

# Montana Swimming Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes

## October 7, 2007

### City Center Motor Inn, Bozeman, Montana

General Chairperson Niki Bronec called the 2007 Semi Annual Meeting of Montana Swimming to order on Saturday, October 7, 2007 at the City Center Motor Inn, Bozeman, Montana. A quorum was present and the meeting proceeded. The list of people present at the meeting can be found on the last page.

There were no minutes presented from the previous meeting. Larry Johnson motioned to defer the minutes, Brain Robinson second the motion.

#### Reports of Officers:

**General Chair** - Niki gave a verbal report regarding working together. The conference was an eye opening experience. Montana swimming should work on a new mission statement, which means the old mission statement needs to be found. Niki compiled notebooks for each position to make the job easier and better. She touched on volunteers are volunteers... everyone needs to work with them. Short term and long term goals should be worked on and set.

**Administrative Vice Chair:** Brian Robinson gave a verbal report. He stated that the policies and procedures are being worked on. He asked if anyone had copies of the old minutes that would help.

**Program Operations Chair:** Di Robinson gave a verbal report. She stated that the money for the convention was well spent. She felt the best program at the convention was the diversity workshop.

**Program Development Chair:** Susan Huckleby gave a verbal report. She recommended that programs should be geared toward 11-14 year old age group because those numbers have dropped, age levels should be restructured, some meet formats be changed, 2009 IMX meets should be considered, encourage swimmers to get on US to track IMX points, camps should be held several time per year.

**Finance Vice Chair/Coach Representative:** Helen Houlihan gave a verbal report. She discussed attempting to get funds from all communities, everyone looking their community that could be approached, all money should not be put on one "pot", support needs to be given to kids that are out there on their own at big meets.

Coaches have had good meetings and good coaches' clinic. Possibly another coaches clinic in March or April. All Stars Camp went well. Helen hopes that someone else would consider hosting the All Stars Camp which would help keep it interesting. MT Swimming license plates, Montana Swimming might need to put the money up front.

**Secretary:** no report

**Treasurer:** Larry Johnson gave a report. He stated that finances are good. Larry was questioned what the Nakashima Fund is. It is a fund to help swimmers go to advanced meets. It was requested that the money go to Niki or Larry. US Swimming performs a quarterly report, Montana Swimming does not... could be interesting.

**Athlete Representatives:** Major Robinson reported that at the conference was better this year. He was disappointed that Michael Phelps couldn't bother showing up to receive his award for Athlete of the Year.

Casey Robinson stated that the past year went well, the conference was good, Zones team place 4<sup>th</sup> and several records were broken.

**Safety Coordinator:** Steven Bradford asked in the case of an accident or incident be sure to fill out a report of occurrence form. This Helps US Swimming to improve and track things. Send these forms to Steven. Please stress to swimmers to take showers because of the parasite Cryptosporidium. It takes five times the chlorine to kill off the parasite. Red Cross is releasing new programs/class for Coaches Safety.

**Technical Planning Chair:** No report

**Membership/Registration Coordinator:** Lanni Jacobson reported 1200 registers total, 968 year round. Registration forms are posted on the MT web page. Background checks are a must. It was suggested that coaches must check in with meet referee or they don't get their meet packet. Need to make it more clear who is who.... Non-athletes and coaches.

**Officials Chair:** Randy Vook reported at the officials meeting it was recommended that each official try to recruit 2 new people. There were seven officials at the meeting so he will call of nominations via email. Officials' new web page will make it possible to see who is certified.

**Records Chair:** Laurie Brennan gave a verbal report. 20 Short course and 18 long course records were broken.

### **Old Business**

**Zones:** Kids did great in New Mexico. 2008 will be held in Mt Hood. 2009 will be in Hawaii. Please keep supporting Zones.

#### **Convention:**

Niki reported that she appreciated meeting many other general chair people. Zones boundaries to be looked at before LSC boundaries in regards to team size and ability.

