

Illinois/Missouri Area YMCA Swim Committee

Minutes

October 3, 2004

The Illinois/Missouri Area YMCA Swim Committee held a regular business meeting at the Bloomington YMCA on October 3, 2004, with a quorum present for the conduct of business. Ed Stranc, Area Secretary, chaired the meeting in place of the missing Bruce Bickner, Area Chair. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. Everyone around the table introduced themselves.

1. A roster of the membership was circulated for the purpose of making corrections.
2. The minutes of the Committee's meeting of May 2, 2004 were presented and approved as submitted by the Area Secretary.
3. The Treasurer presented the financial report as of October 3, 2004, showing a balance of \$1229.61, was approved.
4. **Reports by District Chairs –**

Illini District – Rome Yount reported no changes. The Illini District will be focusing on officials and officials training. Rome did express the need for "official trainers". Katie Borgmann said that the only people that can be trainers are "faculty". Also, there is a class that is run the day before Nationals.

Northwest District – Steve McGriff reported no changes

St. Louis District – Rich Herman reported no changes

Town and Country District – Jim Verdier reported a major coaching turn over at BR Ryall and at Oak Park.

Chicago District – Ed Stranc reported that the Chicago District Lost 2 teams, High Ridge YMCA and South Side YMCA. The District did gain a small team from Lakeview YMCA in Chicago.

5. **Webmaster Report** – Rome Yount reported that there has not been much input from Town & Country. He also reported that the number of hits increased substantially during the Area Championship meets. Rome also stated that when updates are sent to him, he will post immediately; please also remember not only to update information, but also indicate which information needs to be taken off the page.

Steve McGriff reported that he has issues in his District regarding people who are computer illiterate. A discussion ensued, and it was determined that there is really not much we can do. We cannot force people to access information from the Internet. We still have to accommodate people with hard copy information.

6. **Review of criteria for hosting Championship Meet** – There were no changes to the criteria.
7. **Selection of host for 2005-2006 Area Championship** - Joliet Jets was the only team bidding on the 2005-2006 Championship Meet. It was awarded to Joliet. The meet will either be held at Nequa Valley or UIC. Dennis Norton and Steve McGriff expressed their opposition to having the meet held at UIC. They do not like the location, as well as costs being an issue. Rome expressed the lack of easily accessible eating establishments in the area of UIC. Another alternate site is being investigated in Oswego High School.
8. **Review of qualifications for and conduct of officials at the Area Championship Meet** – Steve McGriff reported that the qualifications have not changed. However, this year it will be required that all officials wear white shirts with only the YMCA patch, white slacks, and white shoes. If officials do not have this attire, they will not be officiating at the Area Championship Meet.

The procedure for selecting Meet Referee and Assistant Referee was reviewed. A ballot is sent out to all District Chairs. The District Chairs will then each make 2 recommendations. From this pool of names, the Officials Committee will vote on the candidates for Meet Referee and Assistant Meet Referee for the Area Championship Meet.

9. **Review standards and procedures for credentialing YMCA coaches** - Katie Borgmann reported that credentialing requirements have not changed. She only needs information for “Updated” information. All training sessions are posted on the website. Katie would like all coaches information by January.
10. **Review of Safety procedures for Area swimming competition-** A discussion ensued regarding safety procedures at UIC. It was discussed that better Marshalling of the warm-up pool is required as well as the Locker rooms. Also, when relay teams are accepting their medals, they should not be allowed to ALL stand on the blocks. It is a potential accident waiting to happen. It was suggested that relay teams stand behind the blocks for pictures and awards.
11. **Discussion and action on proposed Rule and Bylaw changes –**
 - A. The committee considered the rule change to eliminate the need of listing alternates on relays at the Area Championship Meet. It was determined that we will eliminate the alternate requirements and that anyone can swim as long as it is within the guidelines for swimmer eligibility. A motion was made with a second to approve this change.
 - B. Amendment to tabled topic – **District Championship Meets may have more than one relay team from a YMCA per relay event, but only one team may advance to the Area Championship Meet. Further, the relay team eligible to compete for advancement must be *the “A” Relay. Additionally, the status of swimmers, other than the designated A relay cannot advance in that relay cluster.*** This was a

friendly amendment. A motion was made with a second to approve.

