

Utah Swimming, Inc.

Board Meeting

Tuesday, 11 January 2010 @ 7:00 Dell Recreation Center 10670 South 1000 East, Sandy

The meeting was called to order at 7:06p.m.

Members present: Mike Werner, Jim Jones, Bob LeMon, Andy Sipple, Ron Lockwood, Lela Hiatt, Chris Westra, Carri Oviatt, Kyle Westra, Lyse' Durrant, Krissy Payton, Debby Fleisch and Todd Etherington

Members excused: Scott Sorensen, Alexis Jurgens, Dani Vaughn, Dee Loose and McKay King

Guests present: Adam Caldwell (SUSA), Madolin Witte (SYAC), and Daniel Peterson (STAC)

November's Minutes were approved by an email vote; they were previously posted on www.swimutah.com.

Officer Reports

General Chair: Mike welcomed everyone to the board. He began the meeting by making a few appointments for board positions. Kyle Westra was appointed as the Official's Chair. There was a motion to accept this appointment. It was seconded and approved. He appointed Debby Fleisch as Sanctions Chair. There was a motion to accept this appointment. It was seconded and approved. Upon Kyle's resignation as Treasurer, he appointed Andy Sipple to fill that position. There was a motion to accept this appointment. It was seconded and approved.

Mike also discussed the Board retreat and talked about the strategic framework that was created there. We also discussed the new mission and vision statements that were created at the retreat.

Mike told us that USA Swimming is encouraging LSCs to move toward having board members sign Accountability and Conflict of Interest Statements. He had prepared one that was read aloud and discussed. Lela made a motion that we accept the Accountability and Conflict of Interest Statement and adopt it into our Policies and Procedures. It was seconded and approved. Debby made a motion that anyone refusing to sign the Accountability and Conflict of Interest Statement could not serve on the board, and that we adopt this into our Policies and Procedures. It was seconded and approved.

Mike also discussed the USA Swimming LEAP program and compared it to the Club Recognition Program. We discussed some of the steps involved in becoming compliant. Todd went over the list of what we have done and still need to do.

Mike made some appointments to the Board of Review. He appointed Lyse' Durrant and Dan Peterson as the even year members, and Lela Hiatt and Madolin Witte as the odd year members. He appointed Adam Caldwell as the odd year alternate. There was a motion to accept these appointments. It was seconded and approved. Mike will still need to appoint two athletes to the Board of Review. One will serve as a member, and one as an alternate.

Administrative Vice-Chair: Jim had nothing to report.

Secretary: Bob discussed using a Consent Agenda to try to make the meetings more productive and shorter. He and Mike talked about the kind of things that can be put on the Consent Agenda and voted on as a whole, or voted on after pulling specific topics needing further discussion.

He also discussed having the various Chairs getting committees together to help in the decision making process. This way, recommendations can be properly researched and discussed before being presented to the board.

Treasurer: Andy reported that he has worked on the financials and is getting them cleaned up. He said he would have them for the next agenda.

He also discussed the topic of governance and some of the suggestions we learned at the retreat.

Kyle mentioned that the division of commerce is going to be looking into all clubs with the 503c status. This comes from some troubles with handling of funds by some other sports organizations.

Senior Chair: Ron reported that the Senior State sanction has been finalized. He followed some advice from some coaches, and modified the entry time standards. There was a lot of discussion about this. He also discussed some things he would like to change about this meet to make it more fun for the swimmers. He talked about having them marching out for finals and having awards that are different than the traditional trophies.

Ron discussed some ideas for funding of coaches and athletes for higher level meets, Regional and National. He asked about the way we reward the athletes that support Utah Swimming. We had a long discussion about this.

Age-Group Chair: Lela should have the sanction for JOs to Debby very soon. She has asked Pam Chamberlain to help her on some projects and to be the Zone team manager.

Athlete Representatives: None were present.

Club Liaison: Chris has been discussing the liaison position with Kanani. She will soon be contacting all of the clubs.

Coach Representative: Dee was not present. He had asked Mike if he wanted to set up a coach's clinic. Mike also mentioned that Utah will be the host for the regional coach's clinic in 2011.

Membership/Registration Coordinator: Carri has mailed out the registrations through November. She is working with Todd to get the rest out. We had a discussion about registrations, and how to get them returned in a timelier manner.

