

MONTANA SWIMMING

November 29, 2004

Dear Members of Montana Swimming,

Enclosed are the minutes of the Montana Swimming Semi-Annual meeting which was held in Helena on October 3, 2004. Please review the enclosed minutes to ensure they accurately reflect the meeting, and let me know before December 19, 2004 if they do not. If I do not hear from anyone by this date I will assume the minutes are satisfactory.

The current list of Montana Swimming House of Delegates and registered clubs in our LSC is included. The official contacts for each registered club are listed and will be used for all official notices. It is up to each club to notify me if any of this information changes.

Please distribute the minutes to your coaches and swimmers.

Thank you.

Jamie Bleskin

Jamie Bleskin, Secretary
Montana Swimming
Lito1swim@hotmail.com

Montana Swimming Semi-Annual Meeting Agenda

October 3, 2004

Jorgenson's, Helena, Montana

1. Roll Call
2. Review, correction, and adoption of the minutes of the last meeting
3. Report of Officers, Coordinators, and Committee Chairs
 - General Chair
 - Administrative Vice Chair
 - Program Development Vice Chair
 - Program Operations Vice Chair
 - Finance Vice Chair
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Coaches' Representative
 - Athlete Representatives
 - Safety Coordinator
 - Technical Planning Chair
 - Membership Registration Coordinator
 - Officials Chair
 - Records Chair
 - Adapted Swimming Chair
 - Policy and Procedures Manual Committee – Diane Dean
 - Program Development Committee – Lev Bates
 - Technical Planning Committee – Rick Whitson
4. Old Business
 - a. Zones – Nancy Halstrom, Marion Nielson, Di Robinson, and Larry Johnson
 - b. Convention – Di Robinson, Cascade Tuholske, Josh Hucceby, Lauren Wright, and Susan Hucceby
5. New Business
 - a. Proposals and by-law change
 - b. Budget – Larry Johnson
 - c. Nominating Committee report and elections
 - d. Host for Long Course State
 - e. Long course meet schedule and bids
 - f. Other
6. Resolutions and orders
7. Adjournment

Montana Swimming Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2004

Jorgenson's Inn, Helena, Montana

The Fall 2004 Semi-Annual Meeting of Montana Swimming was called to order at approximately 9:10 a.m on Sunday, October 3, 2004, at Jorgenson's Inn in Helena, Montana by General Chair Susan Huckleby. The Notice, which was duly and properly given, and the Agenda are attached to these minutes. A roll call sheet is also attached listing those members in attendance. A quorum was present and the meeting proceeded.

It was moved to accept the Spring 2004 Montana Swimming minutes as presented. The motion passed.

Reports of Officers:

General Chair. Susan Huckleby gave a verbal and written report which is attached to these minutes.

Administrative Vice Chair. Di Robinson had no report.

Program Development Vice Chair. Lev Bates thanked Montana Swimming for his term is completed in this position. Lev has worked with USA Swimming on PSA that will be running through Montana to promote swimming and generate membership. There are 3x5 cards included in a pack from USA Swimming that he suggest that who fills his position look at purchasing these and distributing those to elementary and preschool students. Lev would like to continue the SWIMS data base.

Programs Operations Vice Chair. Nancy Halstrom (not present) had no report.

Finance Vice Chair. Niki Bronec has been making contacts for potential sponsors and with a Mutual of Omaha agent in Hamilton.

Secretary. Jamie Bleskin had no report.

Treasurer. Larry Johnson distributed handouts, YTD Cash Flow and 12 month Cash Flow, see attached. There was a little out of the ordinary expense for equipment this year. Zones there is still some income being refunded to us so this figure is completely accurate at this time. Larry has last years tax return for review for anyone interested. Nagashima Fund is a small fund to help athletes to go to advanced meets that my not be able to afford to attend on their own.

Athlete Representatives. Lauren would like to discuss zones later. Cascade will discuss further on convention. Josh would like to promote his proposal and looking into the SWIMS program.

