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| **DATE:** | 05/04/2025 FINAL |
| **TIME:** | 12:00 p.m. |
| **LOCATION** | Univ of Nebraska Omaha/Zoom |

## Call to Order, Attendance, Ordinary Business

- Midwestern House of Delegates
- House of Delegates Regular Spring Meeting - called to order 12:25 p.m. by Stefanie Martinez, General Chair (connectivity issues)
- Roll Call – Taken by Sign-in sheets and online attendance:
    - BOD Members Present: Stefanie Martinez, Steve Kidder, David Nelson, Paige Skidmore, Toby Rees, Betsy Purcell, Aidan Cho, Sam Bach, Addisyn Storms, Arnav Gupta, Jack French, Amber Bargstadt, Betty Kooy (staff)
      BOD Members Absent: Jeff Steiner, Greta Olberding
    - BOD/HOD Committee Chairs Present: Erica Storms (Technical), Leslie Mayo (Registration),Steve Marchitelli (Governance)
      Committee Chairs Absent: , Dan Brailita (Officials), Lori Howard (Operational Risk)
    - Club HOD Delegates Present:, Kim Berndt (ACE), Tara Handy (BSC), Jimmy Parmenter (BT),Miranda Long (FAST), Tom Beck (GOAL), Sam Bach (HLA), Miranda Rowan (HUSK), Renee Schomburg (LIFE), Uriah Reiners (LSS-Late), Rosie Kirianov (LYD) David Edwards (MAC), Patrick Rowan (NEB), David Nelson (NYA), JJ Pelikan (OWSC), Nick Baker (SCSC), Docker Hartfield (SO), Mike Nobiling (SST)
      Clubs not represented: BARR, BCST, CBSC, HG, HLA, HYAC, NA, SCH
    - Athlete HOD Members Present: Olivia French (BSC), Matt Brailita (GOAL), Emily Fulcher (GOAL), Mallory Ferguson (ACE). Absent: Elliot Vech (FAST)
    - Club Athletes Present: Charlotte Schrum (SST), Addy Huerter (SCSC)
    - Others Present: Georgia Androy, Starre Haney, Bill Haney, Sunshine Fonda, Brian Adam, Adam Ogura, Kim Berndt, Paige Hunt, Thomas Lundin, Debra Pearson, Kim Schmidt, Ryan Korthals, Nikki Sheets, Tara Goss, Dave Struble
- Athlete Election
    - Only one eligible athlete
    - Bylaws state athlete must be 16 or a sophomore in HS at the time of election or appointment
    - MW Policies and Procedures changed with BOD vote (Mar 2 Zoom mtg) to accept one candidate
    - Will proceed with one candidate – Charlotte Schrum (SST) – and elected by default
- Declaration of Conflict of Interest Statement – printed and read by Stefanie; no conflicts announced.
- Minutes of November 17, 2025 and March 2, 2025 (emergency Zoom) – Motion to approve – David Nelson; Seconded-Betsy Purcell; Approved.
- Consent Agenda
    - Office Report
    - Financial Reports including MW budget for 2026
    - Motion to approve reports – Steve Marchitelli; Seconded – Jack French. Approved

## Quick recap

The meeting covered a range of administrative and organizational matters for a swimming-related group, including elections, bylaw changes, and policy updates. Discussions were held on strategic planning, athlete funding, and operational issues such as meet hosting and official requirements. The conversation ended with the approval of various amendments and the announcement of election results for several key positions within the organization.

## Next steps

- Sanction Committee: Make urgent decision regarding the hosting of 12 & under Long Course Championship meet, as UNO pool is unavailable
- Executive Committee: Review potential solutions for hosting the 12 & under Championship meet, including combining with 13 & over meet or finding alternative host team
- Miranda: Confirm Fremont pool availability for July 26th weekend for potential 12 & under Championship meet
- Governance Committee: Review and revise the policy regarding team officials' requirements and recruitment, addressing concerns about fairness to small teams and compliance with USA Swimming rules
- Governance Committee: Define clear criteria for "attached" and "unattached" membership status in policy documents
- Finance Committee: Consider including championship meet awards funding in future budgets
- Executive Committee: Review potential budget allocation for Midwestern Swimming to cover awards costs for championship meets
- Steve Marchitelli: Forward USA Swimming female coach governance program application information to interested coaches before May 15th deadline
- Steve: Update policy documents to reflect the correct club membership fees
- Steve: Update policy documents to change "Times Chair" references to "Secretary" for consistency
- Governance Committee: Consider bylaw changes to stagger Administrative Review Board terms to avoid simultaneous turnover
- Betty: Continue managing out-of-LSC meet times and database updates for Midwestern records and Top Times

## Summary

### Addressing Technical Issues and Voting

The meeting began with participants joining both in-person and online, causing some initial issues. Stefanie Martinez asked everyone to turn on their cameras so voting members could be seen. The group confirmed that a quorum was present, with 29 participants on Zoom. Stefanie worked to identify all online participants and ensure everyone can hear properly, addressing some technical issues with people joining twice.

### Athlete Election, Minutes, and Consent Agenda

Stefanie Martinez discussed the outcome of the athlete representative election, which was won by Charlotte Schrum as the only candidate due to age/grade issue with second candidate. Stefanie also mentioned the approval of the November 17th and March 2nd meeting minutes. The consent agenda, including the office report and financial reports, was approved without any opposition.

