

Midlakes Swim League

Fall General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 7:00 pm

- 1) **2020 Calendar** – the Champ meet dates have been confirmed:
 - a. Dual meets begin – June 16/18
 - b. Division Champs – July 18
 - c. League Champs: Prelims – July 20-22; Finals - Sunday, July 26 at KCAC
 - i. Thank You to 2019 hosts
 1. League & Prelims – NYC, SS, FW, MIBC, SAM, NH
 2. Division - EB, OL, PL, PLAT, WR

- 2) **Reports**
 - a. President
 - i. Fall focus – Admin, Governance (Spring focus = Competitive program, Div Alignment, Schedule) office elections
 - ii. 2019 review – participation, events, rules, challenges, merchandising, technology test
 1. 3,625 registered swimmers – slightly down again (3,975 a peak a few years ago). The recent changes were to help improve the experience to help increase participants. Issues such as length of meets, other sports starting earlier.
 2. Events – there was one change in 2019, which was changing multi-age to a co-ed relay. The goal was to get kids out of exhibition heats (reduce those and get more kids into scoring heats).
 3. Rules – following rules a focus. The Midlakes Board is always open to change rules that may not be applicable now.
 4. Challenges: Merchandising: the old way put a lot of burden on a few people, plus excess inventory. The online merchandising had challenges but want to improve.
 5. Technology – Tam O’Shanter tried the new software. They wanted to try to reduce the length of time of meets. It helped reduce the amount of volunteers.
 6. Thoughts from others: none
 - b. Treasurer – Cathy Schwartz and Nancy Anderson
 - i. Financial report, Registration fees, & 2019 budget
 1. Financial report attached. Revenue was down due to not getting as much income per swimmer, merchandising and advertising sales income down and there was an increase in awards expenses.
 2. Want to increase the per swimmer rate from \$10 to \$12 for 2020.
 3. Had to buy a lot of new awards - the inventory went way down.
 4. Question – will the increase per swimmer to \$12 hold for awhile? Yes, it should.
 5. Advertising had to be reimbursed due to KCAC scoreboard failing, ads about half the income as previous years.
 6. Suggestions for merchandising – have samples at parent meetings, people like impulse buy, have a popup store at each region with a canopy and have different sizes and sell there.

- 3) **2019 Operating Plan and Bylaws revisions**
 - a. Spring 2019 approved - Meet Officials roles, Champ Host Financial guidance, Coach certification & SafeSport
 - i. Pending for 2020 Spring - Event program (Multi-age relay recommended co-ed)
 - b. Fall 2019 votes – Swim registration fee, Dive and Water Polo lifeguarding

- 4) **Proposed Board Mission / Committee initiatives for 2020**
 - a. Continuing to improve Governance / Risk management
 - b. Meet Experience and Competitive Structure - 2020 “pods”
 - i. *In-progress* - Technology - Swimmily test + expansion

1. Swimingly is a cloud experience and replaces Meet Manager software.
2. Tam O' Shanter reported their experience using it in the 2019 season. Meg Mylan said there were a few hiccups at the beginning. They liked it and will continue to use it. They had to train and train other teams. Volunteers was a huge issue for them so they were able to cut 60 jobs throughout the season. In addition, the amount of paper generated was so small. No timing sheets, no heat sheets. Officials used it also. You can create your roster – create in TM and export it. Can import results historically. Creates reports, and the results are live. Finished with scorekeeping when meet was finished.
Discussed how swimmers and families got the lineup info and results.
How much training did it take? It was on the fly, officials meeting and timers meeting was longer. People used their own phone. The support from Swimingly was very good. The wifi comes with the package, connects with the phones, ipads. The starter has their device – bought a speaker and then plugged the phone into it and it'll sound. There's a demo/video that Jonathan will send out. Midlakes is encouraging for everyone to think about it.
Each club gets a starter kit, then charge your swimmers \$4 for the season \$400 for setup and \$4 per swimmer (so they charged the families that)
email@tamoshanter.net - email them w/ questions. How does it link up with the touchpads/scoreboards
- ii. *In-progress* - Events – program adaptation (if any) + Champs co-ed relay?
- iii. *In-progress* - Merchandising
- iv. *In-progress* - Champs - process & structure; Advertising, financial distrib includes – 9 champ meet review (can we reduce?) prelims meets take 18 hrs
- v. *In-progress* - Division Alignment - formula development
- vi. *Potential* – Officials committee, training and roles adjustment
- vii. *Potential* – New Website
- viii. *Potential* - Operating Plan review / Handbook