- C. A motion was made and seconded to take off the table the rule change of the top age group be changed from 15-18 to 15-21. A motion was made and seconded to approve the rule change of the top age group to be 15-21, including those qualification limitations set forth in the National YMCA Rules. The rule change was approved.

12. Old Business

- A. Report by Officials Committee, with a review of NCAA rule changes for the 2004-2005 season –
There was only one change/clarification to rule 2-5d regarding relay swimmers crossing lanes. The rule states “ If a swimmer, who is one of the first three relay swimmers in a relay, crosses the lane of another team, the relay of that swimmer shall be disqualified”.

Steve McGriff has requested that the lists of all officials be sent directly to him. All trainers should have their lists to him by December 15th.

- B. Report of Area Summer Championship –
- There were many National cuts this summer
 - We would like to continue to offer this event in the future
 - What we need to do for 2005 as BR Ryall no longer has the use Wheaton College
 - It was suggested that maybe we could use Morris College, Elgin Pool or Dundee Pool.
 - Dennis Norton will look into Elgin hosting the Summer Championship.

C. Standardization of Team Rosters –

This can be done as an export from Team Manager. Using Excel Version 7 format, each team will submit a spreadsheet, as outlined on the Area Website, and then send it to the District Chair. The District Chairs will then send to the Area Secretary, who will in turn submit to the Championship host teams. It is necessary to have the membership expiration date of bank draft. Teams without Team Manager will be able to download a template on the Area website. They will need to print it out, fill in the blanks and submit to their respective District Chairs. They must have Microsoft Excel to use this template.

D. Design for the Area and District awards –

It was recommended that the same medal be used, however, to use a different size for each of the District and Area Championship Meets. It was also recommended that neck ribbons be used for both the Area and District Championship Meets. This was approved with a second.

13. New Business

A. New proposals to change Area Rules or By-Laws –

Proposed rule change from the Northwest District. Steve McGriff would like to change Rule 6 – Area Qualifying Times. Steve would like to see the 5 year average be change to a 7 year average, eliminating the high and low times. This discussion was tabled for discussion at the next regular meeting.

- B. A new team was entered into the Chicago District, Lakeview YMCA , this was approved for admission to the Chicago District.

Jim Verdier advised the committee that he thought Fox Valley YMCA wrote a letter to the District Chair asking to move from the Town & Country District to the Northwest District. The Area Committee has not yet seen such a letter. The Fox Valley program executive also has approached Katie Borgmann as to what the proper procedure is to change Districts.

A discussion ensued regarding not only Fox Valley wanting to be removed from Town & Country and go to NW District, but Dennis Norton has been approached about Elgin wanting to move from Northwest to Town & Country. Dennis will pursue this with Elgin.

It was decided that it should be left in the hands of all District Chairs to make sure these possible changes are presented to the Area Chair in the proper procedure. Any potential changes should be taken care of ASAP.

Dennis Norton will find out Elgin's intentions and Katie Borgmann will find out Fox Valley's intentions.

Ed Stranc to follow-up with Aurora regarding available hotel rooms for the Area Championship Meet, also he will check as to which hotel is the host location.

Medal orders are needed ASAP to ensure prompt medal delivery with the new design.

14. **Future Meeting Dates**

- A. Tentative – January 23, 2005 at Kishwaukee YMCA –
11am
- May 1, 2005 at Bloomington YMCA – 10am

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30PM

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey J. Lindquist
Chicago District Secretary/Treasurer
For
Ed Stranc, Jr.
Area Secretary