

Wisconsin Swimming, Inc., Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes: April 26, 2005
Waukesha South High School, Waukesha, Wisconsin

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Bradley, Karen Dionne, Carol Graham, Dave Joyce, Patty Kramer, Pat Lewno, Cathie Marty, Matt Miller, Dale Nickels, Joel Rollings, Nancy Roos, Dave Westfahl, Neil Wright, Susan Zblewski

CALL TO ORDER: Dale Nickels, General Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

REVIEW OF MINUTES: The minutes of the January, 2005, meeting were reviewed and approved.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS:

Chairman's Report: Dale reported that the nominations will be discussed during the New Business portion of the Delegates Meeting tonight. Jim Mohr needs to be replaced as the head of the Finance Committee, Matt Miller has reached the end of his term limits as Age Group Chair, and Dale is also at his term limit for Chairman. Drew Walden and Dave Clark have been nominated for Chairman; Cheri Zimdars, Bob Jenkyns and Phil Sass for Age Group Chair; and Dale Nickels for head of the Finance Committee.

Treasurer's Report: Pat Lewno reported that the LSC is in the black by a lot so far this year. She is sending out letters to the Clubs who don't send in meet results properly – most people are unhappy to receive the letter, but then do it the right way. She has probably sent out about 3 dozen letters so far.

Age Group Chairman's Report: Matt Miller reported that the dates have been set for the Spring Championship Meets:
12 & Under – February 24- 26
13 & Over – March 3 – 5

Matt attended the Age Group Chairs Meeting recently in Colorado where 40 out of 50 LSC's were represented. Four major issues were discussed:

- 1) Developmental: the differences between boys and girls; and within each gender; and what those differences mean in terms of when to start heavier aerobic loads, weight lifting, etc.
- 2) Boys in Swimming: overall decline in numbers versus the number of girls since 1980
- 3) Different Meet Formats: pull events out of a hat; pentathlons; compete over the internet with a club in another state; etc.
- 4) Parent Education: what different LSC's are doing.

There was also a lot of discussion about moving to single age group meets and time standards – in part to make swimming more attractive to boys.

USA Swimming is planning to eliminate funding for the Catch the Spirit Camps and instead offer Zone Camps. The plan for these Camps is not finalized, but in general, the top 2 in each event in each zone would qualify for a camp. The Camps would be for 12- 14 year olds; the qualifying events would be long course events, excluding the 50's.

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Senior Chair Report: Joel Rollings reported on the Senior Committee meeting that was held in mid-April. The Committee decided that acceptable proof of times will include a printout of the STAR database (pending approval of Rules).

The Committee also set the meet guidelines for the State Meet based on recommendations for a three-day meet from USA swimming:

Friday: 100 BR; 200 FR; 100 FL; 200 IM; 800 FR Relay (swum fastest to slowest in prelims, top 8 at night), 800 FR (fastest to slowest, top 8 at night). In finals, the 800 free and the 800 free relays switch event order.

Saturday: 200 FR Relay; 400 IM; 50 FR; 200 BR; 100 BK; 400 Med Relay; 400 Free. In finals, the 400 Medley Relay and 400 Free are switched. Both are swum fastest to slowest in prelims and slowest to fastest in finals. The top 8 are always the finals heat in finals.

Sunday: 200 BK; 100 FR; 200 FL; 400 FR Relay; 1500; in finals, the 1500 is the first event. The 1500's will be run slowest to fastest, with the second fastest heat beginning one hour before the final session's warm-ups.

The Committee discussed separating 15/16's from the Seniors. But the numbers don't justify it for the summer – it wouldn't be quality racing. It will be considered again for the winter.

The relay rule will be enforced – teams with 0-4 qualifiers can have one relay; 5-8 can have 2 relays; etc.

Athletes are allowed a maximum number of five events. The 50 stroke events have been eliminated because we are moving toward a National event order. The 200 sprint relays will be retained allowing swimmers to race the 50s of each of the strokes.

The Committee would like to see pace lanes established during warm-ups. The 1500's will be run between sessions. This will allow the athletes a chance to come later in the session, plus there will be more spectators because the last heat will be the first event of finals.

A consolation and final heat of the Senior 400 relays will be swum in the evening, but the 13/14's will have a final heat only.

Reasonable breaks will be built into the Meet – there will be 5 minute breaks before all relays and 15 minute breaks before distance events. Awards presentations will occur after every two events in finals. It is the team's responsibility to have the swimmer (or proxy) ready to receive the award.

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Records Chair Report: Dave Joyce reported that he will circulate an order form for plaques for state records set in the past year at the Delegates Meeting. Ninety-six records were set last year; ten teams were involved in the records, and the 11-12 age group was the most active. He also plans to pass around the records for review.

Disabilities Swimming: Karen Dionne reported her Committee has changed its name for the Adaptive Committee to the Disabilities Swimming Committee. They want the word “disabled” to be used instead of “adapted or adaptive” from now on. She attended their meeting in February in Chicago. One of their main goals is to expand the pool of athletes by getting more of them interested and keeping them interested.

The National Disabilities Meet has been cancelled because of its proximity to the US Paralympics National Championships in July. They may create a short course championship meet instead. The US Paralympics Open is in December. The American records for disabled athletes have been updated and four Wisconsin swimmers hold 24 of the records.

Camps: John Bradley reported that he has finalized a letter with details regarding the Altitude Training camp that will be on the website shortly. The letter explains what athletes have to do to qualify for the camp that will occur August 24 – 28. A panel will decide who gets to go once the applications have been received – John Bradley will not be on the panel. He is still looking for a Coach to go with the athletes.

The Ultimate Technique Camp has been postponed until the Fall because he is hoping that a better quality guest athlete will be available to attend, and more swimmers will be eligible to attend. (Anyone who qualified at the Spring Meet will be able to go in the Fall, as will athletes that qualify at the Summer State Meet.)

Technical Planning Chair Report: Dave Westfahl reported that the Technical Planning Committee did not have a meeting in February. He sent out a survey to the Committee regarding what people want in meets. The next step is to decide who else to send this to.

Finance Committee: No Report.

Registration/Membership Chair Report: The next mailing date will be June 1.

Officials Chair Report: Sue Zblewski reported that the Spring Certification Clinics have started, with 10 participants at the first clinic. No one else from Sue’s Committee is interested in heading up the Officials Committee because Sue has been doing such an outstanding job. George Geanon is going to the Officials meeting over Memorial Day weekend.

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Coaches' Representative: The ballots are in for coaches and swimmers of the year; Congratulations to the winners:

Age Group Female Swimmer of the Year: Aja Van Hout, MEYO
Age Group Male Swimmer of the Year: Mitchell Friedmann, LAKE
Age Group Coach of the Year: John Bradley, WEST

Senior Female Swimmer of the Year: Allison Smith, GBSC
Senior Male Swimmer of the Year: Derrick O'Donnell, MSS
Senior Coach of the Year: Jack Pettinger, BAC

Jeanne Drzewiecki of North Shore Swim Club will be the new Coaches' Representative.

Safety Planning: Nothing to report.

Rules Committee: Patty Kramer reported that she will have several rule recommendations for the Delegates to vote on tonight. She will have those that require no discussion be voted on as a group.

Administrative Chair: No report.

NEXT MEETING: June 28, 2005

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy Roos, Secretary