

**MSI Coaches' Meeting  
Minutes  
September 28, 2014  
8:00-10:00 am**

Roll Call

Dan St.Pierre, Nicole Viele, Leanne Gravel, Jay Morissette, John Smith, Aaron Winslow, Cara Ciampi, Casey Parent, Marie Weferling, John Brady Leah Langveld, Zack Gray, Matt Baxter, Taylor Rogers, Matt Montgomery, Linda Sherman, Susan Cooney

John Smith reviews the CBLM course from the night before.  
CBLM provides an organizational structure for team and LSC boards.

Club Certification

•Our goal is to reach 80% of clubs in MSI certified at the Level 1 status by March 31, 2015.

International Invitational in Canada

•This was a successful meet; we will continue to build on this success.  
•Jim Willis has contacted Pam to make her aware of the concerns about the timing system.

**Motion by Jay Morissette and second by Jim Willis. Vote passes unanimously.  
Proposes that the date for the 2015 International Invitational will be July 23-25**

2013-14 Season Feedback

•none

2014-15 Season

•Jay Morissette reports on the discussion and goals set for meets during the September 27 planning session. The goals include: MSI Qualifiers have more structured event lists and progression, bring back Bronze/Regional/Intermediate Meet for swimmers who do not attain JO's standards, create more opportunities for and encourage more participation in open water events.

•Marie Weferling: We are in need of officials. An officials' clinic will be offered on October 18 at the South Portland Community Center. Dan will send an email to remind people

Qualifier Meets

Discussion: Should we hold two qualifier meets in one weekend? [11/1-2]

**Motion by Lia Langveld, second by Taylor Rogers. Passes unanimously.  
Bring this proposal to the HOD: Run both November qualifier meets on the same weekend, with fewer events.**

Discussion: With the proposed event structure [which reduces the number of events per qualifier meet] there is valid concern that running two meets at the same time on the weekend of November 1-2 would spread the officials too thin.

**Motion by Jim Willis, second by Jay Morissette. Vote passes unanimously, with amendment.**

Rather than holding 2 two-day meets on the weekend of November 1-2, hold one 1-day qualifier meet on Saturday, November 1 and a second 1-day qualifier meet on Sunday, November 2.

**Motion amended by Cara Ciampi /CMA**

CMA would prefer to host on Sunday if Pen-bay can host on Saturday.

Structure of Events For Qualifying Meets

- John Smith proposes shorter events at the first meet with the progression to longer distances at the last two qualifier meets.

- Dan StPierre: the last qualifier meet is at the same time as Y States; we don't want to exclude Y kids from qualifying in distance events by only holding them at the last qualifier meet.

**Motion by Matt Montgomery, second by Tom Manduca. Vote passes with amendment.**

**TPC Will establish an event list by October 11 for all three meets.**

**Amended by John Smith**

**The TPC will step out during Coaches' Meeting and establish the events for the first meet and will convene in October to establish the events for the last 2 qualifying meets.**

Results of TPC meeting with-in the Coaches Meeting

TPC recommendations for the first qualifier meet:

- There will be two sessions 12 and under and 11 and over.

- 12 < events will be 50's of each stroke, 100 free and 100 IM, 200 mixed relay at the end of the session.

- 11 > events include 100's of each stroke, 200 free and 200 IM, 200 mixed relay.

- Swimmers will be permitted to swim 5 individual events and a relay.

**Motion by John Smith, second Taylor Rogers. Vote passes unanimously. Accept the proposed events; the TPC will continue discussion about the second and third qualifier meets.**

No discussion.

JO Cut Times

- Three proposals for cut times or submitted -- one by Jim Willis, one by John Smith, one by Taylor Rogers.

- General consensus is that cut times should get faster.

- Taylor Rogers suggests a three-year progression & Matt Baxter suggests a two-year progression to faster than BB at times.

- John Smith proposes a progression in comparison to other LSC's; we need to keep up with the rest of the country.

- Matt Montgomery voices his concern for the MSI that too many swimmers may be eliminated from competing at JO's.

