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New England Swimming
Harvard-Pilgrim Center - Wellesley, Massachusetts
November 17, 2014 - Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

Board Members:

Present: Elise Atkinson (CRA), Arthur Athanas (YNS), Joe Bernal (BGSC), Jamie Bloom (WYST), Carl Cederquist (CRIM), Priscilla Davis (UN), Joe Frazier (UN), Ray Grant (SSA), Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck (UN), Alison Lie (EVO), Judi Lombardi (NSSC), Paul Memont (UN), Rick Osterberg (UN), Kyle Schack (CRIM), Chris Sheppard (CRA), Mollie Westrick (KING)

Late: Laura Matusak (GMA),

Absent: Christie Batchelor (ABF), Chuck Batchelor (ABF), Matt Craven (SAC), Katherine O'Shea (PSC)

Guests:

Louis Arruda (UN), Lisa Black Sholudko (AAC), Kathy Dacey(UN), Ken Galica (UN), Carol Healey (NES-Office), Anne Kaufman (PHX), Bob Menck (UN), Chris Payson (SSC), Mary Riddell (UN-NE), Mary Ellen Tynan (PSC), Dan Warner (NSSC)

7:00 pm – Quorum (16/20) Established - BOD Meeting Called to Order by Ray Grant, General Chair

1. **Welcome, Ray Grant:** Thank you all for coming.
2. **Secretary's Report:** Approval of Minutes for September 9th meeting. Motion to approve made by Rick Osterberg, seconded by Joe Frazier. *Motion Passes with typographical corrections 16-0-0.*
3. **Treasurer's Report, Arthur Athanas:** We have moved \$350,000 into Western Bank Mutual Fund as approved at last meeting. It is a safe strategy to reinvest. We also paid \$150,000 to USA Swimming. Complete report is available in NES Office upon request. Motion to approve made by Chris Sheppard, seconded by Priscilla Davis. *Motion Passes 16-0-0*
4. **Budgeting Recommendations for 2015-16 fiscal year, Joe Frazier:** We have prepared a spreadsheet template for proposals to help with requests, which are due January 6th. Joe and Arthur are available by calling or emailing for questions or help. Carol also has detailed reports from past years if you would like to use for reference.
5. **Reimbursement Policy:** We have removed the NCSA Junior National Meet and it's \$5,000 pot from the list. The remaining meets are unchanged. Motion made by Rick to discuss the change, seconded by Arthur. Joe F asked if the "California Classic" is new. Priscilla stated that it is the same meet as last year, a National Disability Meet .Joe Bernal asked what the rationale is to eliminate the NSCA meet. Ray believes part of the rationale is that it is not the only Junior National Meet. There is a new one in Florida now too. Matt Craven and Laura Matusak were at the meeting but not here right now to clarify. Carol thinks it is because the meet is not open to all. Carl Cederquist reported that you had to just pay a surcharge. Kyle Schack confirmed that the membership is included when you submit your entries and you can't apply before. Carl would like to see Grand Prix meets be \$100 per meet, not just once. Ray asked where the \$5,000 pot went when they removed the NCSA meet. Arthur offered that we could do what we did in 2013 to use the money until it runs out. Carl presented an amendment to the motion to increase the pot from \$5,000 to \$10,000 with a max of \$200 per meet/per meet/per swimmer with no meet limit. Chris Sheppard seconded the motion. *Vote on the first motion to remove the NSCA meet 13-0-1. Vote on the Amendment to increase the pot size and not limit the number of meets 14-0-0.*
6. **Calendar:** *Matt Craven is absent, No report*
7. **Committee Reports:**
 - a Senior Committee, Joe Bernal: Joe reported that things are going great in the planning for the December Seniors Meet. There are some minor changes like more rub down tables. They also hope to have LCM times out by then. They are planning a meeting at the Marriott afterwards and asked anyone interested to bring their concerns and ideas so they can plan appropriately and not change things after the season progresses.
 - b Age Group Committee, Jamie Bloom: We are currently working on LC Standards. We hope to get more work done over Christmas Break because we need more info on 13 & overs and 12 & unders from the meet host now that we are at a 8 lane pool. As far as SCY, we are working on details and the Silver Meet is in progress. The language is changing, so we are making sure it is all clear. Jamie stated that it should be out within a week. Ray asked for a more specific timeframe. Jamie stated by November 24th.
 - c Inclusion Committee, Nadine J. Jesioneck: Nadine reported the committee is currently operating with 6 active adults, 2 Student Athletes and 2 Student Advisors. She reported that they were able to attend all 6 workshops provided by the National Diversity Committee at the USA Swimming Convention. She found