Safety Coordinator. Merle distributed a report, see attached. Just a reminder if you have any incidents please submit the forms.

Technical Planning Chair. Derek Whitson emailed report to Susan, see attached. Susan summarized his report and his regrets to resign from position due to future plans.

Membership Registration Coordinator. Jodi Peretti gave a verbal report. She discussed membership down about 10% this year, hoping to see increase from the Olympics. Jodi has requested for all clubs to submit their registrations electronically this year to save on time, foresee in the future this will be required. There were 862 athletes registered this year, peak number of swimmers was around 1000 swimmers approximately 4 years ago.

Officials Chair. Laney Logan elected as the new chair. Laney read Mark Model's report.

Records Chair. Laurie Brennan gave a verbal and written report which is attached to these minutes. Laurie had a copy of the Short Course and Long Course records with her if anyone would like to view them.

Adapted Swimming Chair. Diane Dean discussed Erin's accomplishments. Brian Robinson asked if we had a copy the requirements for disabled swimmers. Di Robinson wanted to make sure that this information on Erin's accomplishments was distributed to other parents with swimmer's with disabilities (www.athens2004.com and then the links for adapted swimming). Look at having these links on the Montana Swimming homepage also. There were two disabled swimmer attending Zones this year also.

Policy and Procedures Committee. Dian Dean had no report.

Program Development Committee. Lev Bates had no report.

Technical Planning Committee. No report. This is a committee for long range planning for Montana Swimming.

Old Business:

Zones Report: Lars Halstrom spoke on Nancy's behalf, 40 swimmers attended. Took 9th in this meet, highest placement. Nancy is still working on some of the financials. Lars has pictures if anyone is interested in receiving a copy. Di Robinson commended the kids on being incredible. William McCollum and Andrea Miller were captains. This was Larry Johnson's 11 year at zones, stated this is an unbelievable event for swimmers to participate as a team. Josh Huckleby would recommend to send swimmers if they qualify for the team atmosphere. There were 4 swimmers who swam an open water swim. At the May 2004 meeting it was discussed to increase the budget for Zones and this has just been paid for out of the budget so if there is any question for increase this is where it takes place. Zones in 2005 will be held in Salt Lake City, in 2006 is scheduled

in Anchorage, Alaska, pending that they can acquire a warm pool and if not there is a possibility in Fresno, California.

Convention Report: Susan Huckeby gave a report as attached. The convention was held in Florida. Di Robinson further discussed the convention and her involvement with the sessions on drug issues and background checks. Lauren discussed her attendance at the athlete meetings. Cascade thanked the chaperones. Cascade talked about the athlete meetings and communication, along with time standards and statistics. Josh attended the background check discussion. Susan commended the behavior of the athlete representatives.

Meet Paper Work: Susan wanted to remind all clubs to do your meet paperwork in a timely manner. If you want relays entered into SWIMS their names are needed, did they start in the water, etc. Mixed relays do go in and do need names. Meet recon, should be done the Tuesday prior to your meet.

New Business:

2004 Montana Swimming Proposals

The following proposals were discussed and voted upon at the Montana Swimming House of Delegates meeting October 3, 2004, in Helena.

Proposals regarding operations within Montana Swimming:

1. Proposal: Adopt new seasonal membership

Montana Swimming discontinue it's traditional, date defined seasonal membership (April 1- August 28) and adopt the new individual seasonal membership that is good for an unspecified, but continuous period of not more than 150 days commencing on the date of registration. Seasonal membership is not valid for competition at or above the zone championship.

Submitted by: Jodi Peretti

~Passed~

2. Proposal: Change Montana Swimming By-laws to reflect new seasonal membership

Change the Montana Swimming by laws to reflect the change in USA Swimming Rules regarding seasonal athlete membership.

Effective Sept. 1, 2005 for the 2006 registration year:

Montana Swimming article 602.1.2E

Individual Seasonal athlete member – An *individual* seasonal athlete member is an individual who participates or competes in the sport of swimming and has joined for one or two *unspecified but continuous* periods of time not longer than 150 days *commencing on the date of registration* in a registration year and is in good standing as an individual member of Montana swimming and *USA Swimming*.

