

MSI Coaches Meeting 10/1/11

Members in Attendance: Morgan Dorsey – BBYD, Fritz Homans – CMA, Matt Montgomery – DEFY, John Matzen – KVV, Jay Morrissette – LRSC, Tim Lecrone – MMD, Jim Willis – MDIY, Lia Langeveld – PTSC, Deb Clukey – PRY, Matt Baxter – PPSC, Mardie LaRiviere – SYT, Margo Mahoney – SSC, Tom Manduca – TCST, John Smith – SEAL, Judy Milliken – WCCU, Marie Weferling - UNAT

Members Absent: Eric Palmer – BYB, Brad Burnham – BASA, Josh D'Angelo – CCSC, Dan St. Pierre – CBRY, Butch Babin – HSC, Andy Gilbert – NYCY, Hodding Carter – PBAY, Aaron Winslow - WCY

Summer Champs - The majority, approx 80%, prefer to stay in Canada. Most prefer to expand and not stay with the 2 1/2 days. With the shorter format, there were too many events back-to-back with the swimmers not getting enough rest. If we did three days, we may have to eliminate another event. If we were to do three days, why not just do three and a half days because people would have to be there anyway.

Motion by Tim for a 3 day meet. 2nd - Jay. Discussion: MSI would save money, kids would be less fatigued and parents would not have to take another day off work for the meet. More rest, especially for 11-12s, from finals to trials in the AM would be good. If we put an older kids event before theirs, that would accomplish this. Could a relay be cut? A lot of teams don't have enough to swim a relay. A/B/C finals were discussed - there used to be a lot of extra time in years past so that's why a C final has been run. A suggestion was made to stay with C finals for 100m or less. Vote - All in favor with 1 opposed.

Motion by Jay for 3 relays per age group. 2nd - Lia. Discussion: It would be one relay per day. A suggestion was brought up to have each 200 & 400 Medley and Free. Since trials and finals aren't run for relays, one of those could run in the AM. Both 200s could be run at opposite ends of one evening session. Vote - 3 in favor, 7 opposed.

Motion by Jay for C finals for 100m events or less. 2nd - Lia. Discussion: If there are 11-12 trials and finals, it might be best to run only 2 heats. Because of the number of kids who are competing and coming back just by competing, some swimmers are not excited about coming back. Some swimmers who wouldn't have normally made

finals are getting chances to come back at night. Vote - 5 in favor, 4 opposed. Vote - Passes.

We discussed 11-12 trials and finals & coaches like running these at Summer Champs.

Motion by Jay for 6 events max for 11 and older. 2nd - Matt M.
Discussion: 7 events has been passed for Winter Champs events. With 2 a day, there is less back-to-back and the quality of racing is good.
Vote - All in favor with 2 opposed. Vote - Passes.

Location - There were a lot of swimmers in the programs, but many kids aren't going. Cost used to be a bargain and it now is not. Canada may have lost some of its specialness. The fact that passports are needed is a detraction to going to Canada. This meet may not be serving us financially because we are losing money each year on the meet. Lia is calling 50m pools, but has not heard back from anyone at this point. St. John is cheaper than renting Bowdoin or UMaine. The numbers have been pretty level over the past 10 years. At the TPC, there was discussion to have a Championship meet in New England and invite New England teams. This would solidify competition as well as helping MSI be fiscally sound on the meet. Albany NY was brought up and inviting Adirondack teams. The question was brought up if it was in Maine if more swimmers would attend. Why are we waiting until the end of the season to have a small meet with a 50m pool and lose money? If we brought the meet back to Maine, numbers might improve. There are other opportunities in New England to swim in 50m pools throughout the summer. MSI could run a 25m short course meet to make it a different meet for the swimmers. There are families right now travelling down South to swim in LC pools, but they are not travelling to the Championship meet. Numbers have been pretty steady over the years, but how does this correlate between registered swimmers and people actually participating in meets? The hotels costs financially are pretty steady. If the meet were where the population density were and people could commute, some swimmers wouldn't have to pay for hotel rooms. Teams that have high numbers at the meet are the ones that organize the trip for their teams.

