

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.



**MICHIGAN
SWIMMING**

Minutes of the

Michigan Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

March 15, 2008

Room 210, Jenison High School Aquatics Center, 2140 Bauer Rd., Jenison, MI 49428

Voting board members in attendance: Brandon Converse (EGRA – Program Ops Co-Vice-Chair, Mick Cruce, (NS, Secretary), Mike Cutler (ROCK – Safety Coordinator), Madeline Gillen (CW – Jr. Athlete Rep), Don Kimble (WMS –Program Ops Co-Vice-Chair), Larry Merte (CW – Admin Vice-Chair), Mike O’Connor (PA – Jr. Coach Rep), Damon Robertson (CAST, Program Dev Co-Vice-Chair), Erin Shea (Sr. Athlete Rep) and Julie Youngquist (LAC – Sr. Coach Rep).

Voting board members absent: David Brace, (SMAC - Program Dev Co-Vice-Chair), John Loria, (LCSC – Finance Vice-Chair), Dan Meconis (UN – Officials Chair), Robert L. Merchant (UN - General Chair), Phillip Weichman (CAST – Treasurer)

Others in attendance: Caroline Clement (JAWS), Jennifer Coffey (JAWS), Tywania Compton (TSSD), Cheryl Dischler (USSC), Jeanette Heaten (HVP), Dave Segraves (CSW), Ed Shea (BAC), Erica Zuercher (USSC).

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 PM by Vice Chair Larry Merte.

A **MOTION** was made and seconded to approve the February 3, 2008 minutes as written. Motion unanimously approved.

Old Business: None

New Business: Larry Merte reported the Conoco/Phillips Outstanding Service Award was established to be presented annually to person(s)/organizations that have made significant contribution to Michigan Swimming. The award process is administered by the General Chairman, with nominations requested by February and recipient selected in March.

Report of Officers:

General Chairman – Bob Merchant – No report (absent)

Administrative Vice-Chair: Larry Merte reported that the primary purpose of this meeting was to address proposed legislation to be brought before the next House of Delegates (HOD) meeting. The HOD Meeting will be April 19th at Okemos HS. Legislation passed at the HOD will not be effective until September 2008. The meeting proceeded to review the proposed legislation changes to the (1) By-Laws and (2) Rules & Procedures

previously emailed to board members (See ATTACHMENTS A & B). Following is a brief summary of revisions to proposed legislation:

By-Laws:

- (1) The revised language (Article 5.4) on page 11 regarding maximum of 3 officials will be deleted;
- (2) The revised language on page 17 (Article 6.7.6) and on page 24 (Article 7.4.5) will be restated to indicate Technical Comm./Program Development shall be responsible for time standards and format with MS Board of Directors approval.

Rules & Procedures:

- (1) The Travel Fund Policies on page 52 will be revised to indicate the minimum reimbursement will be established by the Finance Committee and approved by the HOD. Also, this process will be reviewed with John Loria (Finance Chair);
- (2) An assignments paragraph will be added (similar to District Meets) to account for two (2) JO Championship Meets;
- (3) Technical Planning on page 55 will be revised to indicate Technical Planning Committee is responsible for time standards subject to approval of the MS Board;
- (4) Clarify that for the Zone meet on page 59, MS pays for relays only since athletes/parents pay for the remaining fees.

Additional HOD Agenda Items

Additional HOD agenda items were proposed by the Athlete Division (Erin Shea and Madeline Gillen), Junior Coach Representative (Mike O'Connor) and Coach Dave Seagraves. RULE/BYLAWS CHANGES approved by the MS Board require a simple majority for approval at the HOD but if they are brought up for the first time at the HOD, they require a 2/3 majority. Following is a brief summary of the HOD Agenda items (detailed written proposals will be submitted by requestors directly to Larry Merte).

Athlete Division – Erin Shea & Madeline Gillen

ATHLETE ELECTIONS – Athlete elections from six (6) Junior Athlete Representative candidates were conducted on Saturday morning at the 13 & O State Championship Meet and Michael Lane (BAC) was elected. Madeline Gillen proposed two agenda items for the HOD meeting: (1) that Junior Representative candidates be no older than Sophomores such that they will not be in college during the second year of their term and in a better position to represent athletes (Mike Lane is a Junior and will be in college during the second year of his term), and (2) consider adding an additional Athlete Representative (perhaps one per District) and/or restructure positions to ensure equal representation of athletes throughout the state (at present, both Athlete Representatives are from the east side of the state).

Dave Seagraves – The following proposals were presented to be placed on the HOD agenda. Dave Seagraves will submit specific wording for the following proposals to Larry Merte for the HOD agenda:

- (1) The MS Board will not have more than one voting member with same Club affiliation.
- (2) Regarding JO Championship meets:
 - (a) there will be no award presentations;
 - (b) maximum 4 events/day including time trials;
 - (c) 13/14 & 15/18 shall swim together but earn awards separately;
 - (d) Two (2) JO Championship meets should be held annually.
- (3) Regarding District meets:
 - (a) there will be no award presentations;
 - (b) maximum 4 events/day including time trials;
 - (c) 13/14 & 15/18 shall swim together but earn awards separately;
 - (d) athletes may enter with events with "No Time" and receive awards;

- (4) Do not have warm-down lanes near competition lanes at Championship Meets;
- (5) For Championship meets, revise order of swims for 500 Free and 400 IM to fastest to slowest and alternating girls and boys.

Coach Division – Mike O'Connor – The following proposals were presented to be placed on the HOD agenda. Mike O'Connor will submit specific wording for the following proposals to Larry Merte for the HOD agenda:

- (1) The MS Board should select a central location (Lansing area) for Board meetings;
- (2) State Championship Meets (especially 13 & Over) should limit the number of heats per event to 3 or 4 to shorten meets;
- (3) Revise the number of Officials required for State Meets (specific details on number and type of officials was provided to Larry Merte by Mike O'Connor);
- (4) An independent source should be selected to count ballots for Coach elections;
- (5) Process for selection of Officials at State Meet should be revised (details to be provided);
- (6) Control of MS physical record files should be controlled by an independent source (presently Admin. Vice Chair); notice of changes to key records (By-laws and Rules & Procedures) should be posted on the MS website;
- (7) Eliminate 2/3 vote requirement for passage of proposals at HOD unless presented at prior Board meeting;
- (8) Replace "hard" awards at 13 & Over Championship Meet with Certificates;
- (9) Increase the maximum meet entry fee from \$4 to \$5;
- (10) Eliminate funding for Zone Meets;
- (11) Prohibit submission of non-USS meet proof of times (primarily HS dual meets), other than High School Championship Meets;
- (12) No Rules & Procedures should exceed National Rules.

MOTION was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 4:20 PM

The next MS Board Meeting will be the HOD Meeting to be held April 19th at Okemos HS.

Respectfully submitted,

Mick Cruce
Secretary
Michigan Swimming, Inc.