

# **Minnesota Swimming, Incorporated Board of Directors**

Minutes of the meeting of September 23, 2003 (Quorum equals 7 people)

**Present:**

**Executive Board Members:** David Braun, Joel Shinofeld, Jean Freeman, Drew Walden, Dennis Dale, Jack Boder

**Other Voting Board Members:** Tim Mann, Rocky O'Neil, Kathy Czuprynski, Michael Bougie, Paul Lundsten

**Appointed Committee Members:** James Goetz, Marlene Goblish, Dave Shapley, Jeff Chida

**MSI Staff:** Cassy Shapley, Sheryl McGuire

**Non-Board Members:** Al Ness (Twin), Chip Fechter (NLA), Chris Black (FOXJ), Duane Proell (Twin), Phil Julson (U of MN), Ellen Youngers (ROC), John Sfire (ROC), Jim Hanton (MVSC), Matt Brown (EDI), Dave Cameron (MYWO), Dave Villafana (BOLT)

The General Chair called meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

**Motion:** To approve the minutes of the meeting for July 15, 2003 Seconded; Passed with no corrections.

General Chair Report

- Change in the agenda
  - Convention Reports from BOD Members
  - Budget
  - House of Delegates
- Add Items
  - Request from MVSC to host an invitational
  - Closed Door Session (Code of Conduct Issue)

Due to General Chair's absence at the USA-Swimming convention because of business conflicts, will defer comments to Paul Lundsten who acted in the General Chair's behalf at convention.

(From Paul Lundsten)

- Internet Accessibility has been great for the vast majority of LSC's.
- Central Zone:
  - Zone bids by clubs must be submitted in conjunction with the LSC as the LSC shares responsibility. There was a bid submitted, but not presented because the LSC was not aware of it.
  - There will be a General Chairs meeting every other year held in conjunction with the Central Zone meet.
- Four-foot rule is now permanent. All starts in pools under four foot depth must be performed in water
- President of USA-Swimming has been empowered to remove a committee chair or member without reason.
- MSI Board positions that are supposed to attend the USA-Swimming convention are: General Chair, Senior Chair, Age Group Chair, Athlete Representative, and Administrative Vice Chair.
- Rule Change: Foreign athletes (Dennis Dale) are allowed to return to USA-Swimming clubs without the 120 day rule, like US college athletes.
- Beginning 2005 registration year online registration should be possible.

## Other notes / suggestions

- Equipment: MSI needs to determine if we are, or are not, in the equipment business. In discussing the issue with other LSC representatives discovered that many LSC's are and many have discontinued. If MSI does continue in the equipment business, then need to empower the Equipment Chair and better monitor use.
- Per Diem paid for MSI members attending convention should be based on number of days/nights of the convention at the amount allowed by IRS rather than the current confusing method.
- Notes from Kathy Czuprynski
  - MSI is the only LSC that has opted out of using the Pike's Peak Safety Training for Swimming Coaches. Rumor is that in two years this method will be required.
  - MSI should be very proud of Sarah Sofelt for her presentations of the swimmer retention seminar.

## Budget Presentation

- 2002-2003 Budget had a much larger than expected shortfall.
- Central Zone 2003 was \$16,000 over budget. Much of the cost overrun was due to the lower number of participants (121) than the projected (200 participants). The fixed costs for travel and lodging could not be decreased.
- Equipment presentation from Duane Proell / Jeff Chida regarding state of MSI equipment.
  - U of MN has taken over storage / maintenance of MSI equipment.
  - Most equipment is in disrepair.
  - Recommend fixing salvageable equipment. Some needs to be sent to Colorado for repair.
  - Cost to bring equipment up to standard is approximately \$17,000.
  - There is no check-in / check-out procedure and no monitoring. This needs to change.
  - Non-MSI groups are using equipment for little or no fee per use.

**Motion (Paul Lundsten): To allow only MSI member clubs to use MSI owned equipment. Passed, unanimous.**

**Motion: Fix equipment that can be repaired.**

Discussion: Much discussion about whether or not MSI should remain in the equipment business given the amount of money for purchase / upkeep of equipment. The most important factor in determination is gathering information about how many clubs use / need to use MSI-owned equipment. The most important step forward, if MSI remains in the equipment business, is to develop and follow a procedure to monitor the check-in / check-out and usage. Duane Proell pointed out that the equipment which needs to be sent to Colorado Timing for repair should be done as soon as possible because of the amount of time to ship/repair/return. If MSI does discontinue in the equipment, the repair costs can be recouped by selling the items.