Motion by Jim to run a 3 day meet in St. John. 2nd - Matt.
Discussion: We have to decide the value we place on 50m. From the discussion from the coaches, it sounds like we place a high value on long course meets. It was suggested to build numbers up and take a year off from the 50m meet and have a meet in Maine. In New

England, age group champs have been run outside. Why couldn't this meet be run outside? There are a lot of pools where there are shallow ends and can't start from out of the water. Vote - 7 in favor, 5 opposed, 1 abstention.

Motion by Matt for Thurs through Sat. 2nd - Tim. Vote - All in favor.

There was a TPC meeting last week - LC meters is valued, felt meet info packet for Summer Champs had a lot of redundancy, who is responsible for unaccompanied swimmers, having Winter Champs as a closed meet & put in the meet info, no conversions for meet entries, take out the resident of Maine section, due to CDC & 11-12 trials and finals, it would be good to move the 10 and unders out of the meet, Bronze meet would dissolve, bring back the 800 free relay, using a formula for Champs relays, trophy for only top boy, girl and team, awards medals 1-3, high point 8 swimmers recognized and top 3 awarded trophies. By-law changes could be presented 7 days before the meeting, all Maine registered teams must attach to a team, no deck registrations for any MSI meet, for Winter and Summer Champs e-mail entries sent to 3 different people, responsibility of the Summer Zone kids to have their coach organize coaching, Zones team selected by times based on whole season, caps/shirts pre-ordered but kids allowed to compete in own suits, kids required to provide own transportation

Discussion: For the Winter Champs, we can have the same amount of people on deck as we did on Bowdoin. Because of deck concerns, we would still have to have a 4 session meet. What about a 12 and under Champs and a 13 and over Champs? To eliminate more kids on deck, we have to make cut times or split the meet. Recommendation to not publicize timelines until there is a more realistic timeline. For P & P changes on these meets for 2013, these things must be brought up in the Spring HOD. If kids get a high point trophy, they may be more likely to stay in the sport. What about a different awards system if the meets were split? For age group awards, MSI could do top 8 and for the 12 and unders and top 3 for the 13 and ups. By-Laws are hard to change because it is the binding document of MSI. There should be a checks and balances system so that one body does not have too much power. Anyone can register as a coach, but if MSI votes so, at coaches meeting, only coaches of registered teams can be there. On deck, anyone who does not have swimmers should not be there. The registrations goes back to the Ted Stevens act that we allow deck registrations. It's hard to have swimmers go on their own - MSI could raise the cost of the trip and organize transportation.

Zones - Judy presented the static costs of the Zone meet which is approximately \$9,000. What does the money that the athletes pay cover? That pays part of the transportation, food, cap, suit, apparel. Last year, there were some variables in the apparel package - more will be done this year if the Head Coach feels this is important. MSI right now is providing a subsidy of \$233 per swimmer, chaperone and coach. Swimmers going to higher level meets get a subsidy of \$400 or \$800. If there were a cost change, it could be \$166 per swimmer, chaperone and coach for a subsidy if the bus changes. There are ways for this meet for MSI to pay less if the transportation is variable. The bus last year was \$14,000 for 2 56 passenger busses. Another company will charge \$10,500 for the same thing. The cost for families is approximately \$436 for a 10 and under room, \$6/meal. For an 11 and up swimmer, the room is approximately half the cost. It is approximately \$600 total per swimmer to attend this meet.

MSI cut times - A few years ago, there was a standardized cut time voted on but because there wouldn't have been enough kids making those times, these times were modified. Anything in bold is a change in cut with the difference was split between 2 standardized levels - A, AA, etc. MSI is looking for approx 32 kids in each event. All *Italic* times are standardized. The underlined time was wrong and has been fixed.

Motion by Jay to approve the cut times. 2nd - Tom. Vote - All in favor.