

**Midwestern Swimming, Inc**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**April 18, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 8 pm via conference call. Board members present were Brian Schaenzer, Mary Losee, Betty Kooy, Lynn Weaver, Colin Krysl, Erik Wiken, Scot Sorensen, Docker Hartfield, Gretchen Lindner, Bruce Schomburg, Mitch Mattis, Linda Renner, Dawn Bowen, Nathan Kerby, and Kyra Lindholm. Also present were Al Johnson, Ryan Theil, and Tammy Walstad.

**Consent Agenda Reports:**

Additional information added to the registration report by Betty included information regarding expiring credentials/background checks which included about 4 pages, mostly coaches, that are due April 30. The old background check if done before December 31 will be good for 1 year.

**Motion** was made to accept the consent agenda reports. **Seconded. Passed.**

**New Business:**

*Financial Update:*

The treasurer review files that were emailed to board members. Overall the budget is a little ahead of what was anticipated. There is some variance with the All Star Meet and the 2010 Zone Meet. The one page summary report is very helpful. If there are any questions, please email the treasurer. **Motion** was made to accept the treasurer's reports. **Seconded. Passed.**

*Coach's Survey:*

Erik Wiken reviewed the coach's survey regarding the short course championship meets. There were 52 respondents. 1) 2/3 respondents favored one weekend. 2) Less than 50% supported lengthening the season if UNL could be used; 25% would like to keep 13 & O and 12 & U on separate weekends. 3) If two weekends, should 12 & U be before the 13 & O – 30 yes, 31 no. 4) Perception of 8 & U session – fun things were nice. a fair number of respondents were not pleased. 5) 8 & U as part of the championship meet - 34 yes; 18 said 10 & U. 6) If one weekend 12 & U would be timed finals – 32 still supported one weekend; 20 – no. 7) Choices were given regarding the necessity of two weekends if the LSC grows. 8) Regarding review of the meet format - review every 2 years – 40%; review every 4 years – 19%; review every year – 40%. 9) Would you fill out survey for both long and short course? 51 out of 52 would complete survey. 10) Would coaches be willing to brainstorm (meeting together) 43 yes, 9 no.

A fair number of respondents were not happy with the 8 & U format. In the future a paper version of the survey will be available. For the first time 50% response rate was very good.

Tammy Walstad, parent, was invited to give comments regarding the format for the 8 & U meet. Her response was very positive. The swimmers at the meet were loving the moment and having fun with friends and getting excited about the chance to win a prize. Photo opportunities might be a nice addition. Tammy's swimmer achieved best times and wore her participation medal proudly. Thanks was given to Tammy for sharing her perspective.

#### *Review of 2011 Long Course Championship Meet:*

The LC meet will have 10 & U so that a qualified 8 & U would be able to compete. The Qualifier Meet will be the big meet for the 8 & U age group. The meet order will change slightly for the LC Meet with all heats of the distance events in the morning with the exception of the 400 free and 400 IM where the fastest heats will be swum with finals in the evening. Times must be proven by the end of the session or swimmer will not be seeded into finals. The 400 relays will be in the morning sessions with the 200 relays as the last event in finals. Comment was made regarding the 10 & U change – much research has gone into making this decision and it is based on recommendations from USA Swimming.

#### *2012 Meet Schedule and Meet Bidding:*

The sanction committee is trying to address some challenges in the 2012 scheduling process. Meet formats need to address the needs of different level of swimmers. The large number of meets with 'open' events are resulting in too many entries. MW also needs to provide opportunities for swimmers to swim fast and also attract clubs from others LSCs so that there is 'new' competition. Meets will be defined using the NAG Time Standards (NTS, B-, BB+, etc). Additional P/F meets need to be in the schedule. Each month should offer at least one meet opportunity to each level of swimmer. Long course needs at least one elite meet (BB+).

The bid process will be more of an open process. MW needs to try to increase meet revenues so clubs can feel financially rewarded. Two qualifiers may be part of the schedule because of numbers. High School swimmers are looking for the next level of meets with more competition. MW is working toward a 2-yr scheduling process.

#### *LC Zone Team:*

Erik Wiken review his report and cost analysis of team travel vs parent provided travel to Topeka for the 14 & U Zone Meet in August. As Open Water is on Thursday, team travel would necessitate five hotel nights with the cost being prohibitive. The recommendation is not to do team travel for this meet because of the mounting costs. MW has budgeted \$1500 toward this meet. **Motion** was made to make the Zone trip a parent provided travel trip. **Seconded. Passed.** Discussion included finances, swimmers needed financial assistance (an application process is needed), and LSC reimbursement. (Current policy is to reimburse \$100 for the *Senior Zone Meet.*) **Motion** was made for MW to fund at the \$1500 level and charge each swimmer \$125.00. **Seconded. Passed.**

#### *Review of contemplated changes to meet entry fees and splash fees:*

There have been discussions and requests regarding the current fee structure to make meets viable for clubs and generate enough income to warrant the effort. The last fee increase was in 2004-2005. A spreadsheet was provided with recommended increases. Increase from \$5.00 to \$6.00 for MW surcharge is recommended for all meets except the MW championship meets which would be \$12.00. Changes were recommended for various levels of meets. Discussion about per-event fees concluded that this type of charge is a bit difficult to set up. Host club is currently able to apply to the General Chair for additional fees if necessitated by facility charges. Some would rather see a flat fee. **Motion** was made to recommend to increase MW surcharge to \$6.00 per swimmer per meet. **Seconded. Passed. Motion** was made that this would be effective for Short Course 2011-2012. **Seconded. Passed.** (Recommendations will be brought to the House of Delegates.)

Question was asked regarding financial assistance for All Star and Zone swimmer. A task force of Mary, Lynn and Linda will make recommendations which will be needed by the May HOD meeting.

**Adjournment: Motion** was made to adjourn. **Seconded.** Meeting Adjourned at 10:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Bowen

MWS Secretary