



MINUTES DRAFT

DATE: 07/15/2025

TIME: 8:30 p.m.

LOCATION Zoom Conference Call

Call to Order

- Midwestern Board of Directors
- Board Meeting
 - o Called to order 8:35pm – Stefanie Martinez; noted quorum present
 - o Purpose of Meeting: Regular BOD Meeting
- Roll Call by Zoom sign-in
 - o BOD Attendees: Stefanie Martinez, Steve Kidder, David Nelson, Tara Goss , Toby Rees, Kim Schmidt, Arnav Gupta, Greta Olberding, Jack French, Georgia Androy, Betty Kooy (staff)
 - o HOD Committee Chairs/Coordinators Present: Steve Marchitelli, Adam Ogura, Leslie Mayo,
 - o BOD Absent: Jeff Steiner, Sam Bach
 - o HOD Committee Chairs/Coordinators Absent: Dave Edwards, Dan Brailita
 - o Guests: Mark Hesse, Miranda Long, Bill Haney, Sandy Santos, Olivia French, Ryan Korthals, Patrick Rowan, Casey Kistler, Rosie Kirianov, Starre Haney, Kara Walling, Anthony Miles, Kathy Lydiatt, Jimmy Parmenter
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest Statement: Stated in published agenda; no declarations.
- Approval of Previous Minutes
 - o Correction to add Betsy Purcell in attendance
 - o Motion to accept July 15, 2025 Minutes – Toby Rees; Seconded – Jack French, Approved
- Consent Agenda
 - o Staff Report
 - o Registration Report – Pulled for discussion (see below)
 - o Executive Committee Notes (1)
 - o Sanction Committee Notes (2)
 - o Governance Committee Notes (1) (see below for explanations)
 - o Financial Reports – including Agreed upon Procedures/990
 - o Motion to accept Consent Agenda – Steve Kidder; Seconded – Dave Nelson; Approved.

The following narrative is AI generated, reviewed.

Quick Recap

The meeting began with administrative updates including welcoming a USA Swimming representative and reviewing membership trends, followed by discussions about board appointments and upcoming events including the Fall House of Delegates meeting. The group addressed various policy matters including changes to the Administrative Review Board membership, updates to the policy manual, and fee structures for swim meets. The conversation ended with detailed discussions about block party meets and their relationship with Y-approved meets, including cost considerations and scheduling arrangements.

Next steps

- Steve and the Governance Committee to work on changes to the policy and procedures manual and present at the next meeting.
- Steve and the Governance Committee to review the policy regarding late fees for meet sanctions and prepare a proposal for the House of Delegates meeting in October.
- Betty to send out the ballot for junior athlete representative voting to coaches who haven't received it.
- Kim and Stefanie to review the contract with HBE regarding potential monetary adjustments to current expenses.
- Bill to follow up with Administrative Review Board members to set up their annual meeting to appoint a chair and other officers.
- Bill and Stefanie to add the discussion about reducing Administrative Review Board members from 8 to 7 to the House of Delegates meeting agenda.
- Stefanie and Jimmy to finalize the time for the Fall House of Delegates meeting on October 19th at Brownell Talbot.
- Betty to send out notice about the Fall House of Delegates meeting time and Awards Presentation.
- Jimmy to coordinate with parent volunteers to help Betty with check-in and refreshments at the House of Delegates meeting and Awards Presentation

Summary

USA Swimming Representative Meeting Update

The meeting began with a discussion about some technical difficulties. Stefanie welcomed Mark Hesse, a representative from USA Swimming, to the meeting. The group approved the minutes from the previous meeting with a correction to include Betsy Purcell's attendance. Leslie requested to pull the registration report for discussion, and shared a document showing membership trends with the Midwestern Board.

Swimming Club Membership Decline Trends

Leslie presented data showing a decline in athlete membership since 2010, with a particular drop after losing the Sioux City teams. Mark explained that while USA Swimming fees increased last year, this was due to a 73% vote from the House of Delegates and acknowledged that this may impact smaller clubs. The decline in membership appears to be an LSC trend rather than a national issue, with Leslie noting that clubs need to take ownership of the problem and evaluate their own numbers. Board members questioned why this is happening and what can be done to reverse the trend. Mark noted that there is a decline in school-age population. To increase membership athletes need to get in the door first. Leslie noted that very few joined MW in the summer

Governance Notes

Stephen reported that the Governance Committee is working on updates to the Policy and Procedures manual but items are not ready for a Board vote. There may also be changes to the Board manual. If changes are needed to the Bylaws they will have to wait until spring because of required notification time.

