

**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION AND APPROVAL AT THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN SWIMMING BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**



## Minutes

Michigan Swimming Board of Directors Meeting  
January 21, 2007  
Canham Natatorium  
1000 S State St, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2201

**Voting board members in attendance:** Brandon Converse (EGRA – Program Ops), Mike Cutler (ROCK – Safety), Matt Lee (BAC – Sr. Athlete Rep), Robert L Merchant (General Chairman), Larry Merte (CW – Admin Vice-Chair), Ahern Naylis (OLY – Program Dev), Erin Shea (BAC – Jr. Athlete Rep), Julie Youngquist (LAC – Jr. Coach Rep).

**Voting board members absent:** Becky Bouchey (USSC – Secretary), Tom Dudley (CAST – Finance), Dan Hafner (OLY – Program Dev), Don Kimble, (WMS – Program Ops), Dan Meconis (UN - Officials Rep), Mike O'Connor (PA – Sr. Coach Rep), Phillip Weichman (CAST – Treasurer).

**Others in attendance:** David Brace (SMAC), Jan Cartmill (MS Office), Margaret Green (DRD), Linda Hatt (BAC), John Loria (LCSC), JP Merchant (SC), Josh Morgan (CW), Kirk Nissley (UN-NTV), Damon Robertson (CAST).

The meeting was called to order at 1 PM by General Chair Bob Merchant.

Minutes from the October 15, 2006 Board of Directors meeting were introduced for approval.

**MOTION:** by Brandon Converse and seconded to approve the minutes as written. Motion passed.

**Old Business:** Mr. Merchant advised that the Motion to amend the currently existing MS 4-Hour Rule would be discussed as part of the Program Ops report later in the meeting.

### Report of Officers:

#### General Chairman – Bob Merchant

AGENDA ITEMS - Bob Merchant directs that those who wish get topics on the agenda must get those items and supporting documents to him at least 3 weeks prior to the next scheduled Board meeting so he can place the topic on the agenda and distribute supporting documents prior to the scheduled meeting. This will facilitate discussion.

**Secretary – Becky Bouchey** - No report.

#### Treasurer & Finance – Phil Weichman / Tom Dudley

FINANCIAL REPORTS - In the absence of Phil and Tom, Damon Robertson presented the EOY Financial Report (ATTACHMENT 1) and the 2006 Budget Performance

Summary (ATTACHMENT 2). He noted the better than predicted income and account balances occurred because of early deposits and a large check to USA Swimming that was not written until after the end of December.

MS ATHLETE TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENTS – The total proposed reimbursement (ATTACHMENT 3) is slightly above the \$15,000.00 budget and it includes expenses for two long-time MS athletes who did not meet the minimum requirements of swimming in 2 MS sanctioned meets during the year. They both swam in 1 MS meet and participated in some additional high-level meets outside this LSC that were appropriate for their level. One other athlete missed the reporting deadline by a few days. Tom Dudley recommends that these 3 athletes be included in the reimbursements due to their lengthy involvement in Michigan Swimming. **MOTION was made, seconded and passed to accept the proposed Travel Fund reimbursement schedule**, including expenses for the 2 athletes who did not meet the minimum requirements and the 1 athlete who missed the reporting deadline by a few days.

FINANCE COMMITTEE – A finance committee meeting will be held 1 hour prior to the next MS Board Meeting. Budget requests should be sent to Tom Dudley prior to the meeting. All committee members should plan to attend.

### **Reports of Division Chairmen:**

#### **Program Operations – Larry Merte**

WEBSITE – Larry reports that he is putting a committee together to review and possibly “overhaul” the current website and he would like to set up a budget for this. Bob reports that there are extra monies (about \$4,000.00, he thinks) already in the website budget for this purpose. Larry will draft an e-mail to send to clubs soliciting input for what they would like on the MS website.

MS BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE – The April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting will be rescheduled since that is Easter Sunday. Bob Merchant reported that the current meeting schedule on the website is inaccurate since it contains dates and locations for meetings after the May 2007 House of Delegates meeting which have not yet been set and directs that it be removed. Larry will take care of this.

