

Midwestern Board of Directors

March 21, 2007

Teleconference Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 p.m. Via conference call. Those present were Paul Kemp, Mary Losee, Holly Beeman, Jack Jackson, Bruce Schomburg, Tom Beck, Brian Jensen, Lynn Weaver, Mary Kocsis, David Nelson, Kelly Kunkel, Al Johnson, Mike Jacobson, Betty Kooy, and Patrick Rowan joined late.

Additional Agenda Items: Request for discussion of Zone and All Star team travel.

Minutes: Motion was made to accept the minutes as distributed. **Seconded. Approved.**

Treasurer's Report: Mary Kocsis gave a summary statement. Mary Losee will send complete statement to BOD. To date \$20,170 of splash fees have been deposited. All Star Expense to date is \$19,065.68 with income of \$15,509. There have been three requests filed for Sectional reimbursement. No check has been received from Action Accents yet for the short course meet sales. The checking account is healthy and there is money in savings. Mike Jacobson suggested that some of the funds in the checking account be put in laddered CDs. **Motion** was made to leave the amount budgeted for the quarter plus \$10,000 in the checking account and put the rest in laddered CDs. **Seconded.** There was a question on what those amounts should be. Mike will look at the Quarterly Budgets and make that determination. Motion **passed.**

Committee Reports:

Officials: Paul Kemp reported that the new officials' shirts have been distributed. The name tags have arrived. There will be a clinic in Kearney this weekend and he will distribute some more stuff. There will be another clinic in Omaha in a couple of weeks. Right now there are 91 officials on the rolls. There is also a clinic in San Antonio the 2nd weekend in June for the officials' chairs. **Motion** was made to send the newly elected officials chair (elected in April) or designate to the San Antonio clinic. **Seconded. Passed.** (USA Swimming picks up hotel and food – MW is responsible for travel.)

Technical: Bruce Schomburg reported on the request for change of dates for the spring Sectional meet. Docker Hartfield presented the recommendation to the coaches at the Sectional meet. No motion was made. No action was taken. (Snow caused many teams to not make the trip to Sectionals.) It was recommended that the coaches in the Section be surveyed again and that MW look at other ideas and options, and perhaps bring it back at the summer meet. Suggestions were made regarding the timeline of the MW short course season – DII before the state HS meet, DI on top of sectionals, 14 & U meet...all ideas and comments.

Bruce also discussed the recent DI survey. Some insight was gained. 26 coaches and 75 athletes (11 and over) participated. Qualifying times particularly for the distance events need to be looked at. The change to DST during the meet seemed to be a problem to some. Swimmers were critical of the officiating. Re awards, medals won out by a slight edge. There were no 'strong disagrees'. The issues that did arise can be dealt with by the Sanction Committee.

Senior: Brian Jensen proposed changes in reimbursement for swimmers attending National level meets. Because of the change in the National meet format, Brian proposed that Juniors, US Open, Long and Short course Nationals be reimbursed at \$500 per athlete for those meets, with ¼ of that amount for a swimmer qualifying as part of a relay. **Motion** was made to accept proposal.

Seconded. Approved. New amounts will take effect September 1, 2007. Betty will make the necessary changes to the reimbursement form and the Redbook.

Safety: David Nelson reported that 11 incidents in MW had been reported in the last year. Most were 'little' things.

Executive Secretary Report: Betty reported a successful short course championship. Al Johnson set the meet up (training exercise) and there were no major glitches. Extra awards have been ordered. Al has proved most of the non-qualifying swims. The Pre-sanction committee has the summer meets and will meet shortly.

Registration/Times: Al is going to Tucson April 20-22 for a joint Registration/Times workshop so that he will be more familiar with all of the operations. (Betty will be gone April 5-10 to San Francisco and April 19-24 to Chicago.) Packets for the summer only clubs were mailed on Monday. Mini packets were sent to the rest of the clubs. Registration numbers are as follows: 1693 athletes, 94 coaches, 92 officials, 68 other, 24 clubs. Free background check time continues until March 23. MW coaches MUST complete background checks between April 2 and 13. There are still 55 who need to complete the check. Cost is \$20 done online with a credit card. Betty will send reminders.