the roundtable discussion very helpful especially. It brought up issues such as how welcoming a club/LSC is and that we need to address language barriers to help with our open atmosphere in the LSC. Lastly, Nadine provided each BOD members with a copy of the USA Swimming Diversity and Inclusion Guiding Principles, which will be posted on our website.

- d Coaches Committee, Kyle Schack: He reported that the Swimposium was great for the coaches. It also allowed him to gather information and concerns many are having. For example, there is a concern over the lack of or delayed communication and frustration with information on Silvers and Regionals. Many voiced concerns that we are not looked at as professionals or business-like. There is a request that fees and surcharges go to a delegate vote, not a BOD vote.
 - e Athlete Report: Ali Lie reported that they had an amazing time in Jacksonville and thanked the BOD for sending them. They bonded with other team reps and discussed how to get more athletes involved. One idea is to work on a guide book. Mollie Westrick reiterated that the convention was great. One reoccurring problem that came up in their groups was deck changing. They all believe it is an issue but are concerned about the definition of “deck changing” so, that is something they are working on. Elise Atkinson also reported that they spoke to Russell on the National Athlete Committee. He brought some great ideas. He also downplayed social media because it focuses on friends and not everyone in the LSC is a “friend”. He suggested a bi-annual newsletter for athletes. So, we are going to be working on that as well. Lastly, at the Swimposium, we decided that we wanted to make things fun and bring athletes together. So, along with the other Team Reps, we are going to be working on a hashtag competition as part of a community service tie-in. Ray Grant reminded them that they should have a monitor to make sure all is appropriate. (Laura Matusak arrived)
 - f Safe Sport, Anne Kaufman: Anne reported that Mariella attended so , she doesn’t have a great deal of information but did recognize that there is a ton of information coming out of the National Office and that she believes we need to get ahead of the curve to address some issues as an LSC.
8. **Technical Committee, Laura Matusak**: Laura had 5 motions to present to the BOD tonight.

a Motion:

QUALIFYING TIMES MOTION #1

Technical Committee recommends that this motion be considered.

Background: The Technical Committee recommends that the Regional Meets (New England Swimming End-of-Season Qualifying Meets) accept entry times that are not in the SWIMS database.

Change the following sections of the New England Swimming Rules and Regulations for Competition:

II. SWIM MEET POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

O. Championship and “End of Season” Meet Policies

10. Qualifying Times: All qualifying times used for entry into ~~New England Swimming End-of-Season Qualifying Meets and~~ New England Swimming Championship Meets must be entered into the USA Swimming SWIMS system.

There is no minimum number of New England Swimming Calendar meets in which a swimmer must participate in order to enter a New England Swimming End-of-Season Qualifying Meets and/or New England Championship Meets.

This policy will take effect on December 1, 2014.

Motion made by Laura and seconded by Joe Frazier to discuss. Ray offered that he believes this is the wrong way for the board to go and just a few weeks ago this happened when they didn’t have a meet referee. Mary Riddel offered a comment that from an Office point of view, they can technically bring any swimmer they want with the right time because times are hidden. Rick Osterberg stated that he still hasn’t heard a compelling reason except personal to change it. He believes they should work on getting things certified. Joe F asked what will stop other organizations that aren’t as high level from doing the same thing. Mollie offered that she has been at many RI meets and they are definitely not at the same standard. Priscilla stated that as a referee, I wouldn’t certify some of these times/results she has seen. *Motion Failed*

1-13-3

b Motion:

TWO SWIMMERS PER LANE MOTION #1

Technical Committee recommends that this motion be considered.