The italicized words are additions or changes to the original article.

Reference is USA Swimming Rules and regulations section 302.2.3.

Rationale:

This new membership category gives swimmers an opportunity to “try” our sport without having to invest a full annual membership. It also allows them to participate in short course without an annual membership. This would serve high school swimmers well because they could swim before the high school season with their team, and possibly after the high school season on a seasonal membership. Ideally, our membership would increase. The fee would be the same as the current seasonal membership. (We may want to raise this fee in the future and give annual memberships a break since it is exactly half of the annual membership).

Drawbacks:

It will be difficult for the teams to keep track of when all the seasonal memberships expire since they will all be individual dates. This could result in members with expired memberships being registered for meets.

Submitted by: Jodi Peretti

Note: This is a by-law change and will require a 2/3 majority vote of the delegates present to pass.

~Passed~

3. Proposal: Allocate \$1.50 per swimmer per year for Swim Connection account

Montana Swimming shall allocate \$1.50 per registered athlete member per year for an account on the Montana Swimming page on the Swimconnection.com website

Rationale: Parents and swimmers want to know what their times are from each meet. This web site provides, at a very low cost, a great way to keep track of the times. Plus, it is a means for Montana Swimming to provide a great service to all our swimmers (and parents) who pay dues and meet fees. Montana Swimming currently has a free three-month trial period on the website. Additional information is being added to the website.

Meet contracts will be available on the site. Team can also elect to have meet entries done on line.

Log on to the site at: <http://swimconnection.com/mt>

Submitted by Susan Huckeby

Recommendation: Refer to Clubs for one (1) month evaluation and mail vote to be taken at that time.

~Passed as recommended~

4. Proposal: Allocate funds for swimmer retention program

Montana Swimming allocate up to \$500 per year for an athlete retention program, such as SWIM, run by the Montana Swimming athlete representatives with oversight by Montana Swimming.

Rationale: Minnesota Swimming implemented a very successful program called SWIM – Stick With It Minnesota – that was developed by Sarah Solfelt, an athlete representative. The program involves older athletes taking to and encouraging the younger athletes (typically 11-13 or 14 year olds) to stick with swimming as their sport during high school. The goal is to encourage the younger swimmers to stay in swimming when they hit the junior and senior high school years rather than dropping out of swimming.

The athletes would select a few meets each year to set up their information area and to visit with the athletes. These older athletes could discuss why they chose to stay in swimming, the benefits they received from swimming, their plans to swim at the college level, the different types of meets, and answer questions such as ‘What was your hardest work out? What do you do when you get stuck at a plateau and your times don’t change? How do you qualify for a college scholarship?’

The funds would cover various expenses. Minnesota Swimming gave each swimmer who attended the talks a goodie bag that included information about Minnesota swimming, a swim cap, a meet schedule, the athlete representatives contact information, and other items. In addition, Minnesota Swimming paid for a banner for the program, a canopy for use as the athletes’ gathering point, a shirt or other clothing for each of the SWIM athlete representatives, printing costs, storage containers, phone calls, postage, and other costs.

This program was discussed with the athlete representatives last year, but never implemented, as there were no funds allocated to the program. The SWIM program was presented at the USA Swimming convention last year and USA Swimming is encouraging LSC’s to implement the program.

Submitted by Susan Huckleby

~Passed as amended~

5. Proposal: List of Clubs Not Complying with Meet Sanction/Approval Requirements:

Montana Swimming will provide a list of clubs that have not complied with meet sanction/approval requirements for submitting meet referee and financial reports within the required time.

Rationale: This will provide the members of Montana Swimming with the information and allow the LSC to follow USAS Rules to not provide a sanction/approval to any club that has not fulfilled previous sanction/approval requirements.

