ellen Tynan (UN) via video-conferencing, Carol Healey (UN), Louis Arruda (UN), Steve VanderBeken (MST), Nadine Johnson-Jesionek (UN), Paul Memont (UN), Patrick Hunter (UN-MN)

7:08 pm –BOD Meeting called to order by General Chair, Matt Craven:

- 1. Welcome Remarks:** Matt welcomed the new board members that were elected at the Annual Meeting; Meghan Feran as Junior Coach Representative, Malicia Policard as Secretary, and Jay Craft as Senior Chair. Matt thanked all outgoing board members for their dedication and service.
We are looking to have a great year for officials, and the organization is seeking some changes and we are looking to see the board member as a community.
This will entail:
 - Mandatory attendance (low attendance was noted in past years)
 - More well branded LSC
 - Making collective decision within the board committees. Staying unified in our decisions
 - Developing more challenges and strength to our committees
- 2. Secretary's Report:** Motion to approve by Arthur Athanas with general edits provided by members, seconded by Priscilla Davis. Motion passes.
- 3. Treasurer's Report:** (details available by request) Motion to accept by Priscilla Davis, seconded by Arthur Athanas. Motion passes.
- 4. At-Large Appointments to the Board:** Matt announced the following as At-Large Board members: Rick Osterberg, Aaron Zhu, Janet Harty, Lisa Black Sholudko and Ken Galica. One At-Large position will remain open for future appointment. There were no objections.

Commented [MET1]: Treasurers report does not need to be voted on.

5. **Appointments to the Board:** Matt announced the following to the appointed Committee Chair positions to the Board:

1. Anne Kaufman, Safe Sport Chair
2. Erin Mary Ackerman, Inclusion & Diversity Chair
3. Priscilla Davis, Operational Risk Chair
4. Betsy Russell, Official's Chair

There were no objections.

Matt informed the Board that due to being named the Official's Chair, Betsy Russell has resigned her position on the Board as Finance Vice Chair. Matt appointed Arthur Athanas to this position for the remainder of the term. Motion was approved, seconded and passed without objection.

6. **Board Orientation:** The formal presentation was tabled to the September meeting when all new members will be present, but a list of To Do's was handed out to the board members.

The Board was reminded of our mission and vision statements and the need for Unity. All new board members received a folder for their board hand-outs and all members received a strategic calendar for the year. The calendar for the next month will be reviewed at each board meeting for updates and reminders.

7. **Annual Meeting Reports:**

Coaches: It took 4 times to vote in the new Coach Rep. This meeting needs to have more structure and not be the place to try to change policy. There are proper channels for that. The presenter, David Benzel did a remarkable job, but unfortunately many attendees left without having the opportunity to hear him. A large number of attendees registered (60) but left before his talk. (only 20 stayed) This was not the message we should be sending. Perhaps coaches don't want in house workshops.

Officials: There were over 60 officials at both clinics and it is agreed that more time should have been allotted for the clinics as they both ran over-time.

8. **Technical (attached)**

9. **Calendar:** Brian Crawford reported that bids for SCY season are due July 1st.

10. **Eastern Zone Meeting Reports:**

Bob Menck reported that the HOD at convention in September will be voting to ban "tech suits" for ages 12 & Under at all meets less than the Sectional level.

The SCY EZ Age Group Championship in 2019 will go to 3.5 days.

All EZ LSC's voted to allow Flex Memberships except for Connecticut.

Four Diversity in Aquatics awards were given out at the EZ meeting, one of which went to Nadine Johnson Jesionek.

Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck: Diversity & Inclusion reported that the D & I Zone Coordinators will now be chosen at the National level and not voted on by the Zone. The EZ has created a task force for Diversity.

11. **Athlete Report:** The election of the 3 new Athlete Reps will be pushed to the July board meeting since there are so many applications to go through thoroughly.

12. Committee Reports:

Senior Committee Report Jay Craft reported that he made some minor changes to the Senior Meet format (going from 4 to 3.5 days) and decreased the amount of bonus swims. Jay would like to see a 15-18 Age Group Championship in LCM season and is soliciting ideas to make this happen. Betsy Russell commented that NSSC said they would host that meet if it were a 2.5 day format. It was suggested that Jay and his committee research some ideas to make it happen.

Age Group Committee Report: Sean Geary reported that the 10 & U and 11-14 meet information has been posted with only minor changes from last year. The SCY bid form is posted and we are hoping to get bids for the Championship meets in the proper progression. The 200 mixed free relays was added to the event line-up for the 11-14 meet hoping to start adding them to other meets that offer relays.

