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New England Swimming
Harvard-Pilgrim Center - Wellesley, Massachusetts
March 26, 2013 - Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting

Board Members:

Present: Mariella Allard (UN-NE), Sarah Bartholomae (SAC), Joe Bernal (BGSC), Jamie Bloom (WYST), Matt Craven (SAC), Priscilla Davis (UN-NE), Chris Downing (CRA), Joe Frazier (BGSC), Olivia Jameson (NSSC), Judi Lombardi (NSSC), Laura Matusak (GMA), Bob Menck (UN-NE), Rick Osterberg (UN-NE), Chris Sheppard (CRA), Tim Thompson (HHS), Tori Weinstock (PSC).

Absent: Arthur Athanas (YNS), Chuck Batchelor (ABF), Ray Grant (SSA), Nadine Johnson-Jesionek (BEST), Tim Murphy (MBM),

Guests:

Staci Bowen (NSSC), Ken Galica (NWSC), Carol Healey (NES-Office), Mary Riddell (UN-NE), Mary Ellen Tynan (PSC-NE)

7:04 pm – Quorum (13/21) Established - BOD Meeting Called to Order by Matt Craven, Admin Vice-General Chair

1. **Secretary's Report, Judi Lombardi:** Minutes of the January 14, 2013 meeting reviewed. Motion to approve Secretary's report with typographical corrections made by Joe Frazier and seconded by Bob Menck. *Motion Passes unanimously.*
2. **Treasurer's Report, Carol Healey:** All treasury reports as of 3/25/2013 are on file at the New England Swimming Office and available upon request. Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by Priscilla Davis, seconded by Bob Menck. *Motion Passes unanimously.*
3. **Calendar Committee, Matt Craven:**
Reports that we are waiting on Senior Committee to confirm location for Summer Senior Meet to hopefully be at Brown University. New LCM Age Group cuts should be out on April 15th. In addition, they are working on a three-year plan and will be coming soon. Lastly, Harvard has been confirmed for the 12 & under and the 13-19 Age Group LCM Championship meets. 13-14 year olds have been moved to the older age meet to alleviate the burden for Harvard.
4. **Technical Committee, Mariella Allard:** A written compilation of the proposed legislation was presented to the Board of New England Swimming for their review and vote by Mariella Allard, Technical Chair:
 - a. **Distance Meet Subsidy Motion #1:** *Background: The current Distance Meet subsidy is \$250. Moved by Mariella Allard, and seconded by Priscilla Davis. Motion passes 12-2-0.*

Clubs that host a sanctioned Calendar Meet in which all events are 400 yards or longer will be eligible to receive a \$300 subsidy. The meet must run no less than 3 hours in length, after scratches, not including the warm-up period. This policy will take effect September 1, 2013.

- b. **Distance Session Subsidy Motion #1:** *Background: The current Distance Session subsidy is \$250. Moved by Mariella Allard, and seconded by Laura Matuszak. Motion passes 14-0.*

Clubs that host a sanctioned Calendar Meet that is not a Distance Meet, but which contains one or more sessions in which all events are 400 yards or longer, will be eligible to receive a \$150 subsidy. At least one distance session must have a separate warm-up period no less than 30 minutes in length, and the session must run no less than 2 hours in length, after scratches, not including the warm-up period. This policy will take effect September 1, 2013.

- c. **Meet Surcharge Motion #1:** *Background: Prelims/Finals surcharge is currently \$.075. Distance event surcharge is currently \$.075 per event. The surcharge for YMCA meets is currently \$1.50 per event for all meets.* Moved by Mariella Allard, and seconded by Rick Osterberg. Jamie bloom clarifies that there are currently 4 sanctioned YMCA meets – YMCA New Englands, District Championships, SSYS Thanksgiving Meet & ANA Hurricane Meet. *Motion passes 13-1-2.*

The following meet surcharge fees will be set, effective September 1, 2013.

