

## **2020 Maine Swimming 12 & Under All-Star Meet Proposal**

### **Introduction:**

The Age Group Committee wanted to create an end-of-season meet for our 12 & Under Swimmers. We modeled our meet on an All-Star Meet hosted by New England Swimming last year. You can find there [meet info packet here](#). We also wanted to make the most of Elizabeth Beisel attending our banquet by inviting her to attend this meet. We would ask her to give a short talk to the swimmers about race strategy, meet prep, etc. We would divide the swimmers into two teams and score the meet, dual meet style. Lastly, we could invite select 13 & Over swimmers to attend the meet as mentors.

### **Eligibility:**

All swimmers 12 & Under earning a Top 10 Time from April 19, 2019 to April 20, 2020 list found on the MESI website are invited to attend this meet ([found here](#)). To keep the total run-time of the meet on the shorter side, we would cap the meet at 150 swimmers. Based on current Top 10 Standings we would expect about 120-130 qualifiers.

### **Location:**

The meet should be hosted close to Freeport, since that is where the Banquet is being held. Currently looking at option to have the meet at the Bath YMCA (about 25 minutes from Freeport). This would be ideal since it is an 8 lane pool. Bowdoin, Freeport YMCA, and Westbrook are also options.

### **Events List:**

**\*Each swimmer could participate in 3 individual events and relays.\***

10 & Under 50 Yard Fly

11-12 50 Yard Fly

10 & Under 50 Yard Back

11-12 50 Yard Back

10 & Under 50 Yard Breast

11-12 50 Yard Breast

10 & Under 50 Yard Free

11-12 50 Yard Free

FUN RELAYS

### **Age Group Committee Notes 12/11/19**

Attendees: Keli Gillespie, John Smith, Ali Bragg, McKayla Kendall, Jim Willis, Mary Ellen Tynan

- We had a Zoom Meeting with Jim & Mary Ellen to discuss this idea and to decide how to proceed with planning

- Mary Ellen & Jim expressed their feeling that, while the All-Star Meet was a good idea, they weren't sure if we could make it work exactly the way to was proposed due to the following concerns:
  - HOD is scheduled for the morning of April 26<sup>th</sup> prior to the banquet. We discussed the option of moving it to Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, Sunday evening after the banquet, or to another date entirely. Mary Ellen said that HOD would take precedent over an athlete event since it only happens once a year.
  - Worried about timing and if we are cramming too much into one day.
  - We were unsure at first if Elizabeth Beisel would be available to attend a meet at all. On 12/12 Mary Ellen reached out to her about the possibility of an All-Star Meet and her response was positive. She has another clinic on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> but would be able to travel from Philly to Portland on Saturday night, stay over in Portland, and could be available at any time on Sunday for a meet. Maine Swimming would be responsible for her hotel room and a rental car (she also offered to cover that expense if needed). Her fee would also go up from \$2,000 for just speaking at the banquet to \$5,000 total to participate in the meet and speak at the banquet.
- The conclusion of this phone call was to bring back this info to the AG Committee and we could decide whether to take this idea to the Board for a vote or adjust the idea to occur on a different date without Elizabeth. The AG Committee decided to bring this idea to a vote for the following reasons:
  - The All-Star Meet would be more valuable/memorable for those involved if Elizabeth was there to give advice, etc. Having Elizabeth participate in the meet and be on the deck would be more meaningful to the swimmers than just hearing her speak at the Banquet since it would be interactive.
  - Elizabeth is available and willing to participate in the meet. But she is only available on Sunday so hosting the meet on another day with her present is not an option.
  - Our priority as an organization is to serve our athletes. While HOD is important, it is a meeting for adults that could be rescheduled for another time/day, especially if we can provide an exceptional experience to our swimmers.