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 HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Minutes of the
Michigan Swimming House of Delegates Meeting
April 19, 2008
Okemos High School, 2800 Jolly Rd., Okemos, MI 48864

Voting board members in attendance: David Brace (SMAC – Program Dev Co-Vice-Chair), Mick Cruce (NS, Secretary), Madeline Gillen (CW – Jr. Athlete Rep), John Loria (LCSC – Finance Vice-Chair), Dan Meconis (UN – Officials Chair), Robert L Merchant (UN – General Chair), Mike O'Connor (PA – Jr. Coach Rep), Damon Robertson (CAST, Program Dev Co-Vice-Chair), Erin Shea (BAC - Sr. Athlete Rep) and Phillip Weichman (CAST – Treasurer).

Voting delegates in attendance: Toomas Arusoo (LOLL), Geneen Bradley (TSSD), Brad Brockway (KAW), Brandon Converse (EGRA), Jeff Cooper (OLY), Mike Cutler (ROCK), Tim Decoste (PA), Cheryl Dischler (USSC), John Drain (PSC), Tom Dudley (CAST), Kevin Hafner (NS), Linda Hatt (BAC), Janette Heaton (HVP), Anna Hurley (LCSC), Don Kimble (WMS), Bill Knoop (DRD), Jeremy Layman (SMAC), Greg Luke (HUST), Dave Segraves (CSW), Tim Stahr (GLT), Bryant Steele (SAC), Dennis VanPoppelen (L), Bailey Weathers (CW) and Julie Youngquist (LAC).

Others in attendance: Jan Cartmill (MS Office), Don Cohagen (CW), Margaret Green (DRD), Eric Lynn (SAC), Steve Potter (EGRA), Michael H Rogers (SST) and Ed Shea (BAC).

The General Chairman, Bob Merchant, called the meeting to order at1:10 p.m.

Bob Merchant introduced the minutes from the May 12, 2007 House of Delegates meeting for approval. Damon Robertson (CAST, Program Dev Co-Vice-Chair) was added to the minutes as a voting board member in attendance. Motion passed.

Elections – Phillip Weichman (Candidate Biographies - See Appendix A)

a. **Administrative Vice Chairman –** Nominating Committee placed Michael Rogers on the ballot. There were no nominations from the floor. Michael Rogers was elected by acclamation.

b. **Treasurer -** Nominating Committee placed Stephen Potter on the ballot. There were no nominations from the floor. Stephen Potter was elected by acclamation.

c. **Safety Coordinator –** Nominating Committee had no nominations. Bailey Weathers was nominated from the floor. Bailey Weathers was elected by acclamation.

d. **Program Operations Vice Chairman –** Nominating Committee placed David Brace and Margaret Green on the ballot as co-Vice Chairman. Discussion ensued on whether position had to be co-chaired and it was agreed that it can be an individual but that it is more efficient to administer as co-chairs. David Brace and Margaret Green were elected by acclamation.

e. **Board of Review –** Nominating Committee placed Laura Miller and Damon Robertson on the ballot. The Junior and Senior Athlete Reps (Mike Lane and Madeline Gillen) and Ed Shea were all nominated from the floor. There were no additional nominations from the floor. These five candidates were elected by acclamation.
f. **Nominating Committee –** Nominating Committee had no nominations. Anna Hurley and Michael Rogers were nominated from the floor and were elected by acclamation. Note: Officials Chair, Senior Athlete Rep and Senior Coach Rep are automatic appointments to Nominating Committee.

Ballots were not required and therefore not destroyed.

Old Business – None reported.

Finance Committee – Phil Weichman/John Loria (See APPENDICES B – K)

Phil Weichman presented report of Finance Committee. MS earned about 5.5% on CDs in 2007 but will earn less (about 3.5%) in 2008. Swim meets generated approximately $50,000 in revenue.

Questions to Finance Committee –
Q. What amount of the $52 USA Swimming registration fee is going to MS? A. MS receives $8 from the registration fee plus 5% meet sanction fee (10% for state meet) plus $1 per swimmer surcharge.

Q. Is there a rule on amount of budgeted operating expenses (funds held)? A. There is no rule but an MS guideline is a minimum of one year's operating expenses (about $120,000). Discussion ensued on why funds balance is about $100,000 over guideline.

Q. Why are fees remaining high given the amount of funds held? A. The fees are comparable to other LSCs and expenses will be higher than revenues in 2009 budget. Revenues will be reduced due to lower investment income and increased subsidies to state meet hosts. The Finance Committee was asked to "take a hard look" at MS finances and consider reducing fees to Clubs due to the economy in Michigan.

Q. It was requested that MS petition USA Swimming for a reduction in its $44 portion of the registration fee? A. This type of request has been made to USA Swimming recently and rejected. MS is already challenging USA Swimming on how money is spent including its unspent $1 million development budget. USA Swimming is also undergoing an internal audit. Further questions and discussion ensued about the potential of being organized under another organization other than USA Swimming.