Susan reported that the sport medicine information regarding shoulders was good.

Josh: New hand book for general chair

Larry stated that he had attended many conventions. At this convention although negative, he felt important was the fact that Michael Phelps couldn't bother showing up for the highest award. Larry feels that top athletes have been too commercialized.

**Pins:** Susan was supposed to order pins.

**Break: 11:20 to 11:30**

## **New Business**

**Appointment of Adaptive Chair:** Niki would like to appoint Ellen Parchen. Steven motioned for this appointment and Brian 2<sup>nd</sup> and it was approved.

**Board Meeting (not HOD):** It was stated that the only way to do this is to have a commitment from everyone and to be productive not just waste of time. Maybe do it by phone or alternate between phone and in person. More discussion after the election of board members. It was suggested that head coaches meet with board to hear each other.

**Consent Agenda:** Oral reports to general chair prior to meeting in writing, then be sent out to everyone, in writing, then HOD meetings might be more efficient.

**Committee Application Forms:** These applications are available on the web. It is encouraged to get more people involved. Notebooks will be updated.

**Budget:** Steven motioned to do budget after proposals, Garry 2<sup>nd</sup>, was approved.

Brian motioned to consent of agenda, Bill 2<sup>nd</sup> and was approved.

**Break for lunch 11:45. Started again at 12:50**

**Proposal 21:** Removed/combined with #3

10 minute time limit for each proposal.

### **Proposal 1: Failed**

Brian stated there are many good coaches, why pick out this particular one, would not be fair to all the others. Larry agreed, this would open it up to where board would have to assess each coach (too much). Susan stated that Mike Burton is a phenomenal coach and does not want to let him slip through the cracks. Merl suggested writing a letter of appreciation/thank you to him.

### **Proposal 2: Failed**

### **Proposal 3: Failed**

Susan: add in line 5, Montana swimming will set the priced for the program. Merl stated concerns about certain things that happen at certain meets, so if MT swimming takes over, then people will know ahead of time who is in charge. It was suggested that there be an application of people so qualified people are in charge. Nancy cautioned... host team may have lots of advertising and more expense of printing program.

Susan: add line 4 also add pool rent. Steven motioned to add amendments, was 2<sup>nd</sup> and approved. Larry questioned is it to make revenue for MT swimming or the individual club? Merl suggested get qualified people running meet then the expense will be more on MT swimming. Larry suggested just put in on the meet host to put out applications for qualified people. He is concerned if revenue is taken away from host, will this cause loss of incentive to host a meet. Dale questions how is it a win win situation. If fundraising isn't part of it why would any one want to host a meet. Susan stated it is not slamming anyone, might help the host team better financially if the meet isn't successful... MT would/could absorb the loss. Susie is against the proposal. She stated if the meet is not a good

fundraiser, parents may not be willing to put in all the time and work to make the meet a success. Dale motioned to fail, Susie 2<sup>nd</sup> and was failed.

**Proposal 4: Passed**

Brendon motioned to pass, it was 2<sup>nd</sup> and passed

**Proposal 5A: Withdrawn by Susan**

These are just to protect LCS from embezzlement

**Proposal 5B-G: Tabled until May meeting**

Gary recommends not to post the annual audit /review on the web. Steven motioned for Gary recommendation, was 2<sup>nd</sup>. Merl motioned to table all of it until May meeting. Get the by-laws straightened out and then have it ready. Brian 2<sup>nd</sup> and was passed.

**Proposal 6A-B: Failed**

Susan suggested posting a budget ahead of time so everyone can get an idea as to where money is going... to try and alleviate complaints. Di disagreed stating that it is very hard to write a budget because of the nature of the situation... how many kids, suit costs, motel costs... it would just be very, very difficult. Larry stated that it would not be a very specific budget, just a basic one. Laurie said just let people see past records. Brian motioned to fail 6 A & B, Di 2<sup>nd</sup>, by show of hands it failed.