Submitted by: Merle Gunderson

~Passed~

6. Proposal: Call all swimmers names twice at MT Swimming meets

Require all swimmers' names to be called twice before the heat would be closed or any swimmer disqualified for failure to step up at all Montana Swimming meets.

Submitted by Elizabeth Halverson

~ Did Not Pass~

Proposals regarding the Montana Swimming State Championship swim meets

7. Proposal: Men's and Women's Championship Team Trophies at state meets

The trophies for the championship men's and women's teams at the Montana Swimming State Age Group Short Course and Long Course Championship meets shall be traveling trophies purchased by Montana Swimming.

Submitted by Susan Huckleby

~Passed~

7b. Proposal:

Montana Swimming will purchase the traveling trophies for the Men's and Women's Teams Short Course and Long Course Championships up to \$100.00 each.

~Passed~

8. Proposal: Change 17 & Over age group to 17-21 at state age group meets

Change the 17 & over age group at the Montana Swimming State Age Group Championship meets to the 17-21 age group.

Rationale: By changing the age group to 17-21, our college level athletes will still be able to compete at the state age group meets, but those athletes older than 21 won't be able to compete at the age group state meet level. Age group swimming should be for our younger swimmers.

Submitted by: Susan Huckleby

~Passed~

9. Proposal: 'B' time standard for the state qualifying time standard

The "B" time standard shall be the qualifying time standard for the Montana Swimming State Age Group Championship meets.

Submitted by Brendan Smith, Mike Burton, Helen Houlihan, and Susan Huckleby

~Did Not Pass~

9b. Proposal

Montana Swimming offer a Junior Championship meet during the Short Course season. Athletes with a BB or faster time are ineligible to compete. 8 and under swimmers may compete in any event they do not have a state qualifying time. No time (NT) entries will not be allowed.

~Passed as amended~

9c. Proposal

Montana Swimming per swimmer surcharge will be the same for the Junior Championship meet as the Montana State Championship meets.

~Passed~

10. Proposal: Combined Events in Preliminaries at State Championship Meets

Combine all events in the preliminaries of the Montana Swimming Short Course and Long Course State Championship Meets. Age groups will be 12 and Under and 13-21 for the 50 and 100 Yard/Meter, 11-21 for the 200 Yard/Meter, 9-21 for the 500/400 Yard/Meter, 11-21 for the 1000/800 and 1650/1500 Yard/Meter events. The 8 and Under events will be swum as timed finals during preliminaries. The relay events will remain the same. The events will be separated by age groups, 10 and Under, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16, and 17-21 for the finals. The distance events will be swum in the meet as they are currently set.

Rationale: This will make the preliminaries run faster, should fill heats with the maximum number of swimmers and will have the older swimmers swimming during preliminaries.

Submitted by: Merle Gunderson

~Passed as amended~

11. Proposal: Distance events in prelims

All heats of the 800/1000 free and 1500/1650 free at the Montana Swimming State swim meets will be swum during prelims.

Submitted by Josh Huckleby, MT Swimming Co-Junior Athlete Representative

Rationale: I have talked to a lot of swimmers who want all the distance events swum during prelims and not in finals.

~Passed~

12. Proposal: Proof of Time from a Sanctioned Time Trial Held at the MT Swimming State Championship Level or Higher Level USAS Competition

To prove a time at the Montana Swimming State Championship Swim meets, a swimmer may use a time achieved at a sanctioned time trial.

Rationale: Currently a swimmer cannot use a time achieved at any time trial to prove a time at the Montana Swimming State Championship meets. This would allow a time achieved at these major time trials to be used to prove a time at the state meets.

Submitted by: Susan Huckleby

~Passed as amended~

13. Proposal: Non-Qualifying Swims at State Championship Meets Must Be Proven From a Meet Finals Sheet

All not qualifying swim times at Montana Swimming Short and Long Course Championship Meets must be proven from an official meet final sheet, provided by the swimmers team. All times not proven will be removed, the swimmer will be disqualified from the event and the team will be fined \$20.00 for each non proven time with the fine to go to Montana Swimming equipment repair/replacement fund.