Budget Recommendations for 2009 were presented by John Loria.

Q. Has MS recently requested competitive bids for awards? A. Yes.

Q. Why were state meet pool rental costs subsidized? A. Clubs couldn't make any money and there was a concern that they wouldn't host meets, and to ensure adequate facilities.

Q. Why are website costs increasing? A. The entire website needs to be renovated. The consulting review did not resolve the situation.

Q. Why has the Travel Fund budget been reduced in an Olympic Year? A. There is a one year delay in expenses and fewer reimbursements are anticipated. Discussion ensued about increasing the fund due to potentially more travel in this Olympic year.

Motion by Tom Dudley to increase 2009 Travel Fund budget by $3,000 to $18,000. **Motion Passed.**

Motion by John Loria to approve 2009 proposed budget. **Motion Passed**.

Proposed BYLAW Changes – From Administrative Vice-Chair. Presented by Phil Weichman and Bob Merchant in Larry Merte's Absence (Appendix L)

- introduced a proposed addition to Article (6.5.1) which specifies that co-officers have only one voice and one collective vote on committees which they serve. This makes the language in this Article consistent with Article 6.5.3. **Proposal passed.**

- introduced a proposed change to Article (6.7.6) to indicate that the Program Operations Vice-Chair shall have "general oversight of" (rather than "primary responsibility for") meet sanctions, meet evaluations and state championship meet format and awards. **Proposal passed.**

- introduced a proposed addition to Article (7.4.2) that meet schedules are subject to approval of the MS Board of Directors and/or House of Delegates. The proposal was amended to delete the requirement for House of Delegates approval. **Amended proposal passed.**

- introduced a proposed addition to Article (7.4.5) that time standards and championship meet formats are subject to MS Board of Directors approval. **Proposal passed.**

Motions for House of Delegates – Dave Seagraves (Appendix M)

Various motions were presented pertaining to rule revisions regarding State Championship, Junior Olympic and District meets. Motions were referred to the MS Technical Committee for review and comment since they involve rule revisions.

General motion that no team may have more than one affiliated member on the board. Motion was deemed inconsistent with USA Swimming Bylaws and did not pass.

Motions for House of Delegates – Mike O'Connor (Appendix N)

Motion to choose a location for MS Board meetings that reflects an equal distance in travel time for all board members. Motion was amended to revise location to a central location. **Motion passed.**

Motion that 13 and Over State Meet be structured to have approximately 24 swimmers in each event through establishment of appropriate cutoff times. Motion was referred to the Technical Committee.

Motion for a rule change to ensure selection of referee and officials at State Championship Meets are made with agreement of Officials Chair, Meet Director and Senior Coach Rep. **Motion passed.**

Motion for a rule and bylaw change that the Junior Coach Rep. election be conducted by the current Junior Coach Rep. (instead of the Senior Coach Rep). **Motion passed.**

Motion to revise the language that requires a 2/3 vote to pass motions for the first time at the HOD to a simple majority. Motion did not pass.

Motion to eliminate hardware awards at championship meets above the age of 12 and replace with certificate awards. Motion did not pass.

Motion to allow a $1 increase in entry fees charged by Clubs. Motion did not pass.

Motion to eliminate funding for the Zone Meet. Motion did not pass.

Motion to allow entry times in State Championship Meets only from League or Conference Championships run under approved meet management software. Motion amended to: For State Meet qualifying proof of times, MS will only accept times from USA Swimming Sanctioned, Observed or Approved Meets as well as those from Invitational/Championship (League/Conference) Meets that are run on approved meet management software. **Amended Motion passed.**

Motion that training of officials and rule enforcement at meets shall not exceed the minimum standard required by USA Swimming. Motion did not pass.

Athlete Proposal (Appendix O) – Madeline Gillen
Motion that athlete representative requirements be revised such that (1) an athlete rep from the East JO rep be elected in even numbered years and West JO rep be elected in odd numbered years; however they will represent the entire MI LSC; (2) rep must be at least 15 years old and at most a sophomore at time of election; and (3) if athlete rep is unable to fulfill duties, a new rep will replace them for remaining term. Motion was amended to delete (1) and (3) above. **Amended Motion passed.**

Athlete Proposed MS Top 10 – Jan Cartmill (Appendix P)
Motion to revise MI Top 16 recognition program to be consistent with USA T10 program which provides better recognition for single year age groups and eliminates 10 and under age groups to prevent "harmful" recognition. **Motion passed.**

Proposed Changes to Rules and Procedures—Larry Merte (Appendix Q)
These were introduced by General Chair - Bob Merchant - and the various Vice-Chairs in Larry Merte's absence.