### Athlete Funding for Central Zone Summit

The meeting then focused on the request for athlete funding for the Central Zone athlete summit, with two athletes showing interest. Stefanie proposed reallocating funds to support the athletes' attendance at the summit, which was approved by the board.

### Strategic Plan

The Strategic Planning Committee (Jack French presenting) presented a strategic plan Power Point for 2025-2027 with five priorities: athlete growth and retention, high performance athlete development, coaching education and development, meet operations and competitive experience, and governance, organizational structure and digital presence. The plan includes specific tasks assigned to individuals in leadership roles. The HOD approved the strategic plan with the understanding that dates and individual assignments are flexible. Motion to approve – Jack French; Seconded – Docker Hartfield. Passed.

### Board of Directors Manual

The Governance Committee presented updates to the Board manual, including revised job descriptions for several positions and a proposed new media coordinator role. Some positions have been changed from chair to coordinator to align with USA Swimming Bylaws. The media coordinator position was discussed as potentially overwhelming and may require a committee or funding in the future.

### Bylaws Review and Proposed Changes

Stefanie Martinez reviewed proposed changes to the organization's bylaws. In Article 4, positions are changed from "chair" to "coordinator," and a requirement for visible participation in virtual meetings is added. Article 5 removes the Executive Secretary as an ex officio member and updates communication methods. Article 6 discusses changes to officer positions, including a debate about keeping the secretary position. Article 7 proposes that the general chair cannot hold office for two years after their term expires and adds mentorship responsibilities for the senior vice chair to support the Athlete Rep Committee.

### Approval of Proposed Bylaws Changes

The meeting focused on discussing and voting on changes to the organization's bylaws and policies. The Governance Committee proposed several amendments, including adding the Secretary back as an officer and modifying the Operational Risk Committee. The changes were approved with a majority vote. The meeting also discussed the removal of Woodbury County from the geographic territory, for which approval from USA Swimming has not been received. The updated bylaws and policies were approved, and the conversation ended with a discussion on the next steps. Motion made to amend to include Secretary as an officer – Leslie Mayo, Seconded – Betsy Purcell. Passed. Motion to approve as amended David Nelson; Seconded Paige Skidmore. Passed

### MW Policies and Procedures

The meeting focused on discussing and clarifying various policies and procedures related to club board members, voting rights, and the use of credit cards. The attendees discussed the need to define what it means to be attached to a team and how this affects voting rights. They also discussed changes to the reimbursement for officials, the use of credit cards, and the Annual Performance Review. The meeting also touched on swim meet policies, including the addition of the technical planning chair to the sanctioning committee and changes to the dates for team meets and Central Zones. The attendees agreed to work on defining what it means to be attached to a team and to clarify the process for initial splits in swim meets.

Stefanie Martinez discussed the proposed policy regarding the process of entering a meet with more than 10 swimmers, which would require a team to supply one official for every 10 swimmers. The team must also provide additional officials based on the number of swimmers. If a team fails to meet this requirement, they will not be allowed to enter the meet and will be fined $100. The team's swimmers would not be allowed to participate in the meet. The meeting also touched on the issue of recruiting officials, with suggestions for a more strategic approach rather than a punitive one. The team also discussed the process of awarding swimmer awards, with a focus on the age groups and the need for a Times chair. The conversation ended with a discussion on the increase in club membership fees – ($405.00 for renewing clubs and $930 for new clubs), which was voted on by the House of Delegates.

The Policies and Procedures changes will go back to the Board of Directors for approval.

**Noted: Nominations for Women in Governance** for USA Swimming due by May 15. Those with nominations should contact Steve Marchitelli.

### Elections Process and Administrative Review Board

In the meeting, Stefanie Martinez led the discussion on the elections process. Discussed was the eligibility of individuals, including Tony Vendetti (not currently in good standing), and Adam Ogura removing his name from the Delegate at Large slate. Stefanie also explained the roles and requirements of the

Administrative Review Board, emphasizing the need for a minimum of five non-athlete members and two athlete members. Votes were taken both online and in person via electronic voting for one office at a time. The process ended with the announcement of the election results for various positions, including the Age Group Chair – Tara Goss, Treasurer – Toby Rees, At Large Position – Georgia Androy, Technical Planning Chair – David Edwards, Operational Risk Chair – Adam Ogura, and Officials Chair – Dan Brailita. The Administrative Review Board was also discussed, with a decision made to add a sixth member to the board. Members will be Bill Haney, Kim Berndt, Kim Schmidt, Miranda Long, Brian Adam, Docker Hartfield, Theo Steiner (athlete) and Carter Brady (athlete)

### UNO Pool Unavailability Meet Discussion

The meeting discussed the hosting of the 12 and under long course championship meet. Jimmy and Jeff can no longer host the meet at UNO as planned due to pool unavailability. Various options are considered, including combining it with the 13 and over meet, hosting it at Fremont, or having Midwestern Swimming host it directly. Concerns are raised about equipment availability, staffing, and timeline implications. The group agrees to continue discussions, possibly involving the Sanction Committee or Executive Committee, to find a solution soon.

Also mentioned – request for MW to help teams host meets (Docker); consider paying for awards and hospitality. Noted not part of budget.
Request for MW to host 12 & U Short Course meet later in March by Renee Schomburg

**Motion to Adjourn** – 2:50 p.m.

Submitted by AI; reviewed and edited by Betty Kooy, Secretary