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**New England Swimming**  
**2016 Annual Meeting – House of Delegates**  
**May 7, 2016**  
**Harvard Pilgrim Center - Wellesley, Massachusetts**

**Meeting called to order at 1:01 pm by General Chair, Ray Grant** : Total in attendance – 79 (report attached)

**Welcome Remarks from the Chair, Ray Grant:** Ray Grant opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming and supporting the business of New England Swimming.

- **Adoption of HOD minutes for September 27, 2015:** Motion made by Priscilla Davis, seconded by Matt Craven. Motion unanimously accepted.

**Reports of Officers:**

*BOD General Chair, Ray Grant:* Just wanted to announce that Carol Healey is stepping down as Office Manager. This is a huge loss to New England Swimming. We are now working to transition to actual office space and split the job into two positions. The personnel committee met and interviewed many candidates. Today, I am announcing Alan Sanders as the new Competition Manager. He will be in charge of compliance, rules and sanctions. Carol will be assisting him as he transitions into this role. The New personnel committee, after elections today, will begin the interview process for the new office manager. We are looking for office space in the Newton-Wellesley area. The office will have actual hours and will no longer be out of someone's home, 7 days a week. This will be a significant change for coaches especially. People over the years have lost sight that Mary Riddell and Carol Healey were only enforcing the rules the BOD makes. All of the committees, the BOD and the HOD have set those rules, not the office.

Over the past year, we have accomplished quite a bit. The LSC is financially in the best shape it has ever been due to prudent financial decisions. When I took office the first time around, we were at 4,000 members and today, we are over 8,000 members. We have earned a Leap 2 designation by USA Swimming, our championships are coming together and now, we need to think outside the box. We need to realize that things cannot be done the way it was before.

In closing, I have spent 22 years on the Board in various roles. It has been a great ride and a tremendous honor. I would like to personally thank 3 people. First, Priscilla Davis, the grandmother of New England Swimming, who at times was hard to reach cause she didn't know how to use a computer or text but has been an incredible help throughout my years with the LSC. And, the other two, Mary Riddell and Carol Healey, who do a thankless job but the LSC has been tremendously lucky to have both of them. Finally, to the HOD and BOD, thank you for the opportunity to serve you, it has been an honor.

*BOD, Vice General Chair and Calendar Committee, Matt Craven:* Thank you to Ray for always being there since I was a young coach until today. Change is coming and it is exciting. We have a quad plan ready to go with the help from Chuck. Thank you to all those hosts, who have been there – MIT, Brown, UVAC and Harvard especially. We couldn't have done it without them.

*Senior Chair, Chuck Batchelor:* I also want to thank Ray. We all experience the good and the bad but it is our bad issues that become his too. I am honored to be the Senior Chair and have been working hard to get things done. It is no secret that I like bonus opportunities but I want to be clear, I am not making it soft because I am half old school too. I look at it from the perspective of the way we train our swimmers. We train, and beat them up and it is sometimes a full year before they get that another opportunity so, bonus events allow them not to wait that long. This summer our senior meet will be 4 full days. Some other future plans are that we are trying to put together more senior meets. I want our swimmers to get to face our best swimmers in the LSC. It may be one day events here and there or different formats, long course for prelims and short course for finals. We are looking into everything and want to add a February and November meet

and maybe even June. There is still a lot of work to be done. Our goals have been for the majority of the swimmers and these decisions are hard to make sometimes.

*Age Group Chair, Tim Mulvihill:* A year ago, I wanted to be more transparent and engage a broader based group. We have returned to some of the older ways based on hard data. I am proud of the work we have done but have more to do. We have moved forward working with the senior and calendar committee. We are working with budgets to try to develop athlete camps in conjunction with what Chuck said. This summer, we will have a 14 & under championship at Harvard. Now, we are working on trying to develop a quad plan and focus on next year's SCY season- maybe an 11-14 grouping to designate a line between AG & Seniors or maybe we have to move silvers later to coordinate with high school swimming. By looking at the structure, it allows all of us to look at 15-18 closer and evolve to allow all swimmers opportunities and keep others in the water longer.

*Officials Chair, Paul Memont:* No report. Paul is attending the Eastern Zone Meeting in Atlantic City.

