

**Midwestern Swimming
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 29, 2014 8:30pm**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30pm by Brian Schaezner, General Chair. The meeting was held via telephone conference call. There were no non-board members present. Board members present:

Brian Schaezner, General Chair	Cindy Wigness, Delegate at Large	Ellie Walstad, Athlete Rep.
Mary Losee, Adm. Vice-Chair	Louie Balogh, Technical Chair	Tanya Hopson, Delegate at Large
Chris Pawloski, Safety Chair	Brianna McCullough, Athlete Rep.	Bruce Schomberg, Coaches' Rep.
Betty Kooy, Executive Secretary	Dawn Bowen, Secretary	Dan Novinski, Delegate at Large
Steve Marchitelli, Delegate at Large	Linda Renner, Treasurer	Stephanie Martinez, Delegate at Large
Tony Storer, Delegate at Large	Lynn Weaver, Senior Vice-Chair	Cindy Wigness, Delegate at Large
Erik Wiken, Age Group Vice-Chair	Scot Sorensen, Registration Chair	Tony Storer, Officials Chair

Approval of February 25, 2014 BOD minutes

Brian asked if there were any questions/corrections for the February BOD meeting minutes. Steve made a motion to accept the minutes. Linda seconded. The minutes were approved as corrected.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda had the following reports:

- *Registration Coordinator Report
- *Secretary Report
- *Financial Reports (March Year-to-Date)
- *Safe Sport Recommended Briefing Documents (Also to be posted on MWS Website)
- *Administrative Vice-Chair Report
- *Senior Vice Chair Report

Brian asked if any of the reports needed to be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion. Brian asked that the Administrative Vice-Report be pulled since it will be discussed under New Business. Lynn made a motion to accept the consent agenda with the exception of Administrative Vice-Chair Report. Mary seconded. The amended consent agenda was approved.

New Business

Proposed: Next MWS Board meeting for Thursday, June 5th - 8:30pm

Brian explained to the Board that he suggested a June 5 BOD meeting to provide an opportunity to handle any new business items such as by-law changes, financial reports etc. that needed to go before the HOD on June 8. Linda asked if there would be time to approve the tax filing at this meeting. Brian will add the tax filing to the agenda. The board was in agreement for a June 5 meeting.

Proposed Recognition/Awards - Erik Wiken

1. IMX Awards
2. Student-Athlete Recognition Awards
3. Team Spirit Recognition and Awards

Eric highlighted the proposed Recognition/Awards Program and explained the goal is to find ways to reward swimmers and also get more participation at the MWS Banquet. For IMX Awards, the proposal includes awards for short course and for long course with 60 total awards. The age change criteria was discussed along with how to obtain the data. Brian suggested that a committee be formed with Eric, Louie, and Betty to work out the details of the programs and present for the HOD in June. Brian made a motion to table the IMX Awards Program and Mary seconded. The motion passed.

For the Student-Athlete Recognition Awards, Eric explained this is a two-part award designed similarly to what USA Swimming has for the Scholastic All-American. It was decided that a committee was needed for further revising of this awards program. Bruce and Mary said they would help Eric and Eric also asked if anyone in the education field would be interested and to email him. Brian asked for a motion to table this proposal set-up a committee of Eric, Bruce, and Mary to work on this award. Linda made a motion. Dan seconded. The motion passed.

The second part of the Student-Athlete Award program is an Athlete of Year which would award the senior swimmer with the highest athletic and academic accomplishments. Swimmers would apply and the award would be presented at the MWS Banquet. Brian suggested that the same committee for the first part of the award review this and present the proposal at the June board meeting. Linda made a motion that Eric, Bruce and Mary work on this award. Louie seconded. The motion passed.

The Team Spirit Award is a friendly competition among the teams at the Championship Meets. The board discussed various awards for the most spirited team including a cash award, team trophy and traveling trophy and for this to start at LC Champs in July. Linda suggested that this could also be tweaked in the same committee as the prior award. Brian suggested having an athlete rep involved with the judging and Louie added also that whomever is on the meet committee could be part of the judging. Brian asked for a motion that Eric, Bruce and Mary also work on this award and present at the June board meeting. Linda made the motion. Dan seconded. The motion passed.

