

Midwestern Swimming Board of Director Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 9, 2014 / Via Conference Call  
**DRAFT FOR APPROVAL**

DISTRIBUTION: Those Present, Those Absent, Posted to Midwestern Swimming website, mws swim.org

CALL TO ORDER: Midwestern Chair, Dawn Bowen, called the meeting to order at 8:30 PM on September 9, 2014 with the following people present via conference call: Dawn Bowen, Brian Schaezner, Jay Thiltgen, Erik Wiken, Ryan Theil, Jeanie Neal, Linda Renner, Bruce Schomburg, Louie Balogh, Scot Sorensen, Steve Marchitelli, Carol Olson, Eric Samson, Holly Hopson, Anya Lindholm, and Betty Kooy (non-voting)

Those Absent: Chris Pawloski, Tony Storer, Stephanie Martinez, Dan Novinski, Ellie Walstad, Karlie O'Connell, Cindy Wigness

AGENDA REVIEW: No additions or deletions were made to the published agenda.

MINUTES **MOTION** (Balogh): *To approve the minutes of the August 26, 2014 Board of Directors Meeting.* Seconded. **APPROVED**

#### CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION** (Balogh): *To approve all items on the published Consent Agenda.* Seconded. **APPROVED**

Sanction Committee Meeting Minutes

Executive Secretary Report

Senior Vice-Chair Report

Diversity & Inclusion Update

USA-S Proposed Legislation for Convention

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### 1. Revised Priority Meet Entry Proposal

**MOTION** (Schaezner): *To approve the Priority Meet Entry Proposal as revised and submitted by the Sanction Committee.* Seconded. Roll Call Vote: Aye (4) - Schaezner, Schomburg, Balogh, Olson Nay (10) Thiltgen, Wiken, Theil, Neal, Renner, Sorensen, Marchitelli, Samson, Hopson, Lindholm **FAILED**

Discussion: Brian Schaezner summarized the proposal history and the nature of the revisions made by the Sanction Committee as a result of input from the Board meeting on August 26. Revisions included more clarity on designation of club size, enumerating required sessions as well as numbers of meets, adding an implementation period with a lesser standard of hosting to allow clubs that do not have meets on the schedule to add meets to allow them to participate in the priority program.

There was lengthy discussion among many Board members of the necessity of such a program, the process of administering the program, and the benefits/disadvantages to clubs and swimmers. Brian Schaezner advised that this proposal is a direct result of requests from clubs that have been denied entry into meets. Bruce Schomburg spoke to the necessity of being able to get swimmers into local meets, particularly local meets, and affirmed his support of the proposed policy. Several members stated that the program would not provide the desired result of more meets and avoiding swimmers being shut out of events. Further discussion included checking the numbers of clubs that would be affected by this policy change, conversation about whether other LSC's have implemented this type of policy with success, how MW would handle clubs co-hosting meets, the impact of this policy on meet revenues, and whether MW has the authority to force member clubs to host meets.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**1. Conflict of Interest and Duty of Care Statements:** A description of the Legal Duties of Non-Profit Board Members and a Statement of Principles on Ethical Behavior and Conflict of Interest has been provided to all members of the Midwestern Board of Directories.

**ACTION REQUIRED:** *All members* are to submit to Dawn Bowen a signed copy of the Statement of Principles on Ethical Behavior and Conflict of Interest on or before the House of Delegates Meeting on October 5, 2014.

**2. USA Swimming Championship Meet Proposal for Convention:** Dawn Bowen asked for input from those present for the delegates to use at the USA Swimming Convention. The meet format, location, and qualifying times were discussed. Several members agreed that a specific issue to address at convention is that of maximizing participation at these meets by providing for swimmers who have achieved some Junior cuts to be allowed to swim those events at these meets.

**3. Nominating Committee Update:** Historically, Nominating Committee participation has been by appointment. Our bylaws provide for these to be elected positions. Brian Schaezner detailed the prescribed makeup of the Nominating Committee and informed the Board that he has one potential candidate, Pat Rowan. He and Dawn Bowen both asked that board members reach out into their communities to identify additional candidates prior to the elections to be held at the House of Delegates meeting on October 5, 2014.

**4. Review Cost of Awards/Merchandise for MW Championship Meets:**

**MOTION** (Renner): *To accept the proposal to change the Awards/Merchandise for MW Championship Meets so that Host Clubs will pay the total cost of awards and keep the total concession receipts. [MW would retain the responsibility to order the awards. The host club would have the freedom to choose vendors and design meet apparel.]* Seconded. **APPROVED**

Discussion: Dawn Bowen and Linda Renner advised that in reviewing the past four championship meets, having this policy in place would have resulted in a net revenue gain for the host clubs. A lengthy discussion included checking finance reports for the concession totals from the past four meets, making comparisons between revenue and expenses at the long course versus short course venues, the concession percentage amounts of vendors, and whether the amount of labor involved for host clubs under the proposed policy was worth the predicted revenue gains. Some board members expressed doubt that there would, in fact, be a net benefit to the clubs and that paying the total cost of the awards was cost prohibitive.

**5. Athlete Election Policy Proposal**

**MOTION** (Schomburg): *To accept the Athlete Election Policy proposal as submitted.* Seconded **APPROVED** No discussion.

**6. HOD Athlete Representative Policy Proposal**

**MOTION** (Schomburg): *To accept the HOD Athlete Representative Policy proposal as submitted.* Seconded **APPROVED** No discussion.

**7. 2016 Central Zone Diversity Camp Host Application**

**MOTION** (Schaezner): *To approve entering into the bid process for the 2016 Central Zone Diversity Camp Host Application by having Dawn Bowen submit a bid package on behalf of MW at Convention.* Seconded. **APPROVED**

Discussion: Dawn Bowen described the event, the bid process, and the progress to date.

**7. Executive Committee Update:** Dawn Bowen described and brought forth for ratification two decisions made by the Executive Committee in a closed and open session on September 8, 2014.

**MOTION** (Wiken): *To ratify the decision of the Executive Committee in closed session regarding the increase in the wages account line item to \$30,000 which is the amount in the 2015 Quad Budget that the board has approved to recommend to the House of Delegates.* Seconded. **APPROVED** No discussion.

**MOTION** (Wiken): *To ratify the decision of the Executive Committee in an open session regarding initiating the process to develop a new logo for MW.* Seconded. **APPROVED** No discussion.

**OTHER**

Linda Renner asked about discussing an increase in compensation for zone coaches. This item will be added to a future agenda. Brian Schaezner clarified that this issue does not need HOD approval.

**ADJOURN:** This meeting was adjourned at 10:16 PM.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/INFORMATION** provided on Agenda

- The next BOD meeting is November 11. Reports are due by November 6.
- MW is on schedule for a 2016 Swimposium. We are on the cancel list for 2015.
- MW Annual Banquet reservations are due no later than October 1.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:** Jeanie Neal, Secretary