*Technical Chair, Laura Matusak:* No report. Laura is attending the Eastern Zone Meeting in Atlantic City.

*Safe Sport Chair, Anne Kaufman:* I have attached a handout of the Safe Sport Initiatives that we have been working on such as, self-assessments for clubs, identity of each club's safe sport chair and pre-meet risk assessment checklist. In this climate, we need to take it seriously. Also, I would like to introduce Consi Failing, our Safe Sport Fellow. Consi reported that she is working on a project that has two parts. Part 1 is to work closely with teams in NES. She will be training athletes to be a resource for their clubs as well as a person to share our message. Part 2 will be to create a kid friendly website that has information for safe sport, which she is in the process of working on and writing the script.

*Inclusion Committee, Nadine Jesionek-Johnson:* Nadine is attending the Eastern Zone meeting but Nicole Carter presented on her behalf. The Inclusion committee is trying to encompass the USA Swimming message, which isn't just about race. It includes gender, sexuality and income. We have accomplished a lot this year. Zones in Maryland were awesome and we are hoping to go to New York this year. We hosted a coaches' clinic, a "Touch the Wall" screening, several equipment drives and continued our outreach membership support. Moving ahead, we too are focused on a quad plan. We need continuity and consistency, such as our water safety days and regionals equipment drives. Thank you to Carol and Ray. I was one of those "last minute" people and couldn't have done it without you.

## **Reports of Committees and Coordinators**

*Coaches' Senior Representative, Kyle Schack:* Thank you to Ray – 22 years is pure dedication. I also agree that Mary, Priscilla and Carol were mentors especially to coaches. So, this transition is going to be interesting. Congratulations to Chuck who was the Head Coach of the USA Junior National team. He had Dorsey and Jamie on his staff as well. It is tough to get a swimmer to the top 100 and we had quite a few this year. So congratulations to all those coaches. We continued with our coach mentor program. Marshall Muir and Tim Mulvihill have put a ton of work in for the athlete camp this fall as well. It isn't too late to apply to be mentored. The money is an incentive and not compensation. Short course zones plan is evolving at the zone level going into next year. We are cooperating and striving to improve and be educated.

*Athlete Representatives, Mollie Westrick:* We have had a very busy year with charity events especially. We are currently trying to plan a fundraiser such as a relay carnival for Dana Faber. We are also trying to run more canning drives after our success at the Bluefish meet. We have created a mission statement to get posted on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to clarify what we do. We need athlete rep updates so that they can share our news with their team. All communication can go through NEAthleteReps@gmail.com

*Zone Committee Report, Mary Ellen Tynan:* Zones will be August 3-6<sup>th</sup> at Long Island Aquatics this year. Jamie Bloom is returning as Head Coach. Sign-ups opened May 1<sup>st</sup>. Priority deadline for coaches is June 1<sup>st</sup>. Deadline for swimmers will be July 18<sup>th</sup> for those who have 3-4 qualifying times. We will accept new times for those swimming that weekend. We are hoping for 100-120 swimmers.

*Office Report, Carol Healy:* Current registration is at 8,700 athletes. There is a 10% drop in USA for 12 and unders, but not for New England Swimming. We had 150 hosted meets this year and our LSC is looked at positively by USA swimming. We have many members on national boards. Laura is on National Club Development Board, Jamie is on National Convention Education Committee, Kathy Dacey is on National Board of Review, Nadine Jesionek is on National Inclusion Committee, Ali Lie is a National Athlete Rep, Anne Kaufman is on National Safe Sport Committee and I am on the National Membership Committee. I also want to thank Judi Lombardi who served 4 years as Secretary and was outstanding with her attention to detail and note taking. I also want to thank Katherine O'Shea, who will be attending Bucknell in the fall and Mollie Westrick who will be attending UPenn this fall. Lastly, Ray added that after 4 terms at General Chair, we need to remember we are all volunteers and must be reasonable in our expectations.