**Proposal 7B: Withdrawn by Merl**

**Proposal 7A: Failed**

Make MT Swimming HOD meeting a one day meeting. Merl explained that in the past it used to be Saturday to hash everything over, Sunday is short and simple.

Amendment: change first Sunday to first Saturday. Failed

Question called as written. Failed

**Proposal 8: Passed**

Brandon questioned why we need to spend money for evaluation. Susan stated to bring someone in during state meet, many officials get evaluated at once: a chance to sharpen up all our officials. Patty stated that evaluation can take place else where but there are limited positions so it is more difficult to get the evaluation. Susan stated that a person maybe not be able to be evaluated for all positions at one time. Susie questioned what is included in the expense. Larry stated airfare and motel. Merl stated that it is more cost effective to bring someone in as to sending official out. Gary suggested anything to improve MT officials the better.

**Proposal 9: Failed**

Strike "and each referee"

**Proposal 10: Passed**

Display of credentials on their person makes it easier to identify that they are legal. Lars stated opposition because there is not a true closed deck. Steven stated that is it the clubs responsibility as to having a close deck.

**Proposal 11A-B: Tabled and approved to go to committee.**

The details of this proposal should be part of Policy and procedures. Casey stated concern about the wording, that it should be performance based. It was proposed that the athlete nominate this but can't

be done at this time. Shirly stated the judge is the clock, it is similar to MVP awards. Kirk asked if this can be placed on a committee. Gary comments that it appears to be two different issues. Di proposed it go to committee and athletes. Di motioned this be tabled and Bill 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Niki will appoint a committee.

**Proposal 12: Passed**

Kirk explained past experience that the selected head zone coach would then select staff.

**Proposal 13: Failed**

This proposal is a policy and procedure thing...trying to define age groups.

**Proposal 14A: Withdrawn**

**Proposal 14B-C: Failed**

Just trying to help. Helen purchased coaches newsletter and feels this isn't necessary. Merl stated that this proposal is similar to proposal #1, putting money out to recognize coaches. Gary stated that US Swimming and ASCA do not do this. Di stated that this financial burden should not be on MT swimming. It should be the individual club responsibility. Larry motioned to fail, Brian 2<sup>nd</sup> and failed.

**Proposal 15: Passed**

Susan stated that US Swimming has developed Catch the Spirit program targeting different groups. Camp(s) will encourage kids and coaches to stick around longer. Dale questioned if MT can afford it. Larry answered yes if we operate in a deficit. Brendon questioned can we have our asst. coaches do the camp. Di questioned if this might take away from clubs running clinics. Garry stated that you club applies to the development committee. Casey questioned why limit the age and why not support clubs clinics instead of starting more clinics/camps. Susan stated that these are different. Larry questioned why this body needs to vote on this as to let the development committee do this.  
Amend to MT Swimming request up to \$2500/year. Di questioned if there is money for this. Larry stated that he hopes for more revenue but looking back over the past three years, no there is not enough money, hopefully the committee will find a way to find the money.

**Proposal 16: Withdrawn**

**Proposal 17: Withdrawn**

It was suggested to start looking at shorter meets for our non-elite swimmers, we might have more of them attend.

**Proposal 18: Withdrawn**

**Proposal 19: Passed**

**Proposal 20: Failed**

**Proposal 21: Withdrawn**

**Proposal 22: Passed**

Amend to change to 10 and under and 11 and over. Motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> and passed  
Dale stated that the younger swimmers will not have a break. Gary suggested run all relays first in the finals. Motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> and passed

**Proposal 23: Failed**

Merl motioned to fail. Helen stated if B times are removed this would give more rest time between prelims and finals. Kirk agrees and it would give the kids more push to attain BB times. Susie agrees with the encouragement of attaining better times. Brendon spoke against stating that he feels it would be bad to cut B kids out. He suggested look at it in another year. Dale spoke against that cutting out competition the swimmers would lose the emotional prestige of saying "I am going to state" Bill stated that the addition of another lane will help speed things up. Shirly suggested going back to old school... prelims and finals. Kirk recommended that the Technical planning committee look at options for changes down the road.