Old Business:

The proposal for election of head All Star and Zone coaches needed more criteria. Lynn Weaver proposed that candidates for head coaches for these teams have traveled on at least one MW team trip as an assistant. He also recommended that the nominated senior Coach of the Year be primarily a coach of 'seniors' at the LSC, Zone, Sectional, and National levels. The nominated Age Group Coach should be predominantly a 14 & Under coach at the LSC and Zone level. Each club will get two votes – one for Age Group Coach, one for Senior Coach. The policy concept was approved at the January BOD meeting awaiting these specifics. Question was asked as to how far back we go for 'travel experience'. **Motion** was made to accept the election procedures as proposed and amended. **Seconded. Approved.**

New Business:

A **recommendation** by the Executive Secretary (in capacity as Times person) was put forward for dealing with times from Y meets.

- Hard copy of Request for Approval must be received 6 weeks prior to the meet.
- Request for Approval must be accompanied by a \$25 fee.
- The Referee and at least 2 Stroke and Turn officials must be USA officials.
- The meet file must include correct USA ID numbers for all USA registered swimmers.
- MW will load results into SWIMS for those with USA ID numbers.
- The \$4.00 'splash fee' will be required if the swimmers wants to use the times for MW Top 8 etc.

Motion was made to accept the above. **Seconded. Approved.** (With caveat that suspect times would be thrown out.)

A **recommendation** from the Registration Chair was put forward regarding MW and how it deals with 'satellite' clubs. SWIMS has the capability of including 'satellites' which will allow for a Club Search on the USA Swimming site to find a particular club in a particular city, even if the main club is not located in that city.

- Recommend separate club application with all requested information along with a \$50 annual fee be required of each 'satellite club' that is not a club entity unto itself.

Motion was made to accept this proposal, to take effect at the beginning of the 2008 registration year. **Seconded. Approved.**

Recommendation was made that Zone and All Star travel become the responsibility of the individual rather than MW. Discussion of liability issues followed. Funding etc were discussed.

Motion was made that Zone and All Star travel become an individual responsibility. **Seconded. Passed.** The particulars of the policy will be dealt with by a committee of Patrick, Brian, Mary, Betty, and Kelly and a proposal will be drawn up to be presented at the April HOD.

General Chair: Board of Review change recommendations were brought forth by Mary Losee. These recommendations are the result of meetings that Mary and Peggy attended at the National Convention. The following are the recommendations:

- The Board of Review procedure shall include an investigative panel that is totally separate from the Board of Review panel. The investigative panel would be charged with investigating any charges or allegations leveled against a USA member coach, athlete, or non-athlete member.
- The investigative panel would be charged with investigating and making recommendations as to the validity of said allegations and make the recommendation to the Board of Review as to whether these allegations need to be addressed by a BOR or whether there is no foundation to the allegations.
- If the panel determines that there is sufficient evidence to call a BOR, then the charges will be passed on to the Chair of the BOR.
- It is recommended that the BOR should include the following: Past General Chair(s), Officials Chair, an Attorney. The remainder of the BOR would be comprised of former MW Board members to make a total panel of five with two alternates.
- The terms would be indefinite.
- Athlete representation, although highly recommended, is not part of this proposal due to the fact that not many athletes understand the complexity of a BOR and usually have very little input.

Motion was made to accept this proposal with changes to the distributed copy (incorporated above). **Seconded. Approved.** The recommendation will be forwarded to the House of Delegates at their April meeting.

Nominating Committee: Paul put forth the slate as he has it. Nominations include: Age Group Vice Chair – Dave Baird, Lisa Ellis; Registration Chair – Betty Kooy; Technical Chair – Patrick Rowan; Officials Chair – Candy Hemmer, Scot Sorensen; Safety Chair – David Nelson; Delegates at Large (3 to be elected) – Bruce Schomburg, Jackie Rowe, Jeanie Neal, Greg Gulcher, Stefanie LaBombard, Randy Goldenstein with alternates Steve Marchitelli, Marsha Ketcham, Karly Hamersky, Pat Griffin.

General Chairs Meeting: Meeting is May 20-22 at the Hilton in Omaha. Mary will attend.

Update on Trials: Jack reported that tickets will go on sale – early to alumni, athletes, etc. He is requesting that the MW BOD have a hospitality suite at the Hilton for both the Grand Prix and Trials meets. He also is recommending that MW purchase a Box of seats to possibly be used as a fund raiser. Discussion ensued. **Motion** was made to purchase a box for Trials. **Seconded.** Mike J recommended a second box. **Motion to accept amendment. Seconded. Approved as amended. Motion** to purchase two boxes **approved. Motion** was made to obtain a suite for both Grand Prix and Trials. **Seconded. Approved.**

Question was asked regarding a committee for the Hall of Fame. Mary will appoint.

Motion to adjourn at 10:11 p.m. **Seconded.** Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Kooy, secretary pro tem