Safe Sport Committee Report: Matt Craven reported that the committee has many athletes interested in being involved but really needs more adults.

Diversity & Inclusion Committee Report: Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck reported that the ongoing equipment drive is continuing and a group will be sorting and distributing to sites this month. There are two Water Safety days planned for this summer. Event information will be sent to the office for posting.

Safety Committee Report: Priscilla Davis reminded everyone to not use a cell phone to call 911 if in distress at a hotel. Use the hotel room phone for faster service.

Coach Rep Report: Meghan Feran reported that they have formed a committee and had a conference call last night to review the agenda and prepare questions. They plan to continue this practice going forward to bring concerns and ideas forward.

Records: Mary Ellen Tynan reported that she is working on separating out the 15-16 and 17-18 records from our current 15-18 records and is hoping to get them done by the Championship meets. Mixed Relay records have been compiled and are posted.

Zone Meet Report: Mary Ellen Tynan, Zone Coordinator, announced that the coaching staff has been selected:

Matt Williams (PHX), Head Coach, Todd Bohannon (WACK) as Assistant Head Coach, Tim Thompson (PHX), Morgan Cooper (ABF), Diana Borys (MTSC), Jim Hennessey (SNAP), Andy Shields (UN), Rhi Jeffrey (CAN), Mark Gehring (MTSC)

The goal is to circulate in new coaches each year so that more coaches gain the experience to move up into more established roles for future meets.

Chaperones are still needed.

We have had only 7 swimmers sign up, but certainly expect more.

Matt Craven asked if there were scholarships offered to those in need and it was answered that a family should ask Mary Ellen and we can work with them directly on affordability. Outreach swimmers are guaranteed a discount.

13. **Office Report:** Carol announced that it was Arthur's birthday and wished him a happy one! Carol Healey asked all 2018 convention delegates to notify her of their intent to attend so reservations can be made. Reminded the board that NE has a policy of allowing a Board Member not on the delegate list to request attendance to convention and to email their desire to Matt Craven or her.

Carol thanked the outgoing athletes for all of their work the past two years and commented on what an involved group they were. Mary Buckley, who is attending Yale next year was presented a gift. Jordan received his at the Annual Meeting.

14. **Other:** Steve VanderBeken from MST asked the board to consider using times from his non-conforming pool (Raco Pool in Manchester) to enter Championship meets. His LCM pool measures unofficially at 50 meters plus 12 inches so the times as swum go into SWIMS but he would like to use an adjustment factor to allow the times to be used for our LSC Championships as we have allowed sporadically in the past. Much discussion followed and it was reminded to everyone that our policy is that all times must be in the SWIMS database for entry into our end of season meets and we should not break this policy. It was suggested that end of lane "walls, or supports" be installed to adjust the pool to 50 meters. Janet stated that YNS purchased two of them for their lanes and they worked well. One athlete offered money from their budget to be put towards the cost and fundraising ideas were mentioned. It was felt that the host team benefits from meets at this pool and it would be in their best interest, and the swimmers', to install the devices to comply with USA Swimming policy regarding non-conforming pool lengths. The proposal was called to a vote by Bob Menck. The vote stands at yes – 5, no -10, abstain – 3. The motion to allow adjusted times into Championship meets fails.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM

Respectfully submitted by Malicia Policard and Carol Healey

Technical Report: Bob Menck proposed the Athlete Reimbursement Policy:

**TECHNICAL PROPOSALS
BOD Meeting, June 12, 2018**

Item 1: Creation of 100% (Invitational) Meet Entry Category

Proposed: The creation of an additional meet entry category 100% (Short Course Only)

Rationale: It is noticeable in many SC meets that use the 75/25 that entries from the 25% are sometimes scarce and not adequately filling the allotted spaces. As a result, we should add a 100% category to the meet cut policy.

Action: **REJECTED**

Effective Date: **Short Course 2018**

1. **Entry Acceptance policies:** Host teams may choose one of three methods to limit entries into their meet, which are detailed below. The method to be used must be specified in the meet announcement.

a. **75%/25% Procedure**

b. **First-Come-First-Served (FCFS) Procedure**

c. **100% Procedure**

- i. All 100% meets must be approved by the Calendar Committee.
- ii. The Calendar Committee will limit the number of 100%entry meets to no more than 50% of meets on any weekend.
- iii. All 100% meets must be at least 4 sessions long over the course of at least 2 consecutive days and be conducted under the same NES Sanction number.
- iv. The **meet bid form** must indicate which type of entry policy will be used for each meet and cannot be changed once the bid is approved, unless moving to a 75/25 from 100%.
- v. No club may use the 100% entry policy for more than 50% of the seasons meets.
- vi. The host team may select 100% of the entries ("splashes") from their own team and any other LSC team that has submitted entries.
- vii. If the meet is not full 48 hours after entries open, the host may accept entries from teams outside of the New England Swimming
- viii. Teams accepted must submit their entry and payment to the host team no later than 7 calendar days before the first date of entries, or the host team may remove them from the meet.