Officials Chair: Kyle has formed his Official's committee. It is Carolyn Burt, Debby Fleisch, Cathy Vaughn, Chanin Gammill and Adam Caldwell.

He discussed setting up a certification for Chief Judges. He will be in this position at JOs. The other Officials will be Carolyn Burt as Meet Referee, Cathy Vaughn as Deck Referee and Debby Fleisch will be the Starter.

Kyle also discussed having DQ slips being provided by the team hosting the meet.

He also mentioned that we now have a new Referee and 4 new Starters.

Safety Chair: Lyse' has received 6 accident reports in the last month.

Technical Planning Chair: Krissy is working on meets for the summer. She will be sending an email request to the teams for additions to the calendar.

At-Large Board Member Reports

Adaptive Coordinator: Position is vacant.

Publicity Coordinator: Position is vacant.

Sanctions Coordinator: Debby discussed sanctions. She told us that we have not raised splash fees for 16 years, and should look into adjusting these. She also suggested possibly raising sanction fees. We discussed these topics, with Mike suggesting a graduated fee scale based on the time frame of the sanctioning.

Debby also mentioned the need of having a fine in place if splash fees are not received in the required time. She said she would work on a proposal to present to the board addressing these items.

She will also be working on some new sanction templates.

USI Employee Report

LSC Administrator: Todd reported that the new website is up and should be current in a couple of weeks. He has picked up more registrations and will get the sorted out.

New Business: Andy brought up open water and we discussed different aspects of how to do this.

Adjourn 9:12 PM

Next meeting: 7:00 Tuesday February 9th @ Dimple Dell Recreation Center 10670 South 1000 East, Sandy
All are welcome.

Respectfully submitted, Bob LeMon, USI Secretary



Coaches;

I would like to write this letter in hopes that it will clear up a few things that have been going on in our LSC. First off I would like to apologize to the Eagle Aquatic Team for

the way they were treated after they sent out their meet information for their Trick or Treat meet.

I would like to also apologize to the Wasatch Front Fish Market team for not having a clearer understanding of what an Invitational meet truly is in our bylaws.

I hope this letter clears up some issues and I think the USI board can put some things in place so there is no miscommunication on these issues again.

When I heard there were some issues regarding the sanction of the Eagle Trick or Treat meet, I sent out an email to some people who have a lot of knowledge about Rules and Regulations and Sanctions. This is what was sent back to me.

“If the meet information went out in an email to those teams who were invited I see no problem. It says right in the title page and the event page that it is an invitational meet. The invitational simply states that to be eligible you must be 2009 USA Registered. I would interpret that to say if there are new kids on a team that have been invited, they cannot swim unless they are USA Registered. The fact that it was put up on your USI’s calendar on the web site doesn’t do anything but let people know that there is an invitational meet on that weekend and you may or may not be invited. Teams must get the meet information mailed to them in order for them to be invited, or they may get an email invitation. But no team may just assume they are invited. The meet director may politely explain to them that the meet is an invitational and that they were not invited to this meet, then return their entries and check to them. It is also customary to list the invited teams on the meet information as is done with the developmental leagues. This is not, however, mandatory.”

I also decided to email Bruce Stratton who is the head of the Rules and Regulations Committee for USA Swimming to see if he had any additional comments about this issue. This was his reply;

“First it is important to note that my response is based totally on the information contained in your e-mail and I assume it includes all of the pertinent facts in the situation. (I sent him the meet information) A team certainly has the ability to host a meet and limit the teams which are invited as long as it doesn’t violate any policies which have been previously established by your LSC House of Delegates. The fact that someone posted this on a website does not mean you have to change who has been invited to the meet. However, you can only accept entries from teams you actually invited to the meet. If you accept entries from teams which were not originally invited then I think you do not have an invitational, but have a meet that is open to anyone who wishes to participate. Assuming you only want the teams which were originally invited to participate, you only need to inform the other teams who sent in entries that the meet is an invitational, open only to those you had invited and return their entries and entry fees. If you need further clarification, please let me know.”

I think we as coaches need to really look at the meets we are hosting and actually decide if we really want an invitational meet or a meet open to anyone. If we want to have it open to anyone, then I suggest you rename the title of the meet to an “Open” or a “Classic”. If we truly want a meet to be an invitational then I feel we need to list the teams on our meet information so there is no confusion.

If you have any comments about this issue please contact me at 801-856-7760 or by e-mail at ddswimcoach@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,
Lela Hiatt