- a. Prelims/Finals meet surcharge: \$0.50
- b. Distance events (400 yards or longer): No surcharge
- c. Surcharge for certain YMCA meets approved by NESL \$0.75 per event.
 - i. The meet must be sanctioned by YMCA of New England
 - ii. The meet must have qualifying times.
 - iii. The YMCA sanction and New England Swimming approval must be obtained 60 days before the first day of the meet.
 - iv. The meet must be approved by New England Swimming no later than the new England Swimming calendar meet submission deadline for the applicable season (Feb 1st for LCM season and July 1st for SCY season)
- d. Surcharge for all other YMCA meets approved by New England Swimming: \$1.50 per event

d. Senior Championship Entry Times Motion #1: Moved by Mariella Allard, and seconded by Priscilla Davis. Mariella reports that she had 81 sheets of times at 13-19's. Rick agrees that times should be in a database. Matt Craven likes this and is ok with seeing this trickle down to keep the integrity of championship meets. Chris Sheppard questions whether this includes Opens. Rick clarifies that Opens is not considered a Senior meet and suggests amending motion to clarify that the senior chair and committee can designate Opens as a championship meet if they desire. This amendment was moved by Mariella Allard and seconded by Joe Frazier. *Amended Motion passes 16-0.*

All Entry times used to enter any New England Senior Championship meet must be found in the USA Swimming SWIMS database. Any entry time used to enter the meet that is not in the SWIMS database will be subject to a penalty of \$100 per non-compliant entered event. This policy will apply to any calendar meet in New England that is designated as a Senior Championship meet by the Senior Chair and Committee. The policy shall be clearly listed in the meet information. This policy will take effect September 1, 2013.

e. Hospitality Subsidy Motion #1: Moved by Mariella Allard, and seconded by Chris Sheppard. Chris agrees that host teams need to go the extra mile and people doing hospitality need to step up. Joe Bernal also agrees and reports that it only takes a few parents to go out and hit up a few locals so, they can have pride in what they are presenting. Matt Craven believes there shouldn't be these issues since their profits are high. Bob Menck asked who decides if the team will get the subsidy. Mariella clarifies that the Vice Chair will decide if what they provided was worth it or not. Rick Osterberg understands some issues at some meets but thinks that it is arbitrary to have one person decide. Bob agrees and feels that there should be criteria set first. Carol stated that the biggest complaints came from 12 & unders. Carol Healey suggested we take a step back. *Motion was tabled until qualifications/criteria can be established.*

Clubs that host a Championship Meet may apply for a subsidy of up to \$500 to defray the cost of providing hospitality services for coaches, officials and meet staff. The subsidy application shall be submitted to the Calendar Chairman after the meet, and must include receipts to document expenses. This policy will take effect September 1, 2013. *Motion Tabled*

f. Zone Meet Fee Motion #1: Moved by Mariella Allard, seconded by Joe Frazier. *Background: The current cost for New England Zone Team Participants is \$450 for 11 and over, and \$200 for 10 & under. The increase cost is due to increasing bus and hotel costs.* *Motion passes 16-0*

The cost for participants in the New England Zone Team shall be \$500 for athletes aged 11 and over, and \$250 for athletes aged 10 and under. The athletes age is determined by the age-up date for the meet. This policy will take effect September 1, 2013.

g. Event Flighting Motion #1: Moved by Mariella Allard, seconded by Jamie Bloom. *Background: A/B flights for 400/500 events are currently required at some, but not all championship meets.* Carol Healey asked if it should be required only if there are 7 or more heats. Olivia Jameson reminded them that there were 8 heats of the 400 IM this year and it wasn't A/B flighted. Matt motioned to have the effective date change to April 1, 2013. Bob Menck seconded. *Motion passes as amended 16-0*

At all New England Championship Meets, all individual prelim/finals events that are 400 yards/meters or 500 yards in length shall be conducted with A/B flights during the preliminaries session. The A flight shall consist of the fastest 5 heats in each event. The B flight shall alternate heats of women and men. This information shall be published in the meet information. The policy will take effect April 1, 2013.

h. Event Flighting Motion #2: Moved by Mariella Allard, seconded by Matt Craven. *Background: A/B flights for relay events are currently required at some, but not all, championship meets.* Bob Menck understands how it helps at the end of the session but not how it helps at the beginning of a session. Olivia Jameson also doesn't understand how it helps. Chris Sheppard asked if it could be conditional. Rick Osterberg motioned to change it from "during" to "at the end of the finals session". Chris Sheppard seconded. *Motion passes as amended 16-0*

