

Maine Swimming Inc. HOD 10/1/11

I. Roll Call

HOD Members in Attendance: Morgan Dorsey - BBY, John Matzen – KVY, Jay Morrissette – LRSC, Jim Willis – MDIY, Lia Langeveld - PTSC, Deb Clukey – PRY, Matt Baxter - PPSC, Mardie LaRiviere – SYT, Margo Mahoney - SSC, Tom Manduca - TCST, John Smith - SEAL, Nicole Viele - WCCU

HOD Members Absent: Eric Palmer – BYB, Brad Burnham – BASA, Josh D'Angelo – CCSC, Dan St. Pierre – CBRY, Leanne Gravel – CMA, Matt Montgomery – DEFY, Butch Babin – HSC, Tim Lecrone – MMD, Andy Gilbert – NYCY, Hodding Carter – PBAY, Aaron Winslow – WCY

BOD Members in Attendance: Jim Willis – General Chair, Tom Manduca - Admin Vice-Chair, Fritz Homans - Financial Vice-Chair, Matt Baxter – Age Group Vice-Chair, Lia Langeveld – Secretary/Treasurer, Jay Morrissette – Technical Planning Chair, Mardie LaRiviere - Coaches Representative, John Bliss – Officials Chair, John Smith – At-Large, Bob Russell – At-Large, Sam Couillard – Sr Athlete Rep, Sam LaRiviere – Sr Athlete Rep

BOD Members Absent: Leanne Gravel – Senior Vice-Chair, Sean Flaherty – Safety Chair, Thomas Branch - Membership/Registration Chair, Matt Montgomery – At-Large, Eric Palmer – At-Large, Tyler Wright – Sr Athlete Rep

Non Voting Members in Attendance: Erin Connery – Jr Athlete Rep, John Smith - Disability Swimming Chair, Judy Milliken – Zone Chair

Non Voting Members Absent: Chris Branch – Immediate Past General Chair, Jerry Gravel – Jr Athlete Rep, Evan Coleman – Jr Athlete Rep, Thomas Branch – National Times Chair, Brian Savage – Sanction Chair

Open Positions – Camp Coordinator

II. Reading, Correction & Adoption of Minutes

HOD Spring Meeting Minutes - The Odd Age meet would be removed and that Seals would bid on a pool date change. Motion to accept pending the change by Mardie. 2nd - Matt M. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

### III. Reports of Officers

#### General Chair – Jim Willis

The audit for 2008-2010 is almost complete. There are drafts from the CPA for all three years. There was some money put in the wrong accounts, but nothing other than this.

#### Admin Vice-Chair – Tom Manduca

Tom would like to form a policy to handle professional complaints. He is looking to form a committee to look into this and put it into our P & P. Diversity Clinic - There is a seminar in Colorado that Tom cannot attend. It would be about \$500-\$600 to send someone. Tom went 2 years ago and there were some goals set for each LSC. It would be good for the LSC to send someone. USA swimming wants to increase the number of minorities in swimming which was geared primarily towards the inner-city programs. USA swimming is trying to get a read on what's important to each LSC. There was a proposal to have an exchange with Detroit and Maine to send a group of swimmers to each other's pools to have a meet.

#### Financial Vice-Chair – Fritz Homans

MSI is challenged financially this year due to the loss of Bowdoin Open, but is looking into ideas to generate revenue instead of cutting things, like having a surcharge at Championship meets. Cash on hand Aug 2010 - \$56,210, Aug 2011 - \$56,100 with everything included.

#### Age-Group Chair – Matt Baxter

The clinic will be on Oct 15th. There are still a lot of open spots - please get registrations in as soon as possible.

#### Registration Chair – Given by Jim Willis

Everyone has to have 3 references and a background check to be hired, all non-members must take the athlete protection training by December 31 to be on deck for 2012. Volunteer coaches are treated the same as employees.

### Zone Chair – Judy Milliken

Chaperones will need to do the background check. Last year, they did this out of pocket. 1 athlete from SSC went to the summer Zone meet. She had a good meet. It's \$125/swimmer and the LSC supports a t-shirt and shorts for this meet.

### Coaches Rep – Mardie LaRiviere

This morning, coaches discussed Summer Champs and will stay in St. John for 2012, go to a 3 day format and keep 11-12 trials and finals.