**Proposal 24 (both concepts): Tabled for further development and move to committee by May**

Brendon asked for more explanation. Gary did explain. Brain stated concern about cut to swim. Bill is concerned if a team has its own relay team... will that relay team stay together. Other questions: How will it be governed? What about 501c3? Workman's comp? Liability? Are coaches employees of Team MT? Who is making the decisions?

**Break: 3:25 to 3:35****Long Course Schedule:****Long Course State:**

Vote for Bozeman or Missoula

Bozeman won... will host 2008 Long Course State Meet

**Election of Officers:**

Kirk requested that the job description of each office be read.

**Secretary:** Brian nominates Alice Judd, Brendon 2<sup>nd</sup> and was approved

**Program Operations:** Di nominates Jenny Tornitore, Brian 2<sup>nd</sup> and was approved.

**Chief Finance Officer:** Brian nominates Casey Cummings, Steven 2<sup>nd</sup> and was approved.

**Safety Coordinator:** Laurie nominates Susie Thompson, was 2<sup>nd</sup> and was approved.

**Technical Planning:** Jenny nominates Team Gustoff, Helen nominate Kirk. Team Gustoff was 2<sup>nd</sup> and was approved.

**Membership:** Jenny nominates Lanni Jacobson, was 2<sup>nd</sup> and was approved.

**Budget:** Larry listed the decisions made during the meeting.

Money for an evaluator

Program development request \$3000.00

All Stars \$1300.00

This creates -\$3280.00

Larry encourages everyone to get their own timing system. Larry's budget is proposed for worst case, hoping for the best case. Gary proposed amendment of the budget as is, Merl 2<sup>nd</sup> and was passed.

Helen spoke regarding Old Business of License plates. She proposed that MT swimming pay upfront the fee of \$4000.00 to get the plates going. She states that once they are out there, people will purchase them. HOD approved up to \$5000.00 for board to use to get it off the ground.

**360 Comments:** Everyone to make 1 comment, good or bad, about the meeting.

Susan gave an update on Lev.

**Meeting Adjourned: 4:14**

**Montana Swimming  
Spring 2007 Meeting  
Of  
House of Delegates**

Sign in of those present:

**Officers:**

General Chair:	Niki Bronec
Administrative Vice Chair:	Brian Robinson
Program Development Chair:	Susan Huceby
Program Operations Chair:	Di Robinson
Finance Vice Chair:	Helen Houlihan
Secretary:	_____
Treasurer:	Larry Johnson
Coach Representative:	Helen Houlihan
Athlete Representative:	_____
Sr. Rep (voting member)	_____
Jr. Rep (non-voting member)	Kasey Robinson
Safety Coordinator:	Steven Bradford
Tech Planning Chair:	_____
Membership/Reg. Coordinator:	Lanni Jacobson
Officials Chair:	Randy Vook
Records Chair:	Laurie Brennan

**Club Representatives:**

Ashland Soaring Eagles	_____
Billings Aquatic Club	Brendon Smith
Billings YMCA Swim Club	_____
Bozeman Swim Club	Gary Crowe
Butte Tarpons Swim Team	Bill Wheeler
Falls Aquatic Swim Team	Sussie Thompson
Hardin Otter Swim Team	_____
Havre Lions Swim Team	Merel Gunderson
Helena Family YMCA Dolphins	_____
Helena Lions Swim Team	Kirk Ermels
Kalispell Aquatic Team	Alice Judd
Missoula Aquatic Team	Jennifer Tornitore
Missoula YMCA Swim Team	Patricia Kump
Peak Waves Swim Team	Helen Houlihan
Wave Ryders Swim Club	Deidre Loyda

