

Midwestern Swimming House of Delegates Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 17, 2020

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

DISTRIBUTION: posted to Midwestern Swimming website, mswim.org, and via email

CALL TO ORDER: Carol Olson, Midwestern Swimming Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

BOD ATTENDANCE:

General Chair	Carol Olson	Present
Administrative Vice Chair	Jay Thiltgen	Present
Age Group Chair	Emma McEntarffer	Present
Secretary	Jeff Nelson	Present
Treasurer	Stefanie Martinez	Present
Registration	Scot Sorensen	Present
Finance Chair	Jason Hiley	Present
Technical Chair	Jimmy Parmenter	Absent
Officials Chair	Steve Marchitelli	Present
Operational Risk	John Tysdal	Present
Safe Sport/Diversity	Betsy Purcell	Present
Coaches' Representative	Marcus Bach	Present
Safe Sport Athlete	Aiden Cho	Absent
Senior Athlete Rep	Lauren Mayo	Present
Junior Athlete Rep	Marti Walstad	Present
Delegate At Large	Bruce Schomburg	Present
Delegate At Large	Toby Rees	Present
Delegate At Large	Brinker Harding	Present
Delegate At Large	Kerri Paup	Absent
Executive Secretary	Betty Kooy	Present

CLUB DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE:

ACE	Tim Uehling
BARR	none
BSC	Peggy Speer
BCST	none
BT	Jeff Nelson
CBSC	Bruce Schomburg
FAST	none
GOAL	Tom Beck
GNST	none
HYAC	Dan Brailita
HLA	Marcus Bach
HG	none
HUSK	none
ISWM	Steve Marchitelli
KYT	none
LIFE	none
LSS	Nikki Sheets
LYD	none
MAC	none
NA	none
NEB	none
NYA	none
OMA	none
OSF	Drew Butler
OWSC	Meg Harris

PSC	none
SCSC	Toby Rees
SCH	Erica Vonk
SCM	none
SLS	Heather Farris
SO	Dave Harris
SST	Mike Nobiling

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mark Hesse – USA Swimming  
Randy Julian – USA Swimming

**AGENDA PREVIEW:** The agenda has no changes.

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:**

Carol Olson read the following to the Board of Directors:

“Is any member aware of any conflict of interest, that is, of a personal interest or direct or indirect pecuniary interest, in any matter being considered by this meeting which should now be reported or disclosed or addressed under the Midwestern Swimming Conflict of Interest Policy?”

If a Board member determines there to be a conflict of interest at any point during the course of the meeting when a specific subject is being discussed and/or action is being taken, a declaration of a conflict of interest should be made at that time.

**MINUTES:**

A motion to approve the September 29, 2019, House of Delegates meeting minutes was made by John Tysdal. Second by Steve Marchitelli. A vote was conducted with all in favor. The minutes from the September 29, 2019, HOD meeting are APPROVED.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion made by Jay Thiltgen to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Emma McEntarffer. A vote was had with all in favor. The consent agenda is APPROVED.

**GUESTS:**

Carol Olson, General Chair of MW Swimming, introduced two guests from USA Swimming who joined the meeting, Mark Hesse and Randy Julian. Randy started out by informing us that USA Swimming is launching a new website on Monday. The new website aims to be cleaner and easier to navigate. This was a big project for USA Swimming and was undertaken by an excellent webmaster. Randy expects swimming to return to the pool by July of this year. Mark indicates that the USA Swimming Board of Directors voted to lift the sanctioning ban last Tuesday, handing sanctioning responsibilities back to individual LSCs. News should be expected soon from USA Swimming about LSC meet sanctioning. Intrasquad, dual, time trial, and virtual meets are expected for July. Times from these meets will be allowed into SWIMS, provided the meet has approved officials and timing in place. Times from these meets will not be eligible for national recognition meets. Mark reassures us that USA Swimming is walking a fine line between stop and go. Some LSCs are not open yet. Guidance on sanctioning is forthcoming. Hopefully, there will be a more normal return to swimming by August. This is a fluid situation and much hope is riding on the Aquatics Coalition of America, which is advocating for reopening pools for meaningful use, not recreational or play usage. Many resources are available online to coaches and teams at the USAS website. In the next 10 days clubs can expect to receive a 2<sup>nd</sup> survey from USAS on facility access. Clubs are encouraged to reply so a clear picture of the return to swimming is available in each LSC. Grants to teams will be available in July. During the first round of grants, 317 of the 318 applicants received funding. One application was from a non-USA Swimming entity, and not granted. The second round of grants is expected to be of similar dollar amount. Carol thanked Randy and Mark for their information.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:**