**Motion: To call the question and end discussion. Passed, unanimous.**

**Passed, unanimous.**

- Recommend that equipment issue be debated at House of Delegates.
- A budget meeting occurred on September 18.
  - Main conclusion from an analysis of the budget was that when we changed bid meets weekends to invitational weekends we underestimated amount of revenue.
  - Major recommendations from the group are to increase the MSI per swimmer surcharge from \$1.50 to \$2.50 and add a surcharge of \$1.00 per day of meet for sanctioned non-bid type meets.

**Motion: To increase the MSI per swimmer surcharge from \$1.50 to \$2.50 for all scheduled bid meets. Passed, unanimous.**

**Motion (Jack Boder): To add a per swimmer surcharge to all sanctioned non-bid meets in the amount of \$1.00 for each day of the meet.**

**Amendment (Dennis Dale): The maximum of the surcharge to be \$2.50.**

**Amendment (Drew Walden): To make the surcharge \$1.50 for all sanctioned non-bid meets. This includes such meets as: dual, tri, quad, conference, NLSA conference, invitationals, or any other meet which receives a sanction from MSI.**

**Passed, unanimous.**

Mounds View Invitational Request

- Due to an erroneous statement by the General Chair at the Meet Bid meeting, Mounds View Swim Club mistakenly withdrew its bid for a meet. The club is requested that MSI allow it to add an invitational on the weekend of February 14 & 15, 2004.

**Motion (Tim Mann): To allow MVSC to host an invitational on the weekend of February 14-15.**

Discussion: MSI legislation prohibits "A" swimmers (including those from the host club) from participating in invitational meets the weekend prior to an "A" meet without the permission of the "A" meet host. This meet would be prior to the "A" meet hosted by the Rochester Swim Club. The MVSC representative stated that although some of their "A" swimmers might enter the meet, they would also enter the Rochester "A" meet as well. Rochester denied permission for any "A" swimmers other than the MVSC from entering the MVSC invitational meet.

**Amendment (Dennis Dale): To limit the invitational meet to B/C swimmers, along with any of the "A" swimmers from MVSC.**

Discussion: Question posed to Rochester: if their meet filled, or looked to fill by end of January, if MVSC could add those swimmers to their meet. Rochester agreed. Question posed to Rochester as to the date of their entry deadline. Rochester answered that it was February 13 (the Friday the week before the meet) as per MSI legislation, although they had several times in the past requested to move it earlier and been denied.

**Amendment (Tim Mann): To allow the Rochester Swim Club Orcas to move their entry deadline to January 30<sup>th</sup> so as to allow any "A" swimmers more time to switch to the MVSC meet if the Rochester meet fills.**

**The amendment was withdrawn when Rochester declined the change in the deadline.**

Rochester did agree to communicate with MVSC regarding the status of their meet size as the deadline approaches so that any "A" swimmers can be contacted about the opportunity to compete in the MVSC meet.

**Motion passed unanimously as amended.**

**Motion: To extend the BOD meeting by 10 minutes. Passed, not unanimous.**

**Motion: As compensation for the error of the General Chair, to allow MVSC to keep all fees from their invitational.**

Discussion: There is precedence for this type of action from last year when MSI returned fees to Rochester Swim Club after a quad meet was sanctioned the same weekend as the Rochester B/C meet. The meet was sanctioned because of confusion over multiple zonings of the weekend caused by the resignation of the previous Age Group Chair and lack of hosts for the meet.

**Amendment: to allow MVSC to keep all fees other than the MSI surcharge.**

**Motion was withdrawn at the request of MVSC-may submit a request after the meet.**

**Motion: To end the open session and move into closed session. Passed, not unanimous.**

Closed Session:

The General Chair read a reply letter from the USA-Swimming General Counsel regarding a code of conduct issue. No motions were entertained nor business conducted.

**Motion to adjourn at: 9:50pm.**