5) Board Position status (FW, NYC, HW due)

- a. President – open
- b. VP – open
- c. Secretary – Stacey King – MH
- d. Treasurer – Cathy Schwartz – KGG
- e. Division I Rep – Meg Mylan – TOS
- f. Division II Rep – Tanya Mertel – STC
- g. Division III Rep – Scott Robertson – SS
- h. Division IV Rep – Bob Wohlman – OL
- i. Division V Rep – open
- j. Coaches Reps – Laura Halter (EB) & Carrie Nordberg (WR)
- k. Officials – open
- l. Awards – Sarah Duran - SR
- m. Merchandising – Deb Lurie – MSC - open
- n. Water Polo – open
- o. Diving – open

2019 Fall Operating Plan and Bylaws considerations

1) Proposal for Swim Operating Plan – Part A: Dues, Assessments, Entry and Insurance Fees

- A. Amendment requirements
 - a. Operating Plan: Vote by simple majority of membership present
- B. Problem / Opportunity
 - a. Board voted unanimously that the per-swimmer League registration fee be raised from \$10 to \$12

- b. Board voted unanimously that the specific fee be removed from Operating Plan and determined by vote of Board at Fall Board meeting
- C. Current language
 - a. **Part A. Dues, Assessments, Entry and Insurance Fees**
 - 2. \$10.00 per swimmer fee for League insurance and championship entry fees.
- D. Proposal
 - a. **Part A. Dues, Assessments, Entry and Insurance Fees**
 - 2. League Registration fee per swimmer for League insurance and other fees to be determined by majority vote at the Fall Board Meeting (can still be on the website)
 - 3. passed

2) Proposal for Dive Operating Plan – General Regulations: #2

- A. Amendment requirements
 - a. Operating Plan: Vote by simple majority of membership present
- B. Problem / Opportunity
 - a. Inconsistent or lack of lifeguards on duty at dive meets with clear view of and access to divers
- C. Current language
 - a. **General Regulations**
 - 2. Lifeguards must be scheduled at each pool for any diving activity. This includes both practice and meets. Each pool hosting a meet shall be required to have a certified lifeguard for the duration of the meet. The lifeguard may not be the coach.
- D. Proposal
 - a. **General Regulations**
 - 2. Lifeguards must be scheduled at each pool for any diving activity. This includes both practice and meets. Each pool hosting a practice/meet shall be required to have a certified lifeguard in identifiable guard attire on duty in a guard chair which allows for direct sight of the board and the divers for the duration of the practice/ meet. The lifeguard may not be the coach.
 - 3. A motion was made to add the above wording regarding lifeguards for dive practices. The motion was seconded and passed.

3) Proposal for Water Polo Operating Plan – Part F: Competitive Regulations: #7 Officials for Games

- A. Amendment requirements
 - a. Operating Plan: Vote by simple majority of membership present
- B. Problem / Opportunity
 - a. Inconsistent or lack of lifeguards on duty at water polo matches
- C. Current language
 - a. No current language
- D. Proposal
 - a. **Part F, #7, D. Lifeguard**
 - 1. Must be scheduled at each pool hosting Regular Season and Championship games
 - 2. Lifeguard must be certified and in identifiable guard attire on duty in a chair which allows for sight of both ends of the pool and the participating teams
 - 3. A coach who is also registered as a lifeguard may not serve a dual role. In case of an emergency, the guard will be the responder and the coaches are responsible for assisting and handling the members their respective teams.
 - b. A motion was made to include the above highlighted wording to the water polo operating plan to ensure a lifeguard is on duty for water polo meets. It was seconded and passed. passed.

There was a lot of discussion: Colleen: this penalizes the clubs that do water polo which is currently 5 clubs. Midlakes mentioned it's a League liability issue. The water polo operating committee should discuss the burden of the costs. And every pool should have a lifeguard present.

Other Topics:

Colleen: Starting a mini water polo league – 8&unders. They can host in the shallow, during the summer. Can promote to our pools. Also Colleen is retiring from water polo position.

Margaret: joint team water polo – free clinic, had water polo coaches come, did with the swim team

Safe Sport: Cathy Schwartz talked about Safe Sport for Parents. Went to USA Swim and there's a 15 minute video for parents to watch when they're volunteering. The link www.usaswimming.org/learn

Share with your clubs – 15 min video, free and no commitment. Recommend to make sure volunteers watch the video and get their completion certificate. They can complete it prior to the season starting. Also, let your clubs know to not take pictures behind the blocks.