

Montana Swimming Semi-Annual Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2009

City Center Hotel, Bozeman, Montana

General Chairperson Niki Bronec called the 2009 Semi-Annual Meeting of Montana Swimming to order on Sunday, October 4, 2009, at The City Center Hotel in Bozeman, Montana. The list of attendees and written reports are attached to the original minutes. A quorum was present and the meeting proceeded.

Minutes for the spring 2009 meeting were approved.

Change: Athlete representatives were not able to get together until after conference.

Motion: Suspend the rule of a 30 day minimum for getting proposals submitted.

Passed

Deidre Loyda reported that the two clinics went well and plan to have two more novice clinics this year.

Montana is doing ok with the number of officials but need more. The goal is for each team to get two new officials every year or 10% of the number of swimmers.

Old Business

Zones: 14 athletes attended the zones meet in Hawaii, 9 of which it was their first time. Over all they swam and represented Montana well.

It was recommended that in the future it be more organized as a team meet with everyone staying at the same motel. A trip organizer at the meet would be helpful to organize and juggle things happening at the meet. We need to find more kids to go to the meet. We need to do a better job planning ahead. Montana did adopt two swimmers during the meet.

Convention: (Single most important thing per person)

Deidre Loyda: thank you to Niki for appointing Deidre as a representative. Russell Mark does web casts, has great film footage and observation on the fly.

Larry Johnson: Legislation that came up from the floor stressing the importance of proper placement of the back stroke flags to prevent head strikes/injuries. It was suggested that if the flags are not in the proper place there will be a fine.

October 1st will be the adoption of the new rules on suits.

A new senior championship meet will take place the following week after the Zones meet.

Andrew and Keegan: Convention was a lot of fun. This year was easier for Andrew as he knew what was going on. This year was more interactive which helped to understand what was going on. There was an activity using acronyms which helped learn more about US Swimming. A Cyber Crime Unit was brought in to discuss on-line predators and how bad it is. Andrew won a book. House of Delegates was cool but was over fast. There were good discussions. The best was about diving, having to be registered to do starts/dives, and discussed alternating vs tweaking a dive.

This was Keegan's first convention. Once he got in the groove, it was cool.

Larry: Both boys left the convention realizing how much bigger a role the athletes need to take.

Timing Equipment: Conference call was made on September 13. Bids which were mailed to Niki and Merle were opened at this time. Missoula, Billings and Bozeman gave bids. Missoula was high bidder for all equipment and won the bid.

Coaches Representative: Deidre Loyda was appointed as Coaches Representative until March, 2010. There will be an election for Coaches Representative at the coaches meeting at the short course state meet.

New Business

Budget: Flow sheet shows total cash balance.

Larry presented the 2010 budget proposal which included Deidre's proposal which is in the expense side of it. Larry suggested that we go through the proposals before the budget is approved. We will go back to the budget.

Long Course State Host: Bozeman won the bid to host LC State meet.

Long Course State Date: July 30 - August 1, 2010

Long Course Meet Schedule: passed

Election of Officers:

Program Operations: Sheila Potkonjak (accept by acclamation)

Secretary: Alice Judd

Financial Chair: Curt Jacobson

Technical Planning Chair: Kirk Ermels (accept by acclamation)

Safety Coordinator: Sussie Thompson (accept by acclamation)

Adaptive Chair: Ellen Parchen (accept by acclamation)

This area should be opened up to get more people to help and participate. It is a bigger venue than just 19 and under.

Membership/Registration Coordinator: Lanni Jacoboson

Information Technology Position: This is a nonvoting position. The duties are to maintain the Montana Swimming web page and swims data base. Lisa McCarthy will no longer hold this position. It does take a lot of time. Maybe it should be a paid position. This should be in the proposals for the next meeting.

It was suggested that the position be split up. One person handles the web page and another person handles the swims data base.

Information Technology Position: John Heryla and Susan Huckeby. Niki will talk with both John and Susan to make sure this will work. Via phone Susan agreed to this position.

It was suggested to thank Lisa with a gift certificate or something.

It was also suggested that Montana Swim Board contact information be made available on the MT web page and also add coaches tab for information.

Proposals

Proposal 1: Even years – sum of \$2500 for All Star Camp and \$500 for Coaches Clinic. Odd years – sum of \$500 for All Star Awards and \$2500 for Coaches Clinic.

Submitted by: Montana Coaches

Motion to accept, 2nd

Discussion: why alternate? To try to get the best we can, with this proposal there will be more money every other year instead of less money every year.