Rationale: This will prevent teams entering swimmers in events that they haven't qualified for and make it easier for the host team to verify that the swimmer has achieved the time.

Submitted by: Merle Gunderson

~Passed~

14. Proposal: Proof of Times Submitted with Entries

Submit proof of qualifying times with the entries for State Long and Short Course Championships (i.e. before the meet begins).

Rationale: This will allow for a smoother flow during the meets. Non-qualifying times will not need to be checked and proved before posting/finalizing prelim races.

Submitted by: Niki Bronec

~Passed~

15. Proposal: Qualifying Time Must Be swum in Prelims at State Championship Meets

A qualifying time must be swum during prelims in order to advance to finals.

Rationale: This is a championship meet - the swimmers in finals should at least be able to swim a B time. Most races have enough swimmers that this is a non-issue.

Submitted by: Niki Bronec

~Did Not Pass~

Proposals regarding the Montana Swimming Zones Team:

16. Proposal: Montana Zone Funding Proposal

The Montana Swimming Zone Team shall be funded as follows:
Base allocation of \$15,000 for 30 participants, including coaches.
Coverage includes:
coaches' salary at \$50.00/day
housing
team uniform
transportation at event

For each participant over initial count of 30, allocate \$500.00 up to additional \$10,000. (Total: \$25,000 allocation) If the zone team exceeds 40 participants, the Montana Swimming board will determine if any additional funding is required.

Submitted by: Nancy Halstrom, Montana Swimming Program Operations Vice-Chair

~Did Not Pass~

17. Proposal: Montana Zone Team Member Responsibilities

Swimmers have a responsibility to represent the team. Any swimmer who leaves the meet early without coach's approval may be responsible to cover their own expenses/reimburse Montana Swimming for their costs.

Submitted by: Nancy Halstrom, Montana Swimming Program Operations Vice-Chair

~Passed~

18. Commendations for a job well done at Zones

Montana Swimming shall commend Lars and Nancy Halstrom, Brian and Di Robinson, and Marion Warner performing an excellent job as the Zone team managers and coaches. In addition, Montana Swimming shall commend all the Montana Zone team swimmers for the great job they did at zones.

Submitted by Susan Huckeby

~Passed~

- END OF PROPOSALS -

Budget: Larry Johnson distributed proposed 2004 budget including the 4 new trophies, SWIM retention \$500. Brian Robinson would like to recommend \$5000 for new equipment this year and another \$5000 next year to get both equipment trailers up to speed. Motion to increase new equipment to \$5000 – passed and approved. MAC will look in their trophies for the Long Course State Trophy. Proposed 2004 budget with amendment motion to pass and approved.

Elections:

Elections were held to fill expired terms as set forth in the Montana swimming Bylaws. All positions are 2 year terms. The new officers are:

General Chair:	Susan Huckleby
Administrative Vice-Chair:	Di Robinson
Program Development Vice-Chair:	Lisa McCarthy
Treasurer:	Larry Johnson
Records Chair:	Laurie Brennan
Technical Planning Chair:	Lev Bates

Long Course Meet Schedule: The tentative schedule is attached to these minutes.

Long Course State Meet Host will be hosted by Bozeman Swim Club July 29-31, 2005.

Montana Jr. Championship Meet will be February 26-27 hosted by FAST. Entries for State Short Course will be taken until Monday, February 28, at 7:00 p.m. following this meet, only for participants in this Jr. Championship meet.

Resolutions and Orders

It was moved, seconded and passed to destroy the ballots from the meeting.