Betty Kooy, Executive Secretary for MW Swimming, made several announcements. CZ Meeting will be a virtual meeting. Officer Elections are scheduled for the next HOD meeting. The Chicago meeting is canceled. Open Water Championship has been canceled. The Multi-Cultural camp will be virtual. The MW Swimming Financial update includes 3 reports. Our Balance Sheet shows \$238K in assets, which gives MWS solid footing to survive the pandemic. \$68K of that money is in

an operating account, while the other \$170K is held in longer term reserves. The Profit & Loss statement shows a year to date loss of \$10K. This loss will surely grow, as a \$20K loss was budgeted. There is currently no income from splash fees, which is the primary source of income. Registrations will start soon, bringing in some income. Expenses are approximately \$3K per month. At this rate, we can expect to see a loss of \$25K by the end of the year. The Budget will not be discussed, since this year is vastly different than originally budgeted, due to the pandemic.

#### SANCTION COMMITTEE:

Jay Thiltgen hopes small meets may be possible in the near future. Priorities should be given to training and getting athletes back in the pool, at this time. Focus on the process, not the product. Not all clubs have access to water at this time. No sanctions will be reviewed until July 1, at the earliest. We are waiting for guidance from the State of Nebraska and Municipalities. We will pay close attention to the pandemic and adjust accordingly. Betty Kooy notes that a single sanctioning request has been filed from SLS, for a small met in July, for about 80 swimmers. Carol encourages MWS to crawl, walk, run, as we return to swim meets.

#### OFFICIALS:

Steve Marchitelli, MWS Officials Chair, would like to have more USA Swimming Officials in our LSC. Meeting and training are going to be completely virtual for the foreseeable future. Guides from USAS are expected on officiating virtual meets with minimal officials on deck. A Zoom meeting is planned for the Fall Forum. The MWS Officials webpage is due for a revamp.

#### VIRTUAL MEETS:

Carol Olson described the virtual meet proposal put together by Jimmy Parmenter. Swimmingly timing system is a possibility to hold such meets.

#### OUTREACH:

Scot Sorensen reviewed the criteria for Outreach swimmer eligibility. Currently, an athlete who is eligible for a Free Lunch Program can be considered for Outreach. Since schools might not be open and free lunches will not be given, we need to expand our Outreach criteria to broaden the scope of our program. RFLP, SNAP, and Medicaid documentation will be accepted for Outreach eligibility.

#### SAFE SPORT:

This a good time to complete the Safe Sport certification. All teams are required to have a Safe Sport Coordinator. Recently, Brownell Talbot became certified. HLA is close to certification. A few other MW teams have started the process. Aidan Cho is a Fellow of Safe Sport, and can guide teams on obtaining this certification.

#### GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:

Toby Rees, Betsy Purcell, and Thor Larson are on the Governance Committee. Elections should have happened, but are delayed due to the pandemic. We are hopeful to hold elections in late summer, with a full slate of candidates. Jimmy Parmenter will be asked to secure a location at Brownell Talbot to hold the election. As swimming activities resume, clubs are urged to remain vigilant and conduct their activities in a responsible manner, avoiding the spread of COVID-19.

#### PANDEMIC:

Mark Hesse described the Aquatic Coalition of America and the 19 different swimming and diving organizations represented in the Coalition. COVID-19 is spreading across the United States, with a noted increase in positive cases among teams across the country. All teams should have a plan to deal with a positive test. Mark suggests consulting the CDC or local healthcare professionals for assistance. 2 Texas clubs had positive cases recently, necessitating a 1 week shut down. Dan Brailita reminds us that MWS is not a large LSC, and that local areas within our LSC may experience very different COVID-19 infection rates. When cases start to show, it is safe to assume that spread is far and wide already. Dan would like to see different sanctioning criteria for different areas of the LSC. Dan also notes that YMCA will not be holding meets for a long time. Betty claims that guidelines for small meets will be available soon. Steve notes that officials should probably not be sharing microphones when radios are used at meets.

#### MIKE NOBILING:

Mike has questions for Randy and Mark regarding the need for 2 coaches per team. Mike has a small coach owned team, and cannot afford to hire a second coach. The new USA mandate for non-athlete members is difficult for Mike in his

small farming community. Mark acknowledges that Mike has challenges. Safe Sport recommendations are for multiple points of accountability to protect minor athletes. If there is a complaint against a single coach, who can be contacted? Mark will ask others at USA Swimming and try to advise Mike. Club board members are required to be Non-Athlete members of USA Swimming. Mark and Randy suggest that Mike contact Joel at USA Swimming for further assistance. For now, Mike is encouraged to find another person to become a Non-Athlete member at his club.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Late August is being targeted for the next HOD Meeting.

ADJOURN: Emma McEntarffer made the motion to adjourn. Second by John Tysdal. The meeting was adjourned at 8:31pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: Jeff Nelson, Secretary

**Midwestern Swimming strives to maximize opportunities  
for growth and success through competitive swimming.**