

## **Midlakes Swim League Spring Meeting**

Wednesday, 16 February 2011

Location: Newport Hills Swim and Tennis Club

In attendance: Jeff Lowell, Charlene Steinhauer, Ron Griffin, Lisa Mead, Susan Simpkins, Candis Brink, Penny Yantis, Adam LaFramboise, andrea Schreck, Michelle Lemke, Kate Emerson, Rebecca Thornton, Gayle Davis. Cindy McGee

### **A. Call to Order and Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

### **B. Welcome**

Jeff Lowell welcomed everyone.

### **C. Treasurer's Report**

Nancy Anderson is the League's bookkeeper, but the Treasurer position continues to be unfilled.

Jeff Lowell reported that there was more than \$4000.00 in profits for 2010. The beginning balance is at \$48,500. Having a great amount of money in surplus suggests that the League find ways to distribute it that it is consistent with the League's financial platform.

### **D. President's Report**

#### *Team Unify*

Jeff Lowell reports that he has been contacted by Team Unify which is currently being used by 8 member clubs. This is an online database that is designed to take on all the different items that a club will use and contain it in one database – team manager and communications platform. There would be no cost to the League. In return, Team Unify requires that its logo be placed on the League website and have access to the League parent reps/club managers. In addition, each club would make a commitment to purchase swimwear through [getoutswim.com](http://getoutswim.com) and add online registration (with its \$5 registration fee that would be in addition to the club fees).

Team Unify would not take the place of Meet Manager. Each club would work on this website. The Midlakes platform would be separate from the member clubs' but would allow that meet results be uploaded more easily. With each club utilizing the same platform there could be financial benefits – offsetting other fees for the clubs such as insurance subsidies.

Jeff Lowell proposed that he would communicate further with a Team Unify representative to discuss the technical standpoints, financial packages (both long and short terms) and the timeline in which to transfer.

#### *Excess League Funds*

Jeff Lowell proposed that the \$21,000 in excess be considered in a variety of ways that would be beneficial to the member clubs. Some considerations are:

- More money for post season support
- Clinics provided to the member club
- Development of a Technology Fund

## Financial ways to say “thank you” to member clubs

### **E. 2011 Season Swim Schedule**

#### *General Information*

Jeff Lowell reported for Eric Bartleson that a 2011 swim schedule has been developed. The League Championship will be Saturday, 23 July. BDQ times have not yet been completed and doing away with BDQ times in relays is being considered. In order to do so, there would be a change in the operating plan and its language which the Board approved.

The dates for computer training are posted on the website. There will be both beginner and advanced sessions. The advanced sessions will be predominantly driven by questions that the attendees have.

Coaches meetings will be on 19 May and 11 June.

CPR training will be organized by Candis Brink. Sign-ups will be on the League website.

#### *Length of Swim Season and Championship Events*

The League calendar structure was again addressed. It should be considered to have Division Champs after League Champs. The schedule could possibly have Prelims, League or “A” Champs and then about 5 days later, B Champs. Perhaps the season could be extended until the first week of August – the length of the season would remain the same, but shifted to start later. In turn, this may affect staff salaries paid by each member club.

League Champs may be changed in terms of the date that it occurs. Rather than having an event that is determined by the availability of a facility, have a hard date each year.

### **F. Championship Coordinator Report:**

Kate Emerson reported that having 3 member clubs running the 2010 League Championship event worked out great. Documents will be available for other member clubs to use for future League Championship events.

One area that could be improved is regarding advertisement sales. How much is charged, the size of the advertisement, and its location should be determined in advance. There is also a need to develop a way to invoice such transactions.

### **G. Communications Report:**

Cindy McGee reports that the website has been updated. There is now a “hit” counter, and a calendar among new features. Also, she will get images to post from Rebecca for the 2011 T-Shirt options to be considered. The League can pay approximately \$10.00/month to have advertisements removed from the site and \$30.00/month to allow for discussion groups. 2011 By-Laws and Operating Plan updates will be available on the League site. She will get BDQ times records from Eric Bartleson

to be posted. More information about the Diving program could be made available on the website. Finally, a job description is needed for each Board position.

#### *Coach-of-the-Year*

For coaches being considered for the Coach-of-the-Year award, it may be valuable to have their biography and photo posted on the website. This would allow for a more educated vote for this award.

#### **H. Issues:**

Charlene Steinhauer discussed the availability of League forms being available online. Another discussion surrounded the providing of food at League Championship events for officials and other individuals. Perhaps the League can subsidize the cost of feeding people. However, Kate Emerson mentioned that some member clubs simply provide a voucher/ticket for a set/appropriate amount of food for officials. Anything beyond that is paid for by the officials themselves.

#### **I. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Anne Yamamoto.