

MONTANA SWIMMING SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
May 17, 1997
Bozeman High School, Bozeman, Montana

The 1997 Semi-Annual Meeting of Montana Swimming was called to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 17, 1997, at the Bozeman High School, Bozeman, Montana, by General Chairman Larry Johnson. The Notice, which was duly and properly given, is found in Appendix A in addition to the Agenda. Those present are indicated by their signatures on the attendance sheet found in Appendix B. A quorum was present and the meeting proceeded.

Following review of the Minutes of the October 1997 minutes, it was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as presented and the motion passed.

Reports of Officers

General Chair - Larry Johnson had no official report.

Administrative Vice Chair - Rick Bartsch's report was verbal. He is in the process of drafting a handbook of policy and procedures and will be contacting the officers for their assistance in drafting the handbook and their position description.

Program Development Vice Chair - Brent DeBree summarized his written report which can be found in Appendix C.

Program Operations Vice-Chair - Mitch Crouse's report was verbal. It was a recap of the All Star Team's trip to Boise (18 participants) and Zones (48-50 qualifiers).

Finance Vice-Chair - This position is vacant.

Secretary - Kim Luebke's report was verbal and requested assistance with the Newsletter.

Treasurer - Tom Copley's report was delivered via Pam Copley. Requested clarification of money due swimmers when they are "relay only" swimmers. Consensus that those swimmers are not entitled to funding from Montana Swimming. *Refer to discussion under New Business.*

Coaches Representative - Dave Berkoff's report was verbal. Age Group Regional proposal is to remove 10 & U swimmers from competition. Will visit this issue later on in meeting.

Athlete Representatives - Lee Frye and David Werner's report was verbal. No much to report. Montana did a good job at Jr. Nationals.

Safety Coordinator - Jim Carlson's report was verbal. He reported that all injuries which require first aid must have an incident report filled out and mailed. Injuries can be prevented by simply reminding swimmers to stop before an accident happens.

Technical Planning Chair - Charlene McCoy was not present and no report was given.

Membership/Registration Coordinator - Bob Searles' report was delivered via Larry Johnson and later by Bob himself. Swimmer registration statistics are reflected in Appendix D. The additional Great Falls team is a "no go" and the Missoula YMCA is a new club.

Officials Chair - Randy Vook was not present and thus had no report.

Records Coordinator - Lowell Anderson's report was delivered via Larry Johnson and later by Lowell himself. 40 records were set during Short Course 1996-1997. A copy of the current records are available.

Montana Swimming Liason - Pam Copley was present however had no report.

Committee Reports

None.

Old Business

Timing Console - The timing console is aging and needs to be replaced. One possibility would be to have two separate systems and bring both systems together for the state meet. This would allow teams to double schedule meets. A complete system is approximately \$9,000. The 12 Montana clubs could split the amount and increase club registration or add it on to meet entry fees. Jim Carlson will have a cost breakdown by the next meeting. Another possibility is finding a corporate sponsor.

Officials Shirts and Officials Badges - Although Randy Vook is the officials chair Jim Carlson will get a "count" of Montana Swimming certified officials and shirts and badges for Montana Swimming officials.

Montana Swimming Bylaws - Our Bylaws were submitted for review. There are a total of 57 LSCs and 35 have submitted Bylaws. Ours were the most well done thus far. We had only 10 or 12 minor changes -- those changes were made and final copies distributed.

Miscellaneous Business

Nominating Committee - There will be several positions open this fall. Need to put together a nominating committee pursuant to Section 604.8. Volunteers are needed for the nominating committee. If no volunteers are received, the General Chair will call people informing them of their appointment to the committee. Those positions are Program Operations Vice Chair, Secretary, Membership, Technical Planning and Finance Vice Chair. Refer to page 15 of Montana Swimming for consecutive term limitations.

New Business

Montana Swimming Outreach Program - Bob Searles reported that any family on food stamps qualifies for local USS fees of \$5.00 plus the local LSC registration. Fees would total \$15 instead of \$35 -- a savings of \$20. A membership form and a copy of food stamps receipts should be turned in to Bob Searles. This is a pilot program and is for no definite term. Money has been set aside by USS for this program.

Removal of 10&U from Age Group Regionals - A proposal was made at AGRs that the 10&U category be removed from competition at the AGR level. The house of delegates voted unanimously to reduce to writing their recommendation that the 10 & U category not be removed from regional competition. All suggestions for the letter should be made to Larry Johnson within the next week and he will draft the letter.

Athlete Representatives - Two new athlete representatives will be elected at the Long Course Meet.

Nominations should be made at each club level and those brought forth at the Long Course Meet. Rick Bartsch will write up a procedure and mail a copy to Lee so she can duplicate it and forward it to each club.

