

# Chicago District Swim Committee Minutes

## May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### Leaning Tower YMCA

The Chicago District YMCA Committee held a regular business meeting at the Leaning Tower YMCA on May 13, 2009, with a quorum present for the conduct of business, Craig Strong, District Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Introductions were done and attendance was taken. The following people were in attendance.

|                     |                              |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Craig Strong        | McGaw- District Chairman     |
| Darby Brtva         | Buehler- Secretary/Treasurer |
| Dave Lulis          | Foglia                       |
| Bruce Garland       | Hastings Lake                |
| Amy Goodwin         | High Ridge                   |
| Nicole Smokowicz    | Lattof                       |
| Mary Beth McGinnis  | Leaning Tower                |
| Barb Zitkus         | Leaning Tower                |
| Wendy Mohrenweiser  | McGaw                        |
| Jason Smid          | Pav                          |
| Andrea Maurey       | Pav                          |
| Larry Saint Germain | State Committee              |
| Francios LaSalle    | State Committee              |

A motion was made by Nicole Smokowicz to approve the minutes from the January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting. A second was made by Mary Beth McGinnis. The motion carried unanimously.

Summaries were given on the District Classic Meet, Girls' Districts, and Boys' Districts.

A financial report was handed out on behalf of Lake County who hosted the District Classic Meet on Sunday February 22, 2009 at Lake County YMCA. Discussion was opened for comments on how the meet was run. Mary Beth McGinnis brought up that she felt the meet needed positive check in. A motion was made and it was tabled to New Business. There where no other issues to speak of. Officially wise the meet ran well and the Bull pen was very well organized.

Barb Zitkus of Leaning Tower presented a financial report for the Girls' District Meet hosted by Leaning Tower on Saturday February 28<sup>th</sup> at Niles West High School. Leaning Tower brought in a gross of \$8292 with \$3883 for a net profit o \$4408. The only issue with how the meet was run was swimmers from Pav were being announced as Buehler Swimmers even after something was said to the announcer.

Craig Strong of McGaw presented a financial report for the Boys' District Meet hosted by McGaw on Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup> at McGaw YMCA. Craig Strong stated they had a net profit of just under \$10,000. Craig stated that they do a lot of fundraising to run the meet. Some issues were raised from the meet. The timing system had some issues and people were not pleased. The morning session went well however the afternoon did not. Francios LaSalle stated he will have new thoughts in New Business. Francios LaSalle and Larry Saint Germain stated that the meet flowed and moved well. Mary Beth McGinnis stated that sitting next to the awards podium was crazy. It was a bottleneck and that the awards being one behind made for the bottleneck. Dave Lulis stated that swimmers coming down and swimmers trying to see their friends made for a back flow. Craig Strong stated the finals with awards is where the problems occurred. He said they would need to look for a better spot for the awards. Timing system would be discussed in new business.

A wrap up of the State Meeting conducted on April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009 was presented by Francios LaSalle and Larry Saint Germain. State committee has decided that there have been too many teams late or not submitting their rosters. Therefore, if a team does not submit their roster the Executive Director of the Teams YMCA will be notified. The team will then have 15 days to submit their roster or they will not be allowed to swim districts and area. There was about an hour long discussion at the area meeting and they stated the roster date will not change.

Teams were also reminded that they need to register on-line.

The other item of discussion at the Area Meeting was that this year we operated under USA Swimming technical rules but kept the procedural manual from previous years. The Area will be voting on the Black book in the fall.

There will be a Level 2 Official's Training on May 16<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm at McGaw YMCA.

Francios LaSalle stated that the District meets were not attended very well by most teams. He stated we had the same people on deck for both meets. In his opinion the only possible way to get more officials is to host more dual meets. It was stated that a USA has a requirement that you work 5 sessions in training before you can work on your own. With the YMCA you take a test and you work. Francios LaSalle stated that there were a couple of meets that were Level 1 officials acting as Level 2 do to the fact that there were no Level 2 Officials present. He stated that teams really need to work on getting their officials to work.

A Level 1 officials training will be held right at the beginning of the Fall/Winter Season. Dave Lulis and Amy Goodwin stated they have parents interested in becoming Officials. It was asked if we could have another training. It was stated that the trainers do not have time to do training this summer.



Francios LaSalle asked what happens between prelims and finals. It was asked why the pool needed to be closed. It was stated there is no rule.

Francios LaSalle brought up that Time Trials should be moved to the end of the swim meet, not in the middle. It was mentioned that at the Area Meet they are run at the end.