### **Presentation of Annual Budget, Joe Frazier:**

Thank you to Ray for 22 years of service. For 2015, NES has met its goals and also had an outside accountant audit. The process starts in December and continues for about 6 months with revisions, etc. A few key points are that we have maintained our reimbursement at the national level. We have maintained our National Outreach reimbursement at national level. We increased the budget for club and coach development. Lastly, as part of our long term plan, we have been planning for the last 8 years to maintain the viability of the LSC. Therefore, we have funds available to budget for a new office. The BOD adopted the budget at the last meeting. Motion to accept the budget by Chuck Batchelor, seconded by Matt Craven. *Motion passes unanimously*

**Unfinished Business:** None

### **Election of Officers:**

*Chairman Ray Grant noted that for each election, he would ask three times for any nominations from the floor in accordance with Robert's Rules.*

#### **A. Ballot #1: General Chairman**

Nominating Committee nomination: Matt Craven (SAC)

Nominations from the floor: None

Matt Craven is elected by unanimous consent.

*At this time, Ray Grant stepped down as Presiding Officer of the meeting, and Matt Craven assumed the role of General Chairman and Presiding Officer.*

#### **B. Ballot #2: Administrative Vice Chairman**

Nominating Committee nomination: Jamie Bloom (WYST)

Nominations from the floor: None

Jamie Bloom is elected by unanimous consent.

#### **C. Ballot #3: Secretary**

Nominating Committee nomination: Michelle Mitchell (CRIM)

Nominations from the floor: None

Michelle Mitchell is elected by unanimous consent.

D. Ballot #4: Finance Vice Chairman

Nominating Committee nomination: None

Nominations from the floor: One person nominated, but nomination is declined.

No election took place. Arthur Athanas remains in the role of Finance Vice Chairman until a successor is elected.

E. Ballot #5: Senior Chairman

Nominating Committee nomination: Church Batchelor (ABF)

Nominations from the floor: None

Chuck Batchelor is elected by unanimous consent.

F. Ballot #6: Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee nominations: Lisa Black Sholudko (AAC), Brian Cameron (UVAC), Drew Carbone (PSC, Athlete), Laura Matuszak (GMA, BOD), Kyle Schack (CRIM)

Nominations from the floor: Ray Grant (SSA)

Nominations were closed, and Ballot #6 was collected by Judi Lombardi and Rick Osterberg, and tabulated.

Nominating Committee Election Results (Ballot #6)

Number of votes cast: 53

Illegal votes cast: 1 (incorrect ballot used)

Lisa Black Sholudko (AAC): 32 votes

Brian Cameron (SSA): 39 votes

Drew Carbone (PSC, Athlete): 51 votes

Laura Matuszak (GMA, BOD): 44 votes

Kyle Schack (CRIM): 45 votes

Ray Grant (SSA): 38 votes

Brian Cameron, Drew Carbone, Laura Matusak, Kyle Schack, and Ray Grant were announced as the winners of the Nominating Committee election.

**New Business**

Brian Dirrane asked to have the HOD vote to eliminate the top end cut for the Age Group Championship. He stated that he looked it up and it is within the HOD's power to mandate that the AG Committee abolish this top end cut. Tim Mulvihill, Age Group Chair, stated that he understands the frustration with the top end cut and that the committee has been trying to find a way to rectify this situation. The committee is in full support of this but needs the right structure to accommodate this change. Rick Osterberg, Governance Chair, states that the HOD has the full authority to take a position but advised that this isn't the place to be so specific because it removes the power from the committee. We elect them to do their due diligence and encourage the HOD not to micro manage the committees. Brian Dirrane said that the committees are great and he just feels that this is an issue of the utmost importance and it affects all of us so he believes the HOD should have the authority. Chris Sheppard stated that as an Age Group Committee member, he agrees with getting rid of the top end cuts and that the committee is moving in that direction but needs to figure out all of the logistics. Brian stated that it is great he feels that way and that the HOD should just mandate it. Matt Craven offered that if you mandate it, then we cannot regulate it and want to avoid a colossal meet to abide by the 4 hour meet deadline. Chris Sheppard stated that if you mandate it and we need to keep the 4 hour meet limit then, some of our age group cuts would in fact be faster than sectional cuts. Bob Menck also stated that if you mandate it here then, any changes later on would have to go back to the HOD. Rick Osterberg concurred that is exactly what would have to take place. Brian refuted that fact stating that we could do an electronic written ballot and reiterated that the HOD needs to start mandating some of these items that affect us all.