If the host team under-estimates the number of entries, the host team must then follow the entries cut procedure in the meet announcement

Item 2: Standardization of all Meet Bid Due Dates

Proposed: Change Policy to reflect that all meets, non-calendar and approved, ~~closed~~ YMCA will have bids submitted in July for Short Course and February for Long Course. Currently the policy allows bids for any non-calendar or approved meet up to 6 weeks in advance of their meet.

Rationale: This will allow the committee to make informed decisions about bid approvals and the number of meets and the busy weekends. In addition, this will limit the number of approvals from current meet hosts.

Action: **ACCEPTED**

Effective Date: **Short Course 2018**

B. Meet Bidding Policies and Procedures

2. Meet Bidding Process:

~~~All bids for short course are due in July prior to the short course season, and all bids for long course are due in February prior to the long course season. This includes all non-calendar and approved meets. Exact dates will be posted on the website at least 4 weeks before the bids are due.

- ~~5. **Approved YMCA Meets** where entries are closed to Y only teams will follow the YMCA sanction and NES approval must be obtained 60 days before the first day of the meet and the application and meet information at least two weeks before the meet.~~

**Item 3: YMCA New England SC Championship Approval**

**Proposed:** Amend the New England Swimming Rules and Regulations as follows:

**Section II, Sub-section D (Calendar Protection):**

... No meets will be sanctioned, approved or observed at the same time and date of the New England Swimming Annual Meeting or other HOD Meeting or at the same time and date of the New England Swimming Award Banquet.

The YMCA New England SCY Championship Meet will be approved on any date.

*[Remainder unchanged]*

**Rationale:** The YMCA New England Championship meet should be approved no matter what weekend it falls on. The participants will attend this meet regardless of any New England Swimming meets being held on the same weekend. We allow Bay State Games this courtesy and we should allow the YMCA the same courtesy. This will only apply to YMCA New England Championship Meets.

**Action:** **ACCEPTED**

**Effective Date:** **Short Course 2018**

**Item 4: Defining YMCA Meets for reduced splash fees**

**Proposed:** Reduced splash fees for the following YMCA meets (\$0.75):

WMYSL - Western Mass Winter Championships

SENECY – Championship Meet

YMCA Districts

YMCS New England Championships

Currently states a general policy requiring time standards and a Y sanction. This will define the exact meets that are allowed the reduced splash fee.

**Action:** **ACCEPTED**

**Effective Date:** **June 2018**

**B. Meet Bidding Policies and Procedures**

5. **Approved YMCA Meets:** The following YMCA Meets will have the splash fee of \$1.50 reduced to the sanctioned meet fee of \$0.75 per splash. ~~where entries are closed to Y only teams will follow the approved meets policy (addendum). If the following conditions are met, the surcharges to NE Swimming will be reduced from \$1.50 per splash to the sanctioned meet fee of \$.75 per splash:~~
- WMYSL – Western Mass Winter Championships
  - SENECEY – Winter Championship Meet

- YMCA District Meet
- YMCA New England Championship Meet
- ~~The meet must be sanctioned by YMCA of New England~~
- ~~The meet must have qualifying times faster than the USA Swimming "A" times~~
- ~~The YMCA sanction and NES approval must be obtained 60 days before the first day of the meet and the application and meet information at least two weeks before the meet.~~

**Item 5: Admission Prices for meets with paperless heat sheets**

**Proposed:** Allow teams to increase admission fees to \$4.00 for a calendar meet (non-championship) where paperless heat sheets are provided to all. (currently \$3.00)

**Rationale:** Currently NES meets waste a huge volume of paper throughout the year. Thousands of heat sheets end up in the trash can after meets. The proposed change will allow NES to do its part in joining the green Revolution and stop contributing to the marked strain on our natural resources.

**Action:** **ACCEPTED**

**Effective Date:** **Long Course 2018**

- Teams that offer a paper heat sheet for a fee may charge a maximum of \$3.00 per person for admission.
- Teams that offer a free electronic heat sheet for all sessions may charge a maximum of \$4.00 per person for admission.
- Teams that offer a fee-based electronic heat sheet may charge a maximum of \$3.00 per person for admission.