ANNUAL ELECTIONS – At the House of Delegates meeting in May 2007, the House will vote on candidates for General Chair, Secretary, Finance Vice-Chair, Program Development Vice-Chair, and 4 members of the Board of Review. The Nominating Committee will be soliciting candidates for these offices. In addition, the Officials will elect a Chairman, the Coaches will elect a Jr. Coach Rep and the Athletes will elect a Jr. Athlete Rep.

#### **Athlete Division – Matt Lee & Erin Shea**

ATHLETE ELECTION – A flyer (ATTACHMENT 4) is ready for posting on the website. The candidate must be at least 16 or a sophomore. All requirements are listed in the MS Bylaws, Article 4.1.3. This election will take place at the 13 & Over Championship Meet.

**Board of Review – Cindi Stefl** - No report.

**Coach Division – Mike O’Connor & Julie Youngquist** - No report.

**Program Development – Dan Hafner & Ahern Naylis** - No report.

**Adapted Swimming – Shawn Kornoelje** - No report.

**Program Operations – Brandon Converse / Don Kimble**

4-HOUR RULE MODIFICATIONS – Following distribution of the proposed amendment to the currently existing MS 4-Hour Rule which had first been presented at the October 2006 Board meeting, the authors of the proposed amendment made additional proposed modifications after receiving additional input. Kirk Nissley discussed these modifications (ATTACHMENT 5) which had been distributed with the January agenda. Discussion ensued. A subsequent **MOTION TO AMEND** was made by Bob Merchant to modify language contained within the proposal which would allow the General Chair the option of putting 4-Hour Rule meet host violation issues on the second following BOD meeting agenda if the incident allegedly occurred within 30 days of the next scheduled BOD meeting so as to give affected meet hosts an opportunity to properly respond. The Motion was seconded, discussion ensued and **the motion passed**. Larry Merte then presented a **MOTION TO AMEND**, which had not previously been distributed, to modify the currently existing rule (ATTACHMENT 6). This alternative proposed rule is entitled "*Four Hour Rule*". Kirk objected to this Motion to Amend as not being an amendment to the main motion, and thus out of order, but rather a completely new proposal. The General Chair overruled Kirk's objection. The presented Motion to Amend (Attachment 6) was seconded by Ahern Naylis. Discussion ensued. **Larry Merte voluntarily withdrew his Motion to Amend**. Larry Merte then made a **MOTION TO AMEND**, seconded by Ahern Naylis that in the original proposal (Attachment 5) the phrase "Board of Review" be substituted for each occurrence of the phrase "Board of Directors". Discussion ensued. **The Motion to Amend failed**. Following this, a **vote on the main motion, as modified by the first noted successful Merchant amendment, failed by a vote of 4 to 3**. The General Chair did not vote on the main motion. Mr. Merchant suggested that further work be done on proposed language if the 4-Hour Rule is to be revised. Accordingly, the currently existing 4-Hour Rule remains in place and there are no pending motions concerning the existing MS 4-Hour Rule.

LONG COURSE SCHEDULE – The schedule will be finalized very soon. Brandon will send it to the MS Office for distribution to the MS Board Members.

REQUEST FOR MEET SANCTION OUTSIDE THE PUBLISHED SCHEDULE – Brandon reports that Program Operations and the Meet Scheduling Committee denied a request from a club member to hold a sanctioned meet on February 18<sup>th</sup> because it was not in the best interests of Michigan Swimming. Brandon reported that they had also consulted with Pat Lunsford, USA Swimming's Program Operations VP, on the question of an LSC denying such a request.

However, MS Program Operations had advised this club that if they held the event, times from it could be used to enter the MS State Championship Meets. This prompted objections and discussion on whether times from an event not held under the auspices of any governing body should be allowed for Championship Meets. Mr. Merchant advised that "times outside the meet schedule need to be discussed by the Board of Directors before they are allowed to enter the state meet and that Program Operations needs to come back to the Board with a list."

## **Report of Committees / Coordinators**

### **Officials—Dan Meconis**

In Dan's absence, Bob Merchant noted that the MS officials' certification dates do not match what USA Swimming uses and in his opinion this situation needs to be changed. Michigan's certification dates are September 1 through August 31; while USA Swimming's certifications are valid for 2 years, beginning January 1 and ending December 31.

**Safety – Mike Cutler** – see ATTACHMENT 7.

**Recognition – Jan Cartmill / Kirk Nissley**

2006 STATE RECORD CERTIFICATES – I noted that these are ready to be mailed and will be distributed to Head Coaches along with the National Top-16 Certificates as soon as the latter are received from USA Swimming.