Brian Dirrane made a motion from the floor to eliminate the top end cuts for the 15-18 championship meet. Nick Rice seconded and offered that it may still happen but just not mandatory.

*Yes – 4, Oppose- 28, Abstain – 14 - Motion fails.*

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Matt Craven, seconded by Judi Lombardi. *Motion passes unanimously.*

**Meeting Adjourned at 2:39 pm.**

Respectfully, submitted,  
Judi Lombardi, Secretary  
New England Swimming

## **ATTENDANCE REPORT**

### **New England Swimming - House of Delegates Annual Meeting - May 7, 2016**

#### **Board of Directors Members Present (15):**

Jordan Arnold (SAC), Chuck Batchelor (ABF), Jamie Bloom (WYST), Matt Craven (SAC), Priscilla Davis (UN), Joe Frazier (UN), Ray Grant (SSA), Anne Kaufman (UN), Judi Lombardi (NSSC), Marshall Muir (ENVY), Tim Mulvihill (SSYS), Rick Osterberg (UN), Kyle Schack (CRIM), Chris Sheppard (CS), Mollie Westrick (KING)

#### **Board of Directors Members Absent (7):**

Arthus Athanas (YNS), Elise Atkinson (CRA), Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck (UN), Laura Matuszak (GMA), Paul Memont (UN), Kayla Metvier (PHX), Katherine O'Shea (PSC)

#### **Club Delegates Present (40):**

Lavinia Albu (MWYS), Allison Balboni (HHST), Christina Close (ABF), Justin Cohannon (WACK), Jay Craft (KING), Brian Crawford (ESC), Alex Cronin (APEX), William Crotty (ORO), Richard Cuddihee (PWSC), Jerome Cumminskey (DOGS), Kathy Dacey (WYST), Brian Dirrane (UVAC), Richard Droser (STRM), Jared Felker (SSA), John Folcarelli (WW), Eric Goucher (LRW), Gregory Gowern (MST), Mei Han (MTSC), Janey Harty (YNS), James Hennessey (SNAP), Jeff Johnson (PSC), Christopher Klinkow (DHH), Anna-Lise LeBlanc (GYT), Sue McNamara (PST), Chris Morgan (BGSC), Paul Mueller (SOLO), Matthew Mulrooney (ACES), Kyle Myers (EST), Kirsty Nichols (CAN), Nick Provost (HYV), Henry Ramirez (GMSC), Emily Reed (HRY), Nick Rice (WAC), Marilan Soraghan (RAYS), Mark Taffe (BYB), Kelly Theroux (CVSC), Timothy Thompson (PHX), Ashley Vieira (JCCS), Dan Warner (MSSC), David Wolff (KASC)

#### **Athlete At-Large Delegates Present (3):**

Stormie Cuddihee (PWSC), Kimberly Hazeltine (CAN), Madeline Wallis (BGSC)

#### **Guests (21):**

Jeff Ambrose (SOLO), Joanie Biesel (ABF), Rodd Bohannon (WACK), Nicole Carter (EVO), Jessica Croteau (GYT), Consi Falling (CS), Anne Frazier (APEX), Greg Gillette (ABF), David Gingrich (LRW), Peter Gollands (PSC), Alan Koppel (UN), James Lew (CRIM), Carol MacDougal (RAYS), Michelle Mitchell (CRIM), Mike Moses (DHH), Ashley Phoenix (MWYS), Mary Riddell (UN), Annette Robertson (MWYS), Kate Von Pichee (RAYS), Ryan Yucka (ABF), Kevin Zheng (MWYS)

#### **Clubs with No Delegate (54):**

AAC, ANA, ATST, AYT, BAT, BAY, BDAT, BGNE, BROW, BYD, CCSC, CCYM, CONY, CRA, CRVS, CTS, DHS, EDGE, EVO, FINS, FLWS, GMA, GS, GST, HARV, HAY, ICMS, KAC, KCY, KYD, LCST, LSSC, MAC, MAL, MARR, MASK, MELY, MIDD, NBY, NU, PRDE, PVA, SAIL, SBGC, SEEK, SION, SJSC, SSC, STS, TYP, VAS, WHAL, WSY, WTST

**TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 79**