Motion made by Francios LaSalle: Time Trials at the District Meets are to be run at the end of the Meet.

Motion was seconded by Larry Saint Germain

Discussion was held and it was requested that the events be set-up ahead of time.

Motion approved

Francios LaSalle stated that in the Fall procedural rules will be adopted to run the Area Meet. The new manual will cover scratches, no shows and such. They are trying to adopt a rule that will not penalize swimmers for missing events. One way will allow them to not swim individual events but still swim relays. Another way would allow the swimmer to swim individual events but not relays. The manual will tighten up the rules. We will discuss further at the Fall Meeting.

Francios LaSalle said he will present the form from USA officials tracking for use at dual meets.

Francios LaSalle also stated that USA Swimming allows some one interested in officiating to shadow. We could have parents that are not certified that might be interested shadow an official to see if they might like to try it.

Francios LaSalle also stated that he passed out all the paperwork to all teams that the officials should be using. Dave Lulis asked if the codes match Hy-tek yet. Francios LaSalle said that USA is selling the forms without the codes. He stated that some teams made there own with the codes. All coaches would like to see the DQ codes on the form that match Hy-tek.

Francios LaSalle stated that it takes about \$1200 to run and Officials clinic. Checks need to be written to the McGaw YMCA and the trainer will be reimbursed out of the District Account they have set up.

Craig Strong mentioned that we have a new YMCA joining from Vernon Hills.

Bruce Garland was welcomed back.

Motion made by Mary Beth McGinnis: Positive check-in is to be added to the Classic Meet with the understanding there will be a reseed of the meet following the close of the check-in.

Motion was seconded by Nicole Smokowicz

Discussion was opened and the question was raised if heat sheets would be a problem. It was determined that this would be left up to the host team to decide how to handle the heat sheets.

Motion approved.

Mary Beth McGinnis asked why the entry fees for Boys and Girls Districts were different. It was determined that then Boys' Districts charged the fees that were approved at the 2008 May meeting. The District rules were not updated to reflect this change and the Girls' District charged the old amount.

Motion made by Mary Beth McGinnis to amend the rules: Fees for the District Meets will be the same as fees for the Area Meet.

Motion was seconded by Larry Saint Germain

Vote on amendment will take place at the Fall District Meeting per District Rules.

Nicole Smokowicz brought up that she felt that Districts should be a special event that none of our YMCAs have the facilities to allow this.

Motion made by Nicole Smokowicz: Host teams are not permitted to hold Districts at their YMCAs.

Motion was seconded by Dave Lulis

Discussion was opened. Larry Saint Germain brought up that if teams were not allowed to host the meet at their home pool then if a team built a new competition pool they would be prohibited from hosting the meets. It was decided that more discussion needed to be had on the issue. Motion was tabled.

Darby Brtva brought up that the rules should be amended that initial bids for District Championship meets should be due in May with the final bids and confirmation of pool availability due in September for a vote. It was further stated that this would allow the District time during the summer to perform a walk through of facilities if they desired. This would also give the Committee more time to decide if a bid should be accepted or not. The earliest this could go into effect would be for the 2011 Championship meets. No further action was taken at this time.

Darby Brtva asked if we could get our own district medals. There was general agreement that this would be a good idea but no action was taken until more information could be gathered.

Craig Strong asked the District if there would be any objections to him on behalf the District to push for the Area Meet date to be changed due to a conflict with Illinois Swimming's Age Group Championships. It has been proposed to move the Area Meet back a weekend to March 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2010. Francios LaSalle stated that the problem is Illinois Swimming does not announce their championships early enough for us to plan our Area meet. He said that our YMCA teams that are USA teams need to step up and make their idea/thoughts known to Illinois Swimming. Mary Beth McGinnis stated that the YMCA teams are the little fish in the big pond. She suggested that we need to be able to work around what is going on in Illinois Swimming. She said we are here for the kids. We have to do what is best for the kids. We have to make it work for them. Nicole Smokowicz asked when the decision would be made and what it would do to Districts. Craig Strong stated that we should definitely know by September. A vote was taken to authorize Craig Strong to proceed.

Do to no other interested parties all Officers and Area Representatives were reelected by unanimous affirmation.

Next meetings are to be           September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
  January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
  May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

A motion was made to accept the meeting dates. A second was made. The dates were accepted.

A motion was made for adjournment. A second was made. The motion passed for adjournment.

Respectfully submitted

Darby S. Brtva  
Secretary/Treasurer