### Officials Chair – John Bliss

There are 2 workshops - one October 8th. Officials will be re-structured and there will be a liaison to clubs. Trainers will be assigned for a certain region. A stroke and turn clinic will be Oct 15th at Westbrook. The goal is to get 10 new stroke and turn and promote some new starters and referees. What is the policy for reimbursement of background checks? This past year, officials were reimbursed if they worked at a Championship meet.

### Athlete Reps – Erin Connery, Sam Couillard & Sam LaRiviere

They spoke to the Canada meet - one athlete felt she didn't like it because it was in Canada. Two athletes spoke to not liking the shorter format. All 3 athletes spoke to liking the meet in a 50m pool. One athlete spoke to liking the team aspect and 50m swimming in Canada. For the Dover pool, one athlete liked the outdoor pool while another did not. One athlete talked to liking swimming in the 50m pool because it's what the rest of the country is doing. Negatives included the price and distance of the meet.

## IV. Presentation & Approval of Annual Budget

For Championship meets, MSI is looking at a surcharge per swimmer. Motion by Jim to add \$5000 to surcharges. 2nd - Lia. Discussion: \$10/swimmer is a lot of money - would MSI consider \$5? Our entry fees for Championship meets are low comparatively. Would we lose meet entries of younger kids because of the surcharge? Vote - All in favor with 1 opposed. Vote - Passes.

Motion by Fritz to add \$2000 to Coaches Education. 2nd - John.  
Discussion: This was already voted in at a previous meeting. A policy will have to be established as to how this will be administered. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

Motion by Lia to add \$3000 to Winter Zones. 2nd - Sam C.  
Discussion: Static costs for Zones are \$9000. The allotted \$10,000 is only \$1000 over so the extra \$3000 would help to subsidize the transportation costs for the approximately 50 kids. The parents would pick up the rest of the cost. At the coaches meeting, it was discussed that parent chaperones had a lot of out-of-pocket costs. It would be good as an LSC to allocate some of this money to our parent volunteers first. The subsidy would cover the parent's background check and registration (if needed). About \$500 would go towards parents and the \$3500 would go towards the athletes subsidies, which would be about \$70/athlete. If there has not been trouble getting chaperones, maybe more of the money should be spent to get the kids to be able to go. There is also a scholarship application that will be brought up later. Vote - All in favor with 1 abstention. Vote - Passes.

Jay would like to discuss taking out the stipend that the webmaster is paid for the Spring HOD.

For the banquet, the income and expenses were discussed. A \$1500 difference was discussed to allow all the kids to attend for free. The banquet is to be discussed by the coaches and through the coaches rep. One athlete discussed liking the formal aspect of the banquet and another discussed that the drive to the banquet was too long for her to attend. The timeline has been short as far as athletes knowing about it. Coaches have to buy into the banquet in order to get attendance to increase. Can we advertise this banquet at the MSI Champs? The banquet is in late April/early May so the time difference between the end of the season and the banquet. What about holding it with in correlation with a clinic in the fall? Seniors would already be at college and would not be able to attend if this were the case. Judy offered to help coordinate the banquet if it were held in October.

Motion by Tom M. to accept the budget. 2nd - John. Vote - All in favor with 1 opposed. Vote - Passes.

#### V. Unfinished Business

There is a clinic on October 15th. Right now, the cost is prohibitive to some families.

MSI has to elect a nominating committee for next year that includes BOD & non-BOD. Motion by Tom M to table to discuss by the BOD. 2nd - John Bliss. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

10.2 MSI Championship - Not recommended by BOD. Motion by Jay to accept the rule change. 2nd - Lia. Amendment by Jay to award only the first place girls, boys and team. 2nd - Matt M. Discussion: Why is there a runner-up trophy? What's the difference between that and a 3rd place, 4th place, etc. trophy. In most events, the runner-ups get something. There could be award that's different for the runner-up. Motion rescinded. Motion by Jay at Champs that we award 1st place only for men and women and trophies for top 2 teams. 2nd - Marie. Vote on the amendment - 6 in favor with 3 opposed. Vote - Passes. Motion by Matt to accept Jay's proposal. 2nd - Jay. Discussion: Is there a 2/3 majority needed? Vote - 5 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstentions. Vote - Passes.