- Proposed Changes to H. Four Hour Rule were tabled.

- Motion to change O. Swimmer Entry Fees-Electronic/Refunds to Tier Three Prelim/final Meets by adding language to clarify that only the prelim/final sessions of a meet may charge $5/event (unless the timed-final session held in conjunction with the prelim/final meet is "A" times or above) . **Motion passed.**

- Proposed "Housekeeping" changes to V. State Championship Meet Rules, VI. District Championship Rules, D. Entry Limits for District and JO Meets and VII. Junior Olympic Rules were tabled.

- Finance Division-Phil Weichman
  - Motion to amend language regarding State Meet host stipends to pay hosts an amount agreed in advance between Program Operations Chair and the host club (subject to BOD approval) not to exceed the amount designated in the MS budget for State Meet stipends. **Motion passed.**

  - Motion to increase MS Zone Meet coach stipends from $50 to $100 daily for coaches and Zone Manager with an additional $200 for the head coach. Motion did not pass.

- Program Development Division-Damon Robertson
  - Motion to clarify that Technical Planning Committee has general oversight of time standards and championship meet formats subject to MS Board of

Directors and House of Delegates approval. Amendment proposed to eliminate requirement of House of Delegates approval. **Motion passed.**

- Motion to clarify MS Zone Team application procedures to require clubs on behalf of swimmers wishing to participate in Zone Meet to submit application and applicable entry fees to the Michigan Swimming Office and that a uniform package will be offered including shirt, swim cap and other items determined by Zone Team coordinator. **Motion passed.**

- Program Operations Division
  - Awarding Swim Meets to Host Clubs and Finalization of the Meet Schedule: Parts A-D & A. Motion to clarify process that provides MS Board of Directors or HOD, not a committee, final approval in the meet schedule process. Motion was amended to eliminate requirement of House of Delegates approval. **Amended Motion passed.**

- Meet Schedule Request Form
  - Motion to amend MS Meet Schedule Request to (1) require approval of MS Board of Directors and/or HOD (Motion was amended to eliminate requirement of House of Delegates approval), (2) clubs requesting sanction of meets outside published schedule requires review by program operations and meet committee, (3) only meets on the MS published meet schedule will be posted/advertised on the MS website unless approved by the MS Board of Directors, (4) only MS Board of Directors may deny an approved dual or tri-meet request to a club in good standing, and only on good cause. **Motion passed.**

- Officials Committee-Bob Merchant
  - Motion to add to Section II, Part B Duties: A requirement that Officials Chair will provide MS Office with monthly list of certified officials within the LSC including name and level of certification. **Motion passed.**

  - Motion to revise Section IX, Part B. Levels of Certification, C. How to become an MS Official and Section XIX so that they are determined by MS' minimum standards. Motion did not pass.

Officials Committee-Dan Meconis (Appendix R)
Motion to approve proposed revisions to MS Rules & Procedures Part XIV-D: Officials Committee-Number of Officials required for State Championship Meets. Allows for optional addition of an Administrative Referee Assistant, assigns pool positions to stroke/turn judges and provides for using two pools during prelims for technical stroke events if available and agreeable to the meet host and the meet referee. **Motion passed.**

New Business –

Comments from Delegates:

- Discussed providing food/drinks for HOD Meeting-difficult to do because of unknown attendance numbers.

- Discussed health insurance for coaches-group is not large enough to get savings.

- MS Board members that are also delegates for their Clubs can obtain club registration credit if they designate they solely represent club and not Board.

- Discussed likely USA Convention legislation that will be limiting acceptable swim suits for age group meets to exclude below knees and above shoulders.

The MS Office Report from Jan Cartmill (Appendix S) was accepted into the Record.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.
Submitted,

Mick Cruce
Secretary, Michigan Swimming

Michigan Swimming House of Delegates Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2008
Appendices Summary

Appendix A	Candidates Biographies
Appendices (B-K)	Financial Appendices
• Appendix B	Financial Report 12-07
• Appendix C	Financial Report 3-08
• Appendix D	Assets 12-07
• Appendix E	Meet Income Summer 07
• Appendix F	Meet Income Oct 07 – Mar 08
• Appendix G	2008 District & JO Distrib
• Appendix H	Budget Summary 2007
• Appendix I	Budget Summary 2008
• Appendix J	2009 Proposed Budget
• Appendix K	2007 Travel Fund Final Recap
Appendix L	MS By-Law Changes (Merte)
Appendix M	Proposals for HOD (Segraves)
Appendix N	Proposals for HOD (O'Connor)
Appendix O	Athlete Proposal (Gillen)
Appendix P	Proposed MS Top-10 (Cartmill)
Appendix Q	MS Rules & Procedures Proposals for HOD Merte

Appendix R	08 HOD State Meet Officials (Meconis)
Appendix S	MS Office (Cartmill)