Board Appointments and Summit Updates

The board discussed changes to duty descriptions and board member names, with instructions to email proposed changes to Steve. Kathy Lydiatt was appointed as the new Safe Sport Coordinator for a two-year term, and Lily Gentry was confirmed as the sole candidate for Junior Athlete, pending coach/athlete votes due soon. (Charlotte Schrumm has chosen not to accept the Junior athlete position.) The conversation ended with updates on athletes attending the USAS Summit in Denver, where Olivia French and Greta Olberding will represent MW. Arnav is unable to attend and no others volunteered.

Fall House of Delegates Meeting and Awards Ceremony

The Fall House of Delegates meeting will be held on Sunday, November 19th at Brownell Talbot Swanson Auditorium, with the awards ceremony following immediately after. Jimmy confirmed the venue can accommodate up to 285 people, and arrangements have been made for cookies and drinks to be served by parent volunteers to avoid spills on the new carpet.

Midwestern Agreed upon Procedures and IRS 990

The board received tax forms attached with their board notifications, which Betty has reviewed and confirmed were complete. Motion was made by Kim Schmidt to approve the independent accountant's AUP and 990 forms to meet the November 1st extension deadline; motion seconded by Steve Kidder; motion approved. The meeting discussed the need to review contractual terms with HBE regarding HBE expenses. Stefanie and Kim agreed to handle this separately.

Administrative Review Board Membership Changes

Bill Haney brought up the Administrative Review Board membership, recommending reducing the number from 8 back to 7 due to Kim Schmidt's new role as finance chair. Bill explained that this was a House of Delegates decision and not a bylaw change. The board discussed the need for 7 members to ensure adequate representation and participation in hearings. Georgia suggested allowing up to 8 members but maintaining a minimum of 5. The group agreed this may be added to the agenda for the upcoming House of Delegates meeting in October.

YMCA Meet Fee Increase Discussion

Stefanie and Dave Nelson had a discussion with Tabitha Burnham from the Lincoln YMCA about potentially increasing the \$25 fee for approved meets to \$50 starting January 1, 2026, with grandfathering existing January meets. Betty confirmed that some Y meets that have already paid the \$25 fee for approval. Stephen suggested reviewing the cost per athlete fee, while Betty clarified that normal Y-League meets do not have entry fees, except for championship meets which fund supplies for all meets. Jimmy noted that the proposed \$50 fee was a compromise from the original \$100 fee discussed by the sanction committee, which Tabitha felt was too high. No action was taken on fee increases. LYD has offered to host meets if needed.

Swim Meet Sanction/Approval Fee Debate

The group discussed the sanction and approval fees for swim meets, with Jimmy expressing concern about the \$50 fee being too low for approval, especially given that MW only receives \$4-\$6.50 per swimmer back from sanctioned meets. Miranda and David noted that some teams, particularly Y teams, might struggle to afford a higher fee of \$100. Anthony pointed out that USA Swimming offers Block Party meets where teams pay fee to USA Swimming and don't have to pay any fees to Midwestern, though these times cannot be used for higher-level meets.

Block Party Meets and Y Approvals

The meeting focused on discussing block party meets and their relationship with Y-sanctioned meets. The discussion highlighted the challenges of balancing the costs and benefits of different meet formats while trying to encourage participation and improve swimming at all levels. Mark noted that the Block Party meet format is for the meets to be team run, low pressure, under 3 hours including warm-ups, and intended for programs without sufficient officials (used for training officials), used in rural areas to decrease travel, flexible, appealing to club membership and targeted to keep kids in the sport for 8 years. The ROA should be substantial in the long run. The model for these meets comes from Y duals and summer league meets. Jimmy clarified that his block party meets are not scheduled on top of Midwestern open meets and are held on Wednesday nights. The group

discussed the cost of Y-sanctions, which Jimmy stated to be \$175, the same as block party meets. Stefanie suggested that the governance committee review the late fee policy for sanctions and approvals and prepare a proposal for the House of Delegates meeting in October.

The conversation ended with a motion to adjourn by Toby Rees and seconded by Kim Schmidt. Meeting was adjourned.

Adjournment: 10:25p.m.

Reviewed and Submitted by: Betty Kooy, Secretary