

# Montana Swimming News

## November 1999

### **MONTANA SWIMMING SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING**

The semi-annual meeting of the Montana Swimming House of Delegates was held Oct. 3rd at the City Center Motel in Bozeman. Highlights of the meeting are included in this newsletter.

### **NEW MONTANA SWIMMING EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The following officers were elected at the meeting of the House of Delegates:

- Program Operations Coordinator-Janice Bell
- Secretary-Michael Dougherty
- Membership Registration-Jodi Peretti
- Safety Coordinator-Brian Robinson
- Technical Planning Chairman-Rich Hartl
- Finance Vice Chairman-Lenny Duberstein

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS**

The Montana Swimming Executive Board strongly suggests that all clubs in our LSC make ALL Montana meet information available to all swimmers.

The House of Delegates approved a proposal for all clubs to appoint a liaison for their swimmers to the Program Operations chairman. Please send your information to Janice Bell as soon as possible. Her e-mail is: [jlbell@in-tch.com](mailto:jlbell@in-tch.com).

### **CHANGES FOR STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Some changes were made by the House of Delegates that will change the format of the state championships. All 8 and Under events will be Saturday and Sunday, rather than Friday and Saturday. The 400 freestyle relay will be Friday and the 200 freestyle relay will be on Sunday. Individual entries at the Montana State Championships will be limited to six individual events and three relay events, with a maximum of three individual events per day. In the past we have had a limit of seven individual events. Furthermore, Montana Swimming will combine the 15-16 and 17-19 age groups at the State Championships to a 15 and Over age group. Finals and consolation finals will be combined. See your coach for details of scoring, awards and qualifying times for this age group.

### **SPRING MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Montana Swimming House of Delegates will hold their spring meeting in Bozeman May 20th after the Bozeman swim meet. Nominations for Male and Female Athlete of the Year as well as the Phillips 66 Award will be accepted and voted on.

### **ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE ELECTIONS CHANGED**

The House of Delegates voted to elect the athlete representatives at the Short Course State Championships rather than Long Course State Championships. Montana Swimming will also now be sending BOTH reps

to the National Convention in the fall. Next year it is in Florida.

#### **1999-2000 SHORT COURSE MEET SCHEDULE**

Oct.30	BY
Nov 6	Great Falls
Nov 13-14	Missoula
Dec 11	Bozeman
Jan 8-9	Butte
Jan 22	Hardin
Jan 22-23	Kalispell
Jan 29-30	MYST
Feb 12	Helena
Feb 18-20	BAC
Feb 25-27	MT Short Course State Championships Missoula
Mar 2-5	Sr. Regionals,Boise
Mar 17-19	Age Group Regionals Federal Way, WA
Mar 21-25	Jr. Nationals Anchorage, AK
Mar 28-Apr.1	Nationals Federal Way, WA

#### **2000 LONG COURSE MEET SCHEDULE**

May 6-7	Kalispell
May 19-21	Bozeman
June 23-25	Missoula
July 8-9	Butte
July 14-16	Big Sky State Games Billings
July 20-23	Sr. Regionals Federal Way, WA
July 22-23	Helena
July 28-30	Long Course State Championships
Aug 1-5	Junior Nationals San Antonio, TX
Aug 3-6	Age Group Regionals Wenatchee, WA
Aug 9-16	Olympic Trials Indianapolis, IN
Aug 15-19	Western Zones Fresno, CA
Sept 1-23	Olympics, Australia

*The next newsletter will be published in June, 2000 by Montana Swimming's new secretary. News deadline is May 25, 2000. News items should be sent to:*

*Michael Dougherty  
Secretary, Montana Swimming  
2425 Red Turkey Lane  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
406-585-0237*

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## HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!

### ZONE TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

The following was submitted by Zone Coach Neil Virtue, Kalispell:

*Greetings all and happy fall swimming. The meet this year was in Grand Junction, CO. It was a very beautiful place, not quite Montana, but still nice. The Montana Zones team was the smallest it has seen in a few years with 42 athletes. They were: Kellen Rhodes, Major Robinson, Cara Duberstein, Morgan Lebsack, Debbie Wood, Jason Mithcell, Sonja Settergren, Emily Stummhofer, Jenna Newgard, Erin Bell, Rebecca Fischer, Mackenzie Reiter, Hanna Settergren, Stephanie Model, Bobbie Snider, Amy Lovegren, Steven Searles, Ben Rase, Amy Barefield, Franny Searles, Emily Lammers, Kim Carlson, Sara Harlan, Jenna Bedosky, Gina Fetting, Laura Keyes, Lauren Sokoloski, Brandon Johnson, Noah Settergrean, Jon Bartsch, Tim Beyers, Will Sehestedt, Katie Stover, Katie Wood, Stacey Frey, Jenny Nerison, Matt white, Matt Hartmann, Matt Rae, Shane Syndergard Russell Williams, and Morgan Wardell. Although the size of the team in the fight was small, the size of the fight in our team was huge. We ended up in 10th place out of 17 teams and we had some individual zones champions in Morgan Wardell, Jenny nerison, Brandon Johnson, and Mackenzie Reiter. Not only were there these Zone champions, but also many other Montana swimmers made finals in their respective events. Place and points aside, I would like to tell you alittle bit about the other major accomplishment the Montana Zones team achieved-TEAMWORK. The Montana Zones team won the 1999 Adam Schmitz Spirit Award, and we had one of the smallest LSC's at the meet. Speaking for all the coaches( Lev Bates, and Head Coach Lee Welling and myself) it was a sight to see and to be very proud of. From day one warm-ups, everyone in the facility knew that Team Montana had arrived. To top it off, the 17-18 Boys 200 Free relay team of Morgan Wardell, Matt Hartmann, Matt White and Russell Williams wore girls suits in the last event of the day. Not only did they come in dead last in the heat, but they sparked a fire that was noted by the Western Zones Director, Mike Salzstein, that he says "...has been missing in the swimming community for a long time" Mike then followed up by saying how great it has been to watch our LSC develop and grow over the past ten years, and to keep the fun aspect in the sport, which has been lost. Mike commented on the Montana team at the National USA Swimming convention in San Diego in Sept. Basically, I and the other coaches were very proud of our kids attitudes, perspectives, support, and fire. It has been and will be one of the most memorable coaching experiences of my life, so I would personally( on the behalf of Lev and Lee) say thank you to the athletes and parents of Montana Swimming. Keep up the great work.*

*Coach Neil Virtue, Kalispell*

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