Background: The Technical Committee addressed the concerns raised by swimmers, coaches and officials regarding the safety problems with two-per-lane competition.

Two swimmers per lane in competition is not permitted in New England Swimming.

Remove this optional language from all meet templates. Additional note: Chase start races are permitted.

This policy will take effect on December 1, 2014

Motion made by Laura, Seconded by Rick to discuss. Kyle said that coaches find that it doesn't make financial sense to run distance events. Chris Sheppard stated that he doesn't fully share that thought because their meets are profitable. Chris moves and Rick seconds to change it from two to no more than 1 swimmer per lane. *Motion Passes 14-0-3*

c Motion:

CHAMPIONSHIP RELAY FLIGHTING MOTION #1

Technical Committee recommends that this motion be considered.

Background: The Technical Committee suggests standardized relay flighting for championship meets that allow for Meet Referee discretion.

Change the following sections of the New England Swimming Rules and Regulations for Competition:

II. SWIM MEET POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

O. Championship and "End of Season" Meet Policies

18. Relays at New England Championship Meets

e. The following format may be offered at the discretion of the Meet Referee for New England championship meets:

i. Flight A: The fastest 2-5 heats of girls will be swum slowest to fastest (with the top three heats circle seeded) followed by the fastest 2-5 heats of boys swum slowest to fastest (with the top three heats circle seeded).

ii. Flight B: The Flight A heats will be followed by the remaining heats swum fastest to slowest, alternating girls and boys. (These heats may be swum at the end of the session.)

This policy will take effect on December 1, 2014.

Motion made by Laura, Seconded by Chris S to discuss. Ray asked why we circle seed a timed final. Laura reported that it is a typographical error and motion is amended to not include the phrase "(with the top three heats circle seeded)". Ray asked should we add Meet Director along with Meet Referee. Paul Memont stated that the ultimate decision should be with Meet referee. Ray said the Meet Director should be involved though. Arthur asked when the decision is made. Ray believes decision is made after entries come in and not at the meet itself. Rick states it is the same language as the distance meet and if changed then we need to revisit that. Carol asked if this changes what we have. Rick said yes because we mandated A/B flights and not always necessary. Ray asked why? Paul stated from the WPI issue and the 10 lane pool because we were not allowing it. Bob M asked why the Dec 1, 2014 because it is in contradiction to the current meet info out now. *Motion as amended passed 13-2-2*

d Motion:

MEET SURCHARGES MOTION #1

Technical Committee recommends that this motion be considered.

Background: A Task Force of the Technical Committee recommends a decrease in meet surcharges for approved meets.

Change the following sections of the New England Swimming Rules and Regulations for Competition:
 II. SWIM MEET POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
 J. Meet Entry Fees, Surcharges, Awards and Subsidy Policy

2. Sanction and surcharge fees:

	Sanctioned Meet	Championship/Regional Meet	Approved Meet	YMCA sanctioned/ USA approved	Observed Meet (HS & College)	Bay State Games
Sanction Fee	\$20.00 per day	No charge	\$80.00 per day	\$80.00 per day		\$20.00 per day
Surcharges	\$.75 per event for timed finals meets	No surcharges	\$1.50 per event \$1.10 per event	\$.75 per event	\$5.00 per splash	\$1.50 per splash
	\$.50 per event (Trials/Finals meets)		\$.50 per event (Trials/Finals meets)	\$.50 per event (Trials/Finals meets)		
	No surcharges for distance events		No surcharge for non-USA Swimming athletes. Surcharge for distance events.	No surcharge for non-USA Swimming athletes. Surcharge for distance events.		No surcharge for non-USA Swimming athletes.

* Host teams pay surcharges for their own team and for entries that are scratched or do not show.

This policy will take effect on December 1, 2014.