21.1 - Adding age groups. Motion by Jay to pass. 2nd - Matt M. Discussion: Why is the Bronze meet not being considered a Championship meet? There are no points scored at this meet. It is really a qualifying meet for Winter Champs. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

21.11 - Changing the scoring - Motion to accept by Jay. 2nd - Matt B. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

21.13 - Motion to pass by Jay. 2nd - Matt M. Discussion: Amendment by Jay that at Winter Champs each team is allowed 1 relay team and subsequent entries will use a formula and meet a qualifying time. 2nd - Matt B. Discussion: By putting in a time standard, it makes the meet more of a Championship feel. From a time management standpoint, this would help eliminate some relays. The time standard would be based off the current qualifying standards. The times could come out of all 3 databases. The scoring is more towards the bigger teams with this. Vote - All in favor with one opposed. Vote - Passes.

Amendment by John Bliss to score only top 2 teams per club. 2nd - Lia. Discussion: This brings it in line with USA rules and does not skew points towards larger teams. On a team scoring basis, limiting to 8 kids on relays allows only those kids to score based on everyone if the above amendment were used. The USA rule applies to National meets. Vote - 4 in favor with rest opposed. Motion - Fails.

Motion by Matt B. to score 3 relay teams per club. 2nd - John B.  
Discussion: Teams would still have to follow a formula and cut time criteria, but having 3 would allow all clubs to be on equal footing. To limit something limits MSI as a whole. MSI should encourage all teams to have relays. If kids qualify for the meet, they should be allowed to swim in a relay. Vote - All opposed. Motion - Fails.

At Winter Champs each team is allowed 1 relay team and subsequent entries will use a formula and meet a qualifying time. Vote - All in favor. Motion - Passes.

Winter Champs - March 15-18 at UMaine Orono. On Thursday, MSI can't be in the pool until 5pm. For the first 2 sessions on Friday, MSI will need to provide transportation to the pool. Matt M recommended MSI run the pool like HS States to leave the diving well open for warm-ups and cool-downs which leaves more space. It's important to have more space to do this due to the events that are being run. Bowdoin lanes are crowded during the meet. Can we look at the depth for the lanes? Recommendation by Jay to not do relays on Thursday. The format will need to be changed.

Summer Champs - July 26th-28th in St. John.

Zones - The Zone coach selection committee has 4 people. Should there be 5 to make a vote? This is a P&P change. The General Chair can be the 5th vote if not in consideration for the job. For this coming year, those 4 people will vote. For policies in the spring, can a 5th person be put in or the 3 senior athletes? Judy brought up the policy of signing up for the Zone team and waiting until the end of the meet. Can there be clarity around what happens when a swimmer maxes to 6 events? This would be done at the end of the meet to decide which events kids are swimming with their coaches.

Penbay Pentathlon - Motion by Fritz to remove the meet from the schedule. 2nd - Mardie. Discussion: It was requested by the club to remove the meet. Vote - All in favor with 1 opposed. Vote - Passes.

Motion by John Bliss to continue providing USA-S registrations and background checks for those officials who work a minimum of 2 sessions at either Winter or Summer. 2nd - Tom M. Amendment by Jim that the team submits for reimbursement. 2nd - Tom M.  
Discussion: This year was better to get officials working at the meets. Amendment by Matt B for only at Summer Champs. No 2nd. Vote to

allow amendment - All in favor with 1 opposed. Vote - Passes. Vote on both amendments - All in favor with 1 opposed. Vote - Passes.

Seals would like to request August 4th for an Open Water date for the Sebago Challenge. 2nd - Tom M. Discussion: There's nothing on the schedule right now for MSI. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

Motion by Jay to accept Tony's resignation from the MSI. 2nd - Matt M. Discussion: He's been busy at work and is on a National board. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes.

Motion by Jay that swimmers attending any Sectional meet have to make the Eastern Zone cut time. 2nd - Matt B. Discussion: If they make the North or South cut, they can go to any Sectional meet. If they do not make our cuts, MSI will not reimburse the athletes. Vote - All in favor with 2 opposed. Vote - Passes.

A question about Bowdoin Open cut times were brought up. This is Bowdoin's meet and they are the ones setting the cut times.

Spring HOD will be held May 19th 2012. Motion by Tom M. 2nd - Bob. Vote - Passes.

Motion to adjourn by Mardie. 2nd - Jay. Vote – All in favor. Vote – Passes. Meeting adjourned.