YMCA ISSUES – Kirk Nissley briefly reviewed a document that he had prepared (ATTACHMENT 8) entitled "*Issues Raised by November 1, 2006, USA / YMCA Documents / Letters from Stratton, Heath & Ryan*" (ATTACHMENT 9). Kirk noted the chronology of how the YMCA Approval Issues developed since November 1, 2006 and pointed out that this meeting of the January MS BOD was the very first opportunity that the MS BOD has had to begin the process and ultimately decide how YMCA Approval requests should be handled. Brandon noted that Program Operations has received a request from the NOW YMCA requesting MS Approval of the 2007 SC YMCA State Championship Meet scheduled to take place next month. After discussion, it was decided to respectfully decline this request at this time since there has not been adequate opportunity and time for the MS Board to discuss, digest and implement the potential issues and changes to the MS infrastructure that will need to be made before such requests are honored. Converse & Kimble are responsible for drafting a reply to the YMCA State Meet hosts and bringing their recommendations to the Board.

OBSERVED MEETS – A listing of meets that have been designated for Observation during this 2006-2007 SC season (ATTACHMENT 10) was distributed by Kirk Nissley. He noted that the number of Observed Meets has nearly doubled, primarily as a result of NCAA meets, and noted that every one of these meets has a significant impact on (increases) the workload at the MS Office.

**Michigan Swim Office – Jan Cartmill**

**CLUB NAME CHANGES –**

- Windemere Park WaveRunners have changed to WPCA WaveRunners; club code remains WPWR-MI.
- Southfield Swim Club (SSC) has changed to become Detroit Aquatic Swim Club (DASC).

CLUB LEADERSHIP & BUSINESS MANAGEMENT SCHOOL (CLBMS) – Randy Julian of USA Swimming called to suggest that we get this scheduled for 2007 since we have a few new clubs who will need the class before registering for 2008. He suggests that we might even want to do a SWIMPOSIUM to include the CLBMS plus other items such as a parent's presentation, an Official's clinic, a swim clinic with an Olympic athlete and any other sessions we might like (suggestions I have are a Hy-Tek Meet Manager workshop, Meet Director's Workshop and a Registration Workshop). If we want a SWIMPOSIUM we would need to contact Carol Burch to schedule this and USA Swimming will pay for almost everything except meeting location and pool costs. Mr. Merchant suggests that early September would be the best time for this—just prior to the USAS Convention.

CDs FROM USA SWIMMING – A CD containing Parent Education Presentations for Swimposiums, parent education sessions, camps/clinics or for use by clubs is available from the MS Office. The CD "*Successful Sport Parenting*" is available for purchase from USA Swimming. There is a quantity discount available.

PENALTIES FOR ENTERING UNREGISTERED ATHLETES IN MEETS – This program will begin for all meets on or after January 26, 2007. I will update the BOD at the next scheduled Board meeting as to the success of the enforced procedures. It is imperative that unregistered athletes do not participate in MS Sanctioned swimming meets.

OFFICIALS' LISTING - A draft generated from SWIMS listing the Officials registered during 2006 and 2007 has been forwarded to Dan Meconis. Once he approves, a current roster will be placed on the MS website. Advantages are that it can be easily generated, easily updated for the MS website, and ensure that all Officials are current members of USA Swimming.

CLUB LISTING - A revised listing of club contacts to include the information that they have authorized for publication in addition to their club website URL, if any, has been added to the MS website.

2007 REGISTRATION STATISTICS - Currently, there are 5,957 full year athletes, 19 outreach athletes, 17 seasonal athletes, 362 individual non-athletes, 1 sports medicine non-athlete, 32 family non-athletes, 6 life members and 73 clubs registered with MS/USA Swimming for 2007. We have registered about 350 more athletes now than last year at this time.

NON-ATHLETE CARDS – Jan reviewed the e-mail and coach lists that are sent to all meet hosts and meet referees as well as the various colors of the cards and their meaning (ATTACHMENT 11).

**MOTION was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting.** All approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

The date and location of the next meeting is not known at this time. This information will be distributed once it is determined.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janice B Cartmill*

Janice B Cartmill  
Registration / Membership Chair  
Michigan Swimming, Inc.