Motion made by Laura, Seconded by Rick O to discuss. Joe asked what the economic impact from last year would be. Chris asked if approved meets are the ones we talked about earlier. Kathy Dacey stated that you shouldn't differentiate your swimmers. Ray still doesn't understand why we treat YMCA differently. Arthur asked if we need to merge the columns. Ray said he would entertain a motion to table. Laura said the task force came up with this as a solution to financial impact of SWIMS requirement. Mary Riddell said we have wrestled with this for the last 25 years. Ray said a host has to follow all our rules, pay sanctions, who they take, etc, so why doesn't all host teams have too. Bob Menck stated that we should clarify and treat all non-NES swim meets the same way. Chris S stated that we have approved meets to protect our calendar. Chris (SSC) asked why not include all other. Priscilla asked why not keep it the same. *Motion Failed 1-11-2.*

e Motion:

MEET APPROVAL DEADLINE MOTION #1

Technical Committee recommends that this motion be considered.

Background: A Task Force of the Technical Committee recommends removing the contradictory deadline dates in favor of the 60 day deadline.

Update the New England Swimming Meet Approval Form.

Exceptions: Surcharges for certain YMCA meets approved by NES will be .75 cents per event (as of 9/1/2013) The following conditions must apply:

1. The meet must be sanctioned by YMCA of New England
2. The meet must have qualifying times
3. The YMCA sanction and NES approval must be obtained 60 days before the first day of the meet
4. ~~The meet must be approved by NES no later than the NES calendar meet submission deadline for the applicable season.~~

This policy will take effect on December 1, 2014

Meet Approval Deadline. Motion by Laura, Seconded by Rick to discuss. Carol clarified that to get a meet approved, teams must submit a bid 1st and then send sanctions in secondly because most don't set the meet schedule as early as NES does. Carol agrees that it isn't necessary to make teams looking for approval to abide by our deadlines. *Motion passes 15-0-2*

9. **Office Report, Carol Healy:** NES was well represented with 11 people attending the Convention. The Banquet was also a success with 602 people and the Marriott did a great job. Next year, we are going to make September 27th as the last day to get in. As for Swimposium, it was also successful according to surveys and feedback. Lastly, Regional sites are posted and people are requesting Silvers Info. Not idea how many are registered at the moment but Birth Certificate requirements will be run on December 1st.

10. Other:

Arthur Athanas: What is up with the Elite Meet Status? Joe B offered that they are currently looking at other avenues/options and maybe one at Brown that is going to allow college and other fast swimmers in as well but all still up in the air at the moment.

Carol Healey: Quad Plan is updated and posted on site.

Mary Ridell: Is there anything we should be concerned with on Calendar. Ray stated, we are just as confused.

Kyle Schack: Wants technical to align all of its approved meet fees. Ray stated to bring it directly to them. Carl: the current 75/25 and 1st come entry processes re hurting those of us in business. I could only bring a half a club into a meet for one team. They ended up pulling their whole entry after and I had to scramble to try to fill the meet but had turned down those who always come to my meets and they were already committed elsewhere. Carl asked why we can't have another alternative. Ray agrees somewhat and asked Laura to do some research. Carol suggested a survey.

Nadine: Just wanted to thank the Athlete Reps for attending one of our sessions as well as recognizing the National Office.

Joe Bernal: Just wanted to say Senior Meets are pretty stable and able to commit to the quad plan.

Athletes: Thank you for sending us to the convention and congratulations to Ali Lie who was selected as the Athlete Rep to serve on the National Inclusion Committee.

Laura M.: Thank you to Carol and Mary Ellen on the hard work at the Swimposium.

Louis Arruda: What if a swimmer has a conflict with championship meets? Can they not swim at our meet? Carol reported that it is a decision for the Calendar and Technical committee.

Bob Menck: Special thank you to those covering all the meets this week with Fall States and Sectionals.

Closing: Motion to adjourn made by Ray Grant, seconded by Laura Matusak. Meeting Adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Respectfully, submitted,
Judi Lombardi, Secretary
New England Swimming