Adjournment

With no further business, General Chair Susan Huckleby adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Bleskin
Secretary, Montana Swimming
3124 5th Avenue NW
Great Falls, MT 59404
Lito1swim@hotmail.com

Montana Swimming 2005 Tentative Long Course Schedule

Late April	FAST, Great Falls, MT (23-24 or 30-1)(SC)
April 30-May 1	KATS, Kalispell, MT** (SC)
May 7-8	KATS, Kalispell, MT** (SC)
May 13-15	BOZ, Bozeman, MT
May 14	MT Swimming House of Delegates, Bozeman HS 5:00 pm
May 27-30	All Star Camp **
June 18-19	HAV, Havre, MT
June 24-26	MAC, Missoula, MT
July 9-10	BTST, Butte, MT
July 16-17	HLST, Helena, MT
July 15-17	Big Sky State Games, Billings, MT
July 13-17	Sr. Sectionals-Blue, Federal Way, WA
July 21-24	Sr. Sectionals-Gold, Clovis, CA
July 29-31	Montana State Long Course Championship, Bozeman, MT
August 2-6	Nationals
August 9-13	Western Zones, Salt Lake City, UT

** Tentative

**Montana Swimming
Fall 2004 Meeting
Of
House of Delegates**

Sign in of those present:

Officers:

General Chair:	Susan K. Hucceby
Administrative Vice Chair:	Di Robinson
Program Development Chair:	Lev Bates
Program Operations Chair:	
Finance Vice Chair:	Niki Bronec
Secretary:	Jamie Bleskin
Treasurer:	Larry W. Johnson
Coach Representative:	
Athlete Representative:	
Sr. Rep (voting member)	Lauren Wright
Co-Jr. Rep (non-voting member)	Cascade Tuholske
Co-Jr. Rep (non-voting member)	Josh Hucceby
Safety Coordinator:	Merle Gunderson
Tech Planning Chair:	
Membership/Reg. Coordinator:	Jodi Peretti
Officials Chair:	Lanny Logan
Records Chair:	Laurie Brennan

Club Representatives:

Ashland Soaring Eagles	
Billings Aquatic Club	Jim Albano
Billing YMCA Swim Club	
Bozeman Swim Club	Lars Halstrom
Butte Tarpons Swim Team	Butch Gerbrandt
Falls Aquatic Swim Team	Erica McNamee
Hardin Otter Swim Team	
Havre Lions Swim Team	
Helena Family YMCA Dolphins	Diane Dean
Helena Lions Swim Team	Shane Syndergaard
Kalispell Aquatic Team	Chris
Missoula Aquatic Team	Brian Robinson
Missoula YMCA Swim Team	Patricia Kump
Peak Waves Swim Team	Helen Houlihan

General Chair's Report

This past year has been a great year for Montana Swimming!

David Cromwell, representing MAC, competed in the Olympic Trials this summer. Three Montana swimmers competed at the US Paralympic Trials – Erin Popovich from Butte, Jake Flaherty from Helena Y, and Rick Whitson from FAST. Erin just finished competing at the Paralympics in Athens, Greece, winning seven gold medals and set several world and Paralympic records in the S7 category.

Taylor Brugh and Lauren Wright competed at the US Open and at the ConocoPhillips National Championships.

Montana Swimming was represented by several swimmers at Senior Sectionals and numerous swimmers at Age Group Sectionals.

The largest team in recent history represented Montana Swimming at Western Zones in Redding, California. Team Montana included 40 terrific swimmers who placed ninth as a team at the meet.

This past year several state records were broken. Erica McNamee was named the Age Group Coach of the Year.

This past year was also a sad year as Montana Swimming said final good-byes to three members – Ken Newgard from Kalispell, Gary Lankford from Great Falls, and Jamie Turner from Helena. Please join with me for a moment of silence to remember these three people.

We also said good-bye to several wonderful coaches who moved on to other new jobs and one to retirement – John and Chris Klinge from Bozeman, Sherri Kenney from Hardin, Bill Sever from Butte, Rick Whitson from Great Falls, and JJ Bay from Missoula. We would like to welcome to Montana Swimming some new coaches – Chris Engledow with Kalispell, Jason James with Bozeman, and Trena Hamilton with Hardin.

Clubs are now hopefully reaping the benefits from a great Olympics for our US swimmers. Now is the time to reach out to our communities to recruit new swimmers and to expand our donor base. We learned about humility, grace, teamwork, and the great American spirit from the Olympics. The Olympics are a great way to start out our short course season. Let's make the most the Olympic moment.