State Records - Lowell Anderson has had parents of 8 & U swimmers inquiring why records are not kept for 8 & U swimmers. Discussion included Lowell not feeling it is a proper incentive at that level and Dave Berkoff says it should be fun at first. It was moved and seconded to not keep records for 8 & U swimmers, as has been done in the past, and the motion passed.

Reimbursement of Individual versus Relay Only Swimmers - Tom Copley inquired whether reimbursement for Montana Swimming swimmers at Age Group Regional and Senior Regional meets included "relay only" swimmers. After discussion it was moved and seconded that reimbursement at AGR and SRR levels would be to those swimmers who qualified in individual events and not "relay only" swimmers. Pam Copley inquired who Tom would know which swimmers this would include. Discussion for this portion included Brent DeBree, in his capacity as Program Development Vice Chair, would let the treasurer know within 10 days of a meet or within a reasonable period of time. Rick Bartsch said each club could be responsible for submitting to the treasurer within 30 days, a list of swimmers attending AGR and SRR meets. One check would then be issued to each club and each club would be responsible for disbursement.

Adoption of New Time Standard - The age group motivational time standards will not be distributed by United States Swimming after 1997. The Quadrennium 2000 time standards will be replacing the age group motivational time standards. The quadrennium time standards are a more accurate reflection of swimmers across the United States. Discussion included adopting the Q-2000 times would mean less swimmers at the state level which would mean a loss in revenue; similar to the "one BB/remainder B time standard" did the previous year. It was decided to look at bigger picture; thus a motion was made and seconded to table the adoption of a time standard until fall with a special meeting of the house of delegates mid-season -- at the long course meet. A motion was made to table until this fall and the motion was seconded. The motion to table until the fall failed.

Jan moved to adopt the time standard and have a progressive time standard over the course of the next three years reaching our goal by the year 2000 to have all swimmers at same level. Discussion on this motion included the fact that USS did not intend for the quadrennium time standards to be adopted as state qualifying times and that we would be going into these standards blind based on numbers and that in some races we may actually be getting slower. This motion failed for lack of a second.

Larry Johnson suggested a committee be put together and that the house of delegates call a special meeting the Thursday prior to the beginning of the State Long Course Meet in Bozeman. The motion was made and seconded and passed. A directive was made to Program Development to research. Those interested in serving on the research committee should contact Brent DeBree in a timely manner.

A motion was made to combine the 15-16 and 17-18 age groups at Long Course State providing it complies with USS Rules and Regulations. This motion was amended to include swimming "finals only" events during preliminaries. Shirley Gustafson seconded. Brief discussion consisted of Brent saying this doesn't benefit athletes. Dave Berkoff tabled motion.

Proposals

There were five written proposals submitted, distributed (Appendix E) and discussed:

Proposal #1 - submitted by Rick Bartsch

Montana Swimming will purchase a 20' x 20' canopy tent at a cost of \$870.

There was a request for a second to the motion, the motion died for lack of a second; subsequently Shirley Gustafson seconded the motion; the motion failed.

Proposal #2 - submitted by Rick Bartsch

At the Montana Swimming Championship meets only, the finals and awards ceremony be similar in format to the Age Group Regionals in Federal Way, Washington.

Larry Johnson stated that this is the format Bozeman will be using at the Long Course State Championships in August 1997, thus no vote taken.

Proposal #3 - submitted by Rick Bartsch

That Montana Swimming officials conform to the dress code now recommended by United States Swimming.

This motion was sent to an officials Committee who will look at the proposal and make a recommendation.

Proposal #4 - submitted by Rick Bartsch

That the Montana Short and Long Course State Championships be held in Bozeman each year on a permanent basis. Montana Swimming will bear all costs for the meets as well as endure the losses and gain the benefits.

This motion was tabled on the basis that Bozeman has not previously hosted a State Long Course meet and there would need to be a formula to determine profits.

Proposal #5 - submitted by Brent DeBree

Montana Swimming shall adopt a policy that no sanction be issued for a swim meet to a club that has not had a representative, in attendance, at the semi-annual meetings of Montana Swimming.

This motion is unable to be implemented based on USS sanction rules, however, it can be stressed how important it is that a club representative attend the meetings.

1998 Short Course Meet Schedule - Attached as Appendix F.

The meeting was adjourned and seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

MONTANA SWIMMING

By
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1998 Short Course Meet Schedule

October 26 & 27	Billings (BY)
November 8 & 9	Missoula
November ?	Great Falls
December 13	Bozeman
January 10 & 11	Butte
January 24 & 25	Kalispell
January 31 & Feb 1	Missoula (only if does not host State)
February 14	Helena
February 20 - 22	Billings (BAC)
March 6, 7 & 8	? (to be determined at the Montana Swimming Meeting in October)