At all New England Championship Meets, all relay events conducted as timed finals at the end of the finals session shall be conducted with A/B flights. The A flight shall consist of the fastest 2 heats in each event. The B flight shall alternate heats of women and men. This information shall be published in the meet information. The policy will take effect September 1, 2013

i. Public Changing Motion #1: Moved by Mariella Allard, seconded by Jamie Bloom. Matt Craven asked what other LSC's do. Bob said that some are not allowed to use facilities again. Matt Craven reported that some facilities don't have adequate bathroom/locker room space and at one meet, the line to the boy's locker room was ridiculous. Joe Bernal concurred. Olivia Jameson asked if it was okay to change in non-locker room bathrooms. Matt asked about girls who take their straps down and Rick clarified that that does not fit the requirement of "into or out of". Bob believes that there needs to be more clarification on "where and when" it is okay. *Motion passes due to a tie 6-6-4*

At all New England sanctioned meets, any athlete who is observed changing into or out of a swimsuit in a public space outside of the designated locker room, whether or not resulting in inappropriate exposure, shall be subject to a \$100 fine. If there is any inappropriate resistance to an assessed fine by the athlete or coach, the Meet Referee or Meet Director may exclude the athlete from the remainder of the meet, and the club may be subject to an additional \$200 fine. Fines are payable to the meet host club. This policy will take effect September 1, 2013.

5. **Annual Meeting Report:** The date has been set and posted. It is May 4th at 10 am. A schedule will come out shortly. Matt Craven suggested a good time to show everyone what hospitality is supposed to look like. Carol likes the idea of a sample hospitality menu.
6. **Age Group Chair Report, Jamie Bloom:** Brian Cameron is working hard on cuts for summer now. We are also waiting on Crimson for reports as to the requirements they have to run the meet. After that, we will get the exact format with the 19 year old's included and plan right now is to make the 19 year old cuts equal to the Senior cuts. Carol suggested that they could change it again.
7. **Office, Carol Healey:** Membership is at 7,810 athletes, 548 coaches, 410 officials and 78 others. She also reminded the board that the NES office will be closed from April 16-23 and that they need to get the birth certificates early.

8. **Easter Zone Meeting:** Carol Healey reported that Ray Grant is looking for 2 volunteers to attend the Eastern Zone Meetings in Cleveland the same day as our Annual Meeting. Tim Thompson volunteered.
9. **Coach Report, Tim Thompson:** We need one person interested in Jr. Coach Rep. He has heard that Tim from SSYS is interested. Jamie said she heard complaints from coaches that they don't know what the Age Group committee is doing and what is happening. Matt Craven said that he used to send out a brief synopsis of what was happening to keep coaches informed when he served as the Coaches rep and maybe we could do something like that.
10. **Athlete's Report, Sarah Bartholomae:** A written synopsis was presented to the New England Swimming Board. The synopsis contained information gathered by the suggestion box set up at the 13-19 Championship meet on the clerk of course's desk. They want to continue this at future meets because of the constructive feedback received. Problem areas identified by the swimmers themselves were:
- Change finals format back to old format. Too many heats diminish their value and top kids were not allowed to race each other with the 17-19 and 15-16 breakdown.
 - Top seed should select walk out music and towards the end they stopped the music.
 - Having to provide timers for relays at finals added to the chaos. Request assigning timers for entire session.
 - Extend warm up time for finals to 1½ hours so people aren't getting run over.
 - Establish a swimmer zone on or near pool deck for snacks, water, and space to stretch.
 - Running time trials during finals is disrupting.
 - Ask MIT to allow one more warm-up/warm-down lane during prelims.
 - No flags in lane 1 of scoreboard pool
 - Move Friday AM relays' to Sunday AM
 - Do not allow swimmers to change into their racing suits in the bathroom stalls.
11. **Officials Report, Bob Menck:** There were some equipment issues at 13-19's but we learned on the fly and were able to get all info out. Bob is chairing the upcoming meeting in Florida and hopes to get more info on the Administrative position. He will also be conducting a Starter and a Stroke/Turn clinic at the Annual Meeting. Lastly, the credentials program at MIT worked out well. They are trying to resolve a few issues with those who did not get the pink card but it was an eye opener as to who has let credentials lapse. Chris Sheppard asked why it was started and need to revisit enforcement. Bob stated that it started out as a way to control the number of coaches on deck at MIT. Matt Craven was concerned over the number of coaches that were sent up to the galley that were on deck at 12 & unders.
12. **Senior Report, Joe Bernal:** They are actively looking at people to work on the Senior Committee. Kudos to Mary Ella Tynan, John Ogdon and others for all their work this season. December Seniors went smoothly, but a few issues at the beginning with BU air quality. It was addressed and improved. The Senior Elite meet has some issues but prefers that coaches exercise some professionalism and offer suggestions directly to those in charge instead of asking other coaches why there were not enough swimmers. Regarding LC Seniors, the committee is recommending no bonus cuts. The goal is to make it an exclusive and strong championship. He wants to keep raising the bar and doesn't want to water down our championships. The standard times are pretty good but a few changes need to be made such as, the girls freestyle. The qualifying period will also extend to 18 months instead of 12. Lastly, the committee is looking at putting together a coaches' social. This would be a place to put away differences and share ideas. Our LSC can grow if we work together. They are also going to try to have all standards set at the beginning of the year. They are also looking at Athletes participating.
13. **Nominating Committee, Jamie Bloom:** Deadline to submit nominations is April 4th. However, nominations can be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting.
14. **Inclusion Committee Report, Staci Bowen:** A three page written synopsis was presented to the Board. Kuba Wolf was published in the Jewish Advocate and in the Shalom Magazine, reaching 50,000 subscribers. The student athletes also established a new facebook page. At Senior Championships and various other meets, an equipment drive was held, garnering over \$1,400 in