- John Smith: championship meets are not a place to fill slots but are an opportunity to raise the bar and motivate kids to go faster.

- Matt Baxter: if the concern is to fill events at JO's, increase the number of events allowed per swimmer. All other LSCs allow 9 events but MSI allows 6 events.

- Jay Morissette is concerned with the quality of the races if nine events are allowed. MSI went to 7 races one year but it was not beneficial to swimmer performance.

- Jim Willis: concerned that the proposed 12 and under cuts are too tough,

excluding swimmers, especially Y kids. We need to get more young kids hooked on the sport, not turn them away.

- Reminder -- the Bronze-type meet is to be reinstated in order to make a fun meet, especially for younger kids, so that we can keep JOs more competitive.
- John Smith also suggests that we offer a trials-finals meet for high school students as a motivation for older kids to get into USA swimming
- Then back to JO's... This year we should split the discussion into 12 and under and 13 and over.
- Jim Willis is concerned with building the base.
- Matt Montgomery: give mid-level kids an opportunity to compete together. The TPC should look at championship meets – goals, long-range planning for cuts etc. -- and develop a Bronze-level meet.
- John Smith: create a two-step championship system with a regional meet [which could be the last qualifier meet] and a state meet.
- Matt Montgomery: Bronze could attract an untapped # of Y kids not usually involved in USA swimming events. Those kids have a full meet schedule but appreciate the opportunity to qualify for a meet and will go to meets with qualifying times, even to swim one event. They will appreciate a B level qualifying meet; it's a good introduction to USA swimming.
- Many agree that the Bronze meet should be should be trials and finals.

**Motion by Jay Morissette, second by Lia Langveld. Vote passed, 3 opposing.**

**Use Jim Willis' proposed 12 and under cuts and Taylor Rogers' proposed 13 and over cuts.**

Discussion:

- Taylor Rogers: create a long-term plan.
- Matt Baxter: let's move forward!
- John Smith: USA swimming has determined that the average swimmer in the nation can qualify for a BB cut time. Shouldn't we be on board with that?
- Tom Manduca reminds everyone that the TPC has been tasked with working on a long-term plan for progression of cut times.
- All are welcome to attend TPC meetings.

Communication

- Dan St.Pierre would like to have all assistant, head and unattached coaches involved. As of right now, he will email the entire group of coaches via open email list. Anyone has the option to get off the open email list. Just let Dan know and he will BCC you instead.
- \*If someone has something to go to the coaches group please send it through Dan St. Pierre so that he can ensure that it gets to everyone.

Policies and Procedures

**Jim Willis motion, second by Leanne Gravel. Vote passes, 3 opposed. Delete 21.11 from Policies and Procedures. This will change the current scoring at JO's, which currently creates an unbalanced meet [13 and overs earn one and a half times more points than the 12 and unders .] We would return to the regular scoring proposed in the USA Swimming rulebook.**

Travel Reimbursement

**Motion by Matt Montgomery second by Aaron Winslow. Vote passed unanimously.**  
**Recommendation to the BOD to consider reimbursement for additional**

**national-level meets (currently includes Nationals, Junior Nationals, Grand Prix and Sectionals) such as the Age Group National Open Water Championships.**

Discussion:

- With the current qualifying standards we could have had five or six athletes qualify for the meet.
- Jim Willis: if a meet is recognized by USA Swimming as a national or sectional championship, it should be included for reimbursement .
- Taylor Rogers: add the Legends meets as well.

**Motion by Tom Manduca, second by Taylor Rogers. Vote passes unanimously.**

**Ask the BOD to consider National Open Water Championships, Legends Meet, NASA and NCSA, Open Water Zones for reimbursement.**

**Motion to adjourn by Tom Manduca, second by Taylor Rogers. Passes. Meeting adjourns at 10 AM.**

**To Do:**

Level 1 Certification!!!

Recruit more officials > training 10/18

Dan: Send email to coaches to remind them of the Officials' Training 10/18

TPC: schedule a meeting in October

Update P&P.

For next BOD Agenda: travel reimbursement

Mary Ellen: Post new cut times on site