I'm looking forward to a successful year for Montana Swimming. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your general chair for the past two years. If I can be of service to you, please don't hesitate to call, e-mail, or visit with me in person. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Huckleby
General Chair, Montana Swimming
October 1, 2004

Montana Swimming
Fall Meeting Report
October 2004

Dear Friends of Montana Swimming,

Montana Swimming athlete registration was down in 2004 by about 10% or 100 athletes. This trend is typical, following the Olympic trend. USA Swimming is expecting an increase this year following the Olympics.

In an effort to make our national database more accurate, and Lev's job easier, (and my job less time consuming), I have requested that all clubs submit their registrations electronically. I foresee it being mandatory in future years-either mandated by NHQ, or LSC's and hope that clubs will consider moving in that direction in the very near future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jodi Peretti
Registration Chair

United States Aquatic Sports Convention Report

By: Josh Huckleby, Junior Athlete Representative

October 3, 2004

I attended the USAS Convention Sept 14-18. At the convention I had the opportunity to learn about several things that were happening in USA swimming. One of the things that I noticed is that what are often problems in other LSC's are not problems in our LSC yet.

The first day of convention we attended the Western Zone meeting. During this meeting we discussed nominations for the various positions that were open on the board and took proposal to hold the 2006 Zones Championship meet.

During the second day things really got going. We started out with the Early Show and then an Athletes Luncheon. The Early Show was designed to introduce people that had never been to convention before to how it is run. Then during the Athletes Luncheon we got to know the athlete reps and talk about pressing issues such as Junior Nationals and its impact.

On Friday I attended the Webmasters basic class, two athlete meetings, and the beginning of House of Delegates. The webmastering course dealt mainly with tools that you could use to build more effective websites for your LSC. The first athlete meeting talked about our decision as body to recommend passing or failing legislation. The second meeting dealt with electing athletes to serve on the Athlete Executive Committee. Finally during the House of Delegates, we took nominations for the positions up for grabs within USA Swimming.

On the last day in the House of Delegates we elected officers, passed legislation, and received the State of Swimming address. Then that evening we held the USAS awards banquet in which outstanding people and athletes from Water Polo, Swimming, Synchronized Swimming, and Masters Swimming were recognized.

Finally I would like to thank Montana Swimming for sending me to this convention and I hope I will be able to return next year. Convention is an excellent opportunity for everyone to attend as you will learn so much more about swimming than is possible by just staying within your own LSC.

To Montana Swimming House of Delegates,

October 3, 2004

This is my second report as the Safety Coordinator for Montana Swimming. I am pleased to report that Montana Swimming has had only one incident reported during the Long Course season.

From January to August 2004 Montana Swimming had 5 accidents reports submitted to USA Swimming. There were 2 reports of incidents that occurred during practice and 3 that occurred during meets.

At the semi-annual meeting in May I had reported the first 4 incidents and so we have decreased the numbers for the second half of the year. I hope this trend will continue as we now start another season of swimming.

I would like to thank everyone involved in the swimming program that have put forth the effort to help reduce the number of incidents. I would also like to remind the coaches and the club safety coordinators that we still need to work together to develop a practical method that can be used during practices to help curb the number of incidents.

I would hope that this next year will be a success for the swimmers, coaches, parents and we can provide a safe and accident free program in Montana.