raised suites and goggles. Also, thanks to Mike Kotch from MetroWest and Brandeis Swimming for equipment donation. These items will be given out at the water festival in June. The 12+ athletes serving on the Inclusion committee are piloting a Student Advisory committee since they are faced with the graduation of Chelsea Clagget and Katie Kim, both Senior Athlete Reps. Regarding Eastern Zone Diversity Camp, reports are surfacing that it may be moved to another state due to high cost of facilities. The Students expressed an interest in creating a social fundraiser to support the camp expected to be held here in Boston in June. Regarding National Black Heritage Championship Swim Meet, entries are due by April 26th. The Hotel is booked and Coach Ron (CCSC) has incorporated a training trip and college tour for athletes 15 + up to visit schools such as, Chapel Hill and Duke. May 15th is International Safety Day. Lastly, the committee is working on new criteria to be embodied such as Inclusion athlete of the month and letters for support.

15. Budget Presentation: Operating Budget was presented in a written 6-page document to the Board of Directions. Joe Bernal questioned why the Grand Prize was out and thinks we need to review that kind exposure. Matt questions if there is enough money allotted to National Meet. Joe Frazier clarified that there is actually an increase of \$16,000 overall but what is missing is the money allotted to Olympic Trials last year. Laura Matuszak reminded everyone that these line items went through a process. Matt asks for a clarification to the \$20,000 increase for inclusion. Staci Bowen clarified that it is pay in full for outreach swimmers who qualify for sectionals or above meets. Priscilla Davis asked if we have swimmers on scholarship. Stacie reported that we do. Carol Healey suggested that we need guidelines. To clarify, Bob Menck asked if they are setting aside money to match a future policy to which Joe Frazier confirmed.

16. Other Business: Joe Bernal- Asked if an official would like to join the Senior Committee.

Rick Osterberg- wanted it noted how much he loved the feedback from the Athlete Reps. He hopes the committees hear it and it continues to come.

Carol Healey- Just a reminder that May 4th is the Annual meeting and that June 11th is the meeting after that.

Matt Craven- Southern Eastern Zone had a photo free zone and thought it was a good idea.

Motion to adjourn made by Matt Craven, seconded by Priscilla Davis. Meeting Adjourned at 9:23 pm.

Respectfully, submitted,
Judi Lombardi, Secretary
New England Swimming

*Minutes approved 15-0 with typographical errors on June 11, 2013