Passed

Proposal 2: The funds raised from the sale of the timing equipment and timing trailers shall be held in savings for a minimum of one year. At the Fall 2010 MT Swimming House of Delegates meeting, proposals may be accepted regarding how to disperse the funds.

Submitted by: Susan Huckeby and Larry Johnson

A question was raised on what effect will there be on the budget with the the fees from the meets that used the state timing equipment.

Motion to accept, 2nd

Passed

Proposal 3: Late Club Registration Fine – \$100 fine for any club that their registrations have not been received by December 15 of each year.

Rationale: If I don't receive them until the last two weeks it can cause problems due to the holiday season. I need time to process them by December 31. In the past I have had clubs send me their registrations for the club, coaches and swimmers after the 31st of December. When I cannot process them until after the beginning of the new year, it makes extra work. It is especially difficult if there is a meet at the beginning of January, as I have to have the club registered in order for all the swimmers to compete at that meet for their club. I am hoping this just encourages the club registrars to get their registrations in to me in a timely manner and not make the end of the year so hectic. They receive their registration packets in the beginning of September so that would give them at least 3 months to get their registrations together.

Submitted by: Lanni Jacobson

Motion to accept, 2nd

Amend as Renewal Registration Fine... of club, coaches and athletes.

Amend to December 1st.

Both amendments passed.

Passed

Proposal 4: That 15-19 age groups be consolidated and scored together at all State Championship meets unless and until after 2 full seasons (4 state meets) more than 8 swimmers in all events in the 15-16 and 17-19 age groups enter.

Rationale: The purpose of this proposal is to make these two age groups more competitive and less of an embarrassment to our LSC. We had events in both age groups at the past two state meets where only one or two swimmers entered and simply dogged the races for lack of anyone else to race. This is not what a championship meet is or should be. If we truly want to encourage top-level

swimming in Montana, these two age groups need to improve their competitiveness greatly. Frankly, at the current time, the separation of these two age groups makes many of these events a joke and a disservice to those swimmers looking for a race.

Submitted by: Dave Berkoff

Motion to fail, 2nd

Discussion: Small LSC want more competition for 15-19 year old age group. Need coaches to work on getting more kids there.

Swimmers just need to do their best, doesn't matter who is next to them.

Need to look at several things... if swimmers need to be at peak for bigger meet 4 days after the state meet.

Maybe a committee needs to be formed to take a closer look. This is a band aid approach. It is not promoting the fastest swimmers. We need to find a way to raise the ceiling, need to keep looking for a solution.

Dave withdrew the proposal and defers it to Technical Planning.

Proposal 5: I propose to move the Senior Recognition Day from Long Course State to Saturday of Short Course State. The Athlete Reps would be responsible for obtaining the information necessary for the biography on each senior. This is to allow more people to see and recognize these athletes. It also allows all these seniors to attend. Some either do not swim during the Long Course season, or they leave Montana before the state meet.

Submitted by: Andrew Bovard

Motion to accept, 2nd

Discussion: very sound

Passed

- 1- **Proposal 6:** A point system is needed for determining who the "Athlete of the Year" is. In May, there was a huge controversy over this issue. As Reps, Keegan and I Propose the following point system:
 - 100pts- Olympic Trials
 - 50pts-Long Course Nationals
 - 40pts-Nationals/US Opens
 - 30pts-Junior Nationals
 - 15pts-Senior Sectionals/Junior National "B" Cuts

12pts-Zones/Age Group Sectionals
5pts-State Cuts
1pt-State Bonus Cuts

All of these Points are applied to each individual event that a certain time Standard is met in. (ex. 3 Junior National times= 90 pts). This is to ensure that if a person has a Junior National cut in one event but only state times in everything else, this person will lose to somebody with 6 Senior Sectional times. It also provides a better look at whether somebody is a truly well rounded athlete or just a one race wonder.

Submitted by: Andrew Bovard

Motion to accept, 2nd

Discussion:

Amend top 16 on ranking.

Amend date prior May 1st to April 30th of current year

100 pt would top 16 national in age group limit to 1 ranking

50 pt top 8 at age grouped sectionals limit 1 ranking

Ask athlete to look more details

Whoever nominates the individual needs to come up with the points

What about disabled athletes? Need modifications for them.

Withdraw Dave's add.

Pass as is stated.

Passed

Budget: Approved

Motion to destroy ballots, passed

Motion to adjourn, passed