Proposed Outreach athlete meet entry reimbursement - Scot Sorensen

Scott explained that this proposed policy is a result of the current policy that was adopted in 2012 which placed the burden of funding outreach athlete meet entries on clubs hosting meets. In the current process, an entering team states how many outreach athletes they have entering a meet and then reduces the meet fees based upon this number. An audit of this process revealed that there is no existing method of identifying with accuracy the financial impact of reduced meet entry fees to hosting clubs; no existing method of calculating with accuracy the financial impact of reduced meet entry fees over the course of a year to meet hosts as a group; no way to determine with accuracy if any misuse of the MWS policy currently exists or will exist in the future; and an itemization of projected fee amounts for outreach athletes (individual events, relays, MWS entry fee) does not exist. The proposed Outreach Athlete Meet Entry Reimbursement policy will be funded by MWS and not the hosting clubs and will start with Short Course 2014-15 season. The reduced entry fees will be only for individual events and the MWS event fees actually swam. Reduced relay event fees and facility surcharges will not be allowed. Clubs who have entered outreach athletes and wish to receive compensation for such from MWS shall submit an Outreach Meet Fee Request within ten (10) days of meet completion to the MWS office. At this point, no reduced entry fee will be disallowed because of MWS funding limits. The MWS Budget Committee will budget for this amount annually and determine if, and when, any cap in the amount is to be made. After Scott's explanation, the board discussed the concern of only allowing 10 days and if that would be enough time for a club to submit the required information. Lynn offered the friendly amendment of 21 days to amend the policy. Steve made a motion to accept the proposed policy with the change of 21 days from 10 days. Tony seconded. The motion passed.

Proposed NATH Membership Cards - Scot Sorensen

Scot explained that there has been an increase in the amount of non-athlete (NATH) coach cards printed throughout the year due to expiring safety requirements and the need to have the cards updated each time certification is updated. Coaches can now print a color card from their individual Deck Pass account and the need for USA Swimming and MWS to print cards is no longer needed. This will eliminate supplies and postage expenses. Also, this process will be consistent with the current management of official's membership cards. Beginning with the 2015 registration year, MWS will no longer print NATH cards. Current coach and other NATH members will be informed directly of this policy change and notices will also be posted in various sites within the MWS website. NATH members will be reminded electronically to print their own card at the time of a valid 2015 NATH membership. Lynn made a motion to accept the policy. Mary seconded. The motion passed.

Proposed Changes to Election of Athlete Representatives - Mary Losee

Mary explained that this change was being made due to the current policies related to election of athlete representatives not being followed. It was pointed out in the Strategic Planning Session that MWS needs to be in compliance with all policies and this change would bring MWS into compliance. The proposal is to the policy which currently reads: (2.1.4.3.3) Interested athletes who wish to stand for election as Athlete Representatives will submit a one-page essay by February 1 to the MWS BOD. The recommended change is that the essay be submitted by June 1 to the committee, not the BOD. The committee consists of Athlete Representatives, Age Group Chair, Coaches Rep and the Senior Rep. The second change is to policy 2.1.4.3.5: Athlete Representatives will be elected by their peers at the Midwestern Short Course Championship. The recommended change is to have the election at the Long Course Championship Meet. Lynn made the motion to accept the changes to the policy. Bruce seconded. The motion passed.

Nomination Committee - Updates / status - Mary Losee

Mary updated the board on the status of the nominations process for the election to be held at the June HOD meeting. The nominating forms are on the web and the committee met last week via phone conference and extended the deadline to May 10th which allows more time to reach out to additional individuals. Mary has received several more inquiries since extending the deadline.

The current list of nominees are:

Dawn Bowen : General Chair

Brian Schaenzer: Adm Vice Chair

Ryan Theil: Finance Chair

Lorraine Crvk: At Large Delegate

Shana Frodyma: At Large Delegate

Eric Rankin: At Large Delegate

Lorraine Borys: Board of Review

Jeanie Neal: Secretary

Midwestern Swimming Planning Meeting - Recap and Review - Kick-off Discussion - Brian

Brian gave a brief overview of the Strategic Planning Meeting held April 11-12 in Lincoln. The attendees divided into groups and established goals in the areas of Volunteers, Partnership, Education and Performance. There were some areas of overlap between the groups such as the use of social media. Ellie asked if the plan was still to have the athlete reps working on the area of social media. Brian recommended that Ellie contact a rep from the Volunteer and Education groups to coordinate the use of social media. Brian also addressed the need to have someone provide overall coordination to track the progress of all the groups. Base Camp is a software program recommended to utilize for this progress tracking.

Adjournment

Brian asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Lynn and seconded by Bruce. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Bowen

MWS Secretary