Proposals for House of Delegates

Submitted by Ahern Naylis, Coach Member, Michigan Swimming

1. **Conflicting information on Championship Meets in both Rules and Regulations and by-laws need to be addressed. Current conflicting information is listed below.**

From Current Michigan Swimming by-laws

.6 PROGRAM OPERATIONS VICE CHAIR: The Program Operations Vice Chair shall chair and have general charge of the affairs and property of the division that coordinates and facilitates the conduct of all swimming programs for MS including the awarding of meet sanctions and approvals to Club Members, facilities and equipment rentals and meet management for all swimming meets sponsored by MS. The Program Operations Vice Chair shall have general oversight of meet sanctions and approvals, meet evaluations, and state championship meet format and awards. It is the preferred policy of MS that this position be occupied by two individuals.

.5 TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE - The Technical Planning Committee is responsible for developing and coordinating an overall swimming program for all levels of swimming in the Territory, including Age Group, Senior, and open water programs, and the development of long-range plans for swimming programs. The Technical Planning Committee is also responsible for time standards and championship meet formats, subject to MS Board of Directors approval.

From Current Michigan Swimming Rules and Regulations

TECHNICAL PLANNING

The Technical Planning Committee is responsible for developing and coordinating an overall swimming program for all levels of swimming, including age-group, senior, and open-water programs, including the development of long-range plans for those programs. The Technical Planning Committee has general oversight of time standards and championship meet formats, subject to MS Board of Directors approval.

b) The Program Operations Division is responsible through the Program Operations Vice-Chair to coordinate and facilitate the conduct of all swimming programs within Michigan Swimming, Inc. The Program Operations Vice-Chair is responsible for all meet sanctions* and approvals**, gathering meet evaluations, the format of the State Championship Meets and procuring awards for the State Championship Meets.

Recommendation: Remove the verbiage from Program Operations concerning Championship Meet Formats. The current rules give this power to two separate divisions at the same time, Program Development and Program Operations. In keeping

this formatting with the Technical Committee, Michigan Swimming will be represented by The Technical Committee Chair, the Senior Athlete Representative, a Coach Member, and an at large member which report to the Program Development Chair and their recommendations are approved by the Board of Directors.

2. **Adjustment to Rules and Regulations concerning State Meets**

Our current Rules and Regulations concerning Sate Championships read as follows:

F. State Championship

Short Course Season: MS conducts two separate State Championship meets; a 12 and Under Meet and a 13 and Over Meet at the conclusion of the short course season (typically in March) Long Course Season: MS conducts a single State Championship Meet for all ages at the conclusion of the long course season (typically in late July/early August). The qualifying times for the Short Course and Long Course State Championships in all age groups and all events are published annually by the Office of Michigan Swimming, Inc at the beginning of the short course season and are referred to as "Q1". They may also be found on the Michigan Swimming

Recommendation: Change verbiage to match the fact that we currently have two Long Course State Meets on our Summer Schedule.

3. **Adjustment to Rules and regulations concerning Junior Olympics**

The current Rules and Regulations read as follows:

E. Junior Olympics

MS may conduct one or two "Junior Olympic" (JO) meets. If more than one meet is held, teams are assigned to a meet in attempts to generate meets of equal size. These meets are designed to allow all swimmers who have achieved Q2 time standards the opportunity to achieve Q1 State Championship standards. Thus, a swimmer cannot compete in events that they have currently achieved State Championship "Q1" standards. Also, a swimmer must also have minimally met the Q2 time standards in an event in order to be eligible to swim the event. This is a two and one half day timed finals meet. For further rules on the JO's see section 7.

Recommendation: Michigan Swimming has conducted two JO meets for 4 consecutive years; we should remove the option of holding only one JO Meet from the rules and regulations. Matching verbiage should be used in section 7 in describing the JO Meets.

4. **Adjustment to Rules and Regulations concerning JO Meets and District Meets in sections 6 and 7 in Rules and Regulations concerning formats of the meets.**

The current rules and regulations read as follows concerning meet formats.

District Championships

The format at each of the District Championships meets will be identical. All events (individual and relay) will be timed finals. There is a Friday afternoon/evening session in addition to an AM and PM session on Saturday and Sunday. The age groups are 10 and Under, 11/12, 13/14 and Open. You must swim your own age group. The session where specific age groups will compete will be determined by Program Operations for timeline purposes and the age groups may be split by gender.

Junior Olympics

One or two Junior Olympic (JO) Meets may be held on the same weekend at different venues within the state. If two meets are held, clubs are assigned to a specific meet by Program Operations and the assignment procedure is similar to that used for District Meets—see Section VI-A above.

B. Format of Meet

All events are timed finals. There is a Friday afternoon/evening session in addition to an AM and PM session on Saturday and Sunday. The age groups are 10 and Under, 11-12 and 13-18. You must swim your own age group.

Recommendation: As is stated in the District Meet Format, and in my recommendation above, we have two JO Meets in place and need to adjust our rules and regulations to meet this adjustment. The format of each JO Meet should be identical as we have done with the District Meet.

5. Define Junior Olympics as a Championship Meet in Rules and Regulations.

We currently have our District Meet and State Meet defined as Championship Meets in our Rules and Regulations, yet Junior Olympics, our middle level meet is not described as such.

Recommendation: Define Junior Olympics as a Championship Meet in Section E. of Swim Meets.

6. Set Templates for Championship Meets

Recommendation: Set up in our rules and regulations that all Championships are using the same template set for that Championship Meet. The template should meet all of the objectives set forth by the Technical Committee and approved by the Board of Directors to insure that all championship meets will be identical. The meet packets must meet all USA Swimming Rules and Michigan Swimming Rules and Regulations and not leave room for interpretation or change for the host teams. Program Operations will review the meet packets before being posted to ensure that the packets are identical and make sure no unapproved changes have been made.

7. Use of Credit Cards for OME Meet Entries for State Championship meets

Under the current Rules and Regulations concerning OME entries for Sate Meets reads as follows:

V. On Line Meet Entry

The meet hosts of the 12 and Under SCY State Meet, the 13/14 and Open SCY State Meet and the LCM State Meets may use the USA Swimming On-Line Meet entry system to accept entries for these meets. Note: Custom times will be accepted and this rule does not preclude a meet host from also accepting entries directly from a club or athlete

Recommendation: Add to this that any host club which chooses to use the OME entry system must allow payment on the OME system to use credit cards as payment if they so choose. The board and House of Delegates approved raising the State Meet entry fees by 50%, from $5.00 to $7.50. The 3% charge to use a credit card to pay for the entries equates to .23 cents per entry. This means that the host club would be receiving 47% more than they had in any other previous state meet. It is also important to remember that teams hosting the State Meet do not pay for awards, pool rental, or a majority of officials. This is a very small amount of the entry fee that the host club would be obliged to cover for the service, and would make the entry/payment process much easier for clubs entering the meet.