Respectfully submitted,

Merle L. Gunderson

Merle L. Gunderson
Montana Swimming Safety Coordinator

Attachment: USA Swimming Report of Occurrence

USA SWIMMING

Report of Occurrence

(circle one) Personal Injury/Property Damage

(Please Print Clearly)

Date of Incident: _____ LSC: _____ Name of Club: _____

Injured: Athlete Coach Official Member/other: _____ Guest/Spectator Other: _____

Name(Legal): _____ USA Swimming Athlete ID#: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: ____ Sex: M F Phone: (____) _____

Where did the incident occur?: In Water Deck On Blocks Locker Room Bleachers Hallway Stairs

Gym Outside Venue (List) _____ Other _____ Activity: Meet/Competition

Meet/Warmup Meet/Warmdown

Practice/Water Practice/Dryland Other: _____

Facility Name: _____ City/State: _____

Describe the incident: _____

Affected Body Part (Specify R or L): Head/Neck Leg/Foot Ears/Nose/Mouth/Teeth Hand/Arm Knees

Shoulder Torso Internal Other: _____

Describe the Injury: _____

On Site Care Given by: Coach Parent EMT/Paramedic Staff: _____ Other: _____ Care

Given on Site: Ice Immobilized Bandage Cleaned Other

Parent/Guardian notified: ___ No ___ Yes Comment? _____

Taken to Clinic/Hospital: No Yes If yes, location: _____

Please include names and phone numbers of three (3) witnesses: (If others, list on reverse)

Name Address Phone

Name Address Phone

Name Address Phone

Activity Supervisor: _____ (____) _____ (____)
please print Daytime Phone Evening Phone

Report Submitted By: _____ (____) _____ (____) Date: _____
please print Daytime Phone Evening Phone

Club Personnel/Club Safety Coordinator is responsible for returning completed form immediately following incident to:

USA Swimming
Risk Management Department
One Olympic Plaza
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
FAX: (719) 866-4050

and: Risk Management Services, Inc.
P. O. Box 32712
Phoenix, AZ 85064-2712
FAX: (602) 274-9138

and: LSC Safety Chairman
Merle L. Gunderson
813 29th Ave NE
Great Falls, MT 59404-1217
(406) 727-2724

Please attach any additional reports (facility reports, newspaper articles, witness statements).

October 3, 2004

Records Chair Report, MT Swimming
Submitted by Laurie Brennan

I have been keeping the records on Team Manager. I have updated copies of both SCY Records and LCM Records. There were many records set this summer with the addition of the older swimmers 50's events. Each record breaker receives a certificate from me after I receive the records application from their coach. I have the LC State records and Zones records certificates with me this weekend to hand out.

I would like to congratulate Hannah Churra from Bozeman who broke 3 state records at State and then went on to break 5 more state records at the Western Zones Meet. Wow.

If you believe your swimmer has set a record, you must fill out a Records Application and submit it to me. I will also keep track via Team Manager and let coaches know if I see a record broken. One special note: Team Manager does not flag relays for some reason. Coaches make special note and you'll have to watch for those yourselves. I am buying the new Team Manager 4.0 and hope that it will have this feature on it.

If anyone would like a copy of the current records, e-mail me at dedbrennan@montana.com and I will send you a current copy. You can also view the records on the FAST website: <http://fast.usswim.net>. They do not print out as nice but the information is there. I can also e-mail you the Records Application or you can print it out from the FAST website as well.

Meet hosts can request a current records file from me to import into your meet. This will enable you to flag records during the meet. Spectators and swimmers seem to really enjoy this information!

Any questions, please feel free to ask or if you have suggestions to make this system work better, please let me know!!

Respectfully,
Laurie Brennan
MT Swim Records Chair

October 2, 2004

Hi Susan,

I regret to inform you that I will be leaving Great Falls in order to pursue other coaching opportunities as well as marriage to a beautiful Canadian woman. I had inquired about the coaching position in Butte, but I did not pursue it. I have an interview in Mississippi and an offer to coach in Vancouver, B.C.

It would be in Montana Swimming's best interest to go ahead and elect a new Technical Planning Chairperson. I apologize for not informing you sooner.

I appreciate the opportunity to know you and work with you. I admire and respect the job that you do for Montana Swimming. You are a very fine individual, Susan. It was nice to have met you, and I hope that our paths will one day meet again. Thank you, also, for your sympathy with respect to the situation at FAST. I am sad to be leaving. Meanwhile, I will continue to support FAST and all of Montana Swimming regardless of where I spend my future.

Take care and God Bless.

Rick Whitson