May 14, 2011
Ozark House of Delegates Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location: RecPlex, St. Peters, MO
Meeting start: 1:09 pm

ATTENDEES:

Bob Rettle, Gussie Crawford, Ben Christiansen, Beth Paskoff, Thomas May, Karl Larson, Jason Cravens, Jay Newton, Thom Bick, Brian Perkins, Drew May, Max Byers, Easton Noble, Sean Harrison, Hannah Vineyard, Amy Schulz, Erik Strom, Bruce Dreyer, Bill Hillmer, Karen Baker, Lori Metz, Steve Grimm, Brooke Carr, Jack Maddan, Dave Schulte, Rudy Oates, Alice Oates, Rudy Oates, Jr., Justin Oates, Christian Oates, Mark Imig, Jordan Looper, Angie McLaughlin, Brandon Taylor, John Lynch, Mary Liston

ADOPTION OF 2/27/11 MINUTES

Minutes of the 2/27/11 HOD meeting were approved. Mark Imig motion, Erik 2nd.

ATHLETE REPORT

Max Byers will meet with athletes. Max is starting a journal on recruiting and hopefully will get posted on the website. Ben Christiansen questioned how athletes get involved as an Athlete Rep. Erik suggested the athletes set up a template of things they do to and to publish so that other athletes know what goes on and get interested. It was noted that Maddie Wall and Justin Oates are both now on National Committees. Tom Lombardo stated that the Athletes are also on the Board to remind the Board to keep athletes as their first priority in making decisions.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ben Christiansen reported that since Debbie Catani could not be there, he would review. Bob Rettle, Ben, Erik Strom, and Debbie met to do an audit on the books and review the tax report. A couple of questions came up, and everything was worked through successfully. Taxes have been submitted. Everything is going according to plan. Big budget items coming up are Convention which is on budget, and Senior Nationals Travel and Zones which will be coming up soon. They discussed that we need as many swimmers going to Zones as possible and they discussed reducing costs to the athletes and making it an option to purchase Jackets and bags. Gussie made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, 2nd by Bruce Dreyer. Motion passed.

ADMIN VICE CHAIR

Bob Rettle appointed Bruce Dreyer as Vice Chair. There were no objections. The Vice Chair works with by-laws and Officials Committee. Bruce will fill this job well.

REGISTRATION CHAIR

Gussie Crawford reported that there are 2897 total athletes of which 20 are seasonal athletes (4/1-8/15) and 99 outreach. There are 311 Non-Athletes, 28 Clubs of which 2 are provisional and Matthews-Dickey is trying to be reinstated. Brandon Taylor reported that he is working to bring them back. He gave a short bio of himself and the club. Brandon is working with Rudy Oates, Gussie, and Bob Rettle in his effort to reinstate. He also reported that Val Taylor passed away last Tuesday, 5/10. The Funeral is 5/21 and visition is Friday, 5/20 at Austin Wayne 4:30-7:00 pm.

Gussie reported that everyone needs a background check done. No one may get a card without background, and there will be no more temporary cards. Make sure to use legal names. Officials need Level 2 background.

AGE GROUP/TECH PLANNING

Age Group – Erik touched on Zones about the finances for individual families and their costs. Erik has started the initial planning for Zones. He has bids from B&B, On-The-Blocks, and some other people for uniforms. He also has bid requests in to Mid-America, Trailways, and Vandalia bus lines for travel. Erik will be glad to assist the new Age Group Chair in hotel room reservations in Topeka.

Technical Planning – Erik sent out surveys and did not get a great response. From the response he got, below are the main things people wanted:

1. Create opportunities for C/B swimmers to swim.
2. Create opportunities for AAA/Senior Swimmers
3. Erik thought that relays were also important to meets, but they have been cut due to long timelines.

Erik is planning to get Tech bid guidelines out next week. There are several dates they would like to set:

1. Ozark A – 11/18-20 the weekend of 11/11-13 would be protected
2. Division II 2/9-11 – the weekend of 2/3-5 would be protected
3. Division I 2/24-26 – the weekend of 2/17-19 protected
4. LC Champs 7/27-29 – the weekend of 7/20-22 protedted

By protecting, Erik said the Technical Planning committee would not approve any meets on those weekends.

Tom Lombardo brought up that the lead time on meets is long, and the information is not being posted quickly enough for families to make decisions about meets. Jay Newton stated that it was in the Sanction Application that the Meet Info needed to be done 3 weeks prior to the meet opening. Beth Paskoff offered to put an event list on the website for each meet if available. Sean Harrison also suggested that Time Standards be posted on the website for each meet.

COACHES REP

If anyone needs anything, please feel free to contact Jay Newton.

OFFICIALS COMMITTEE

Brian Perkins reported on the Official's committee. He went through a list of changes being made with the Official's committee. They have implemented the OTS (Official's Tracking System). They held an Officials Training Clinic in May. Starters Clinic will be held if they have 3 people who would like to train. Brian reviewed Apprentice Evaluations and Mentoring. They are streamlining the process to make it more effective. They have changed Evaluations of Officials During meets. They have 5-6 now signed up to evaluate, but they would like 10-12 to get the process done. They are making an effort to recruit new officials during registration in the fall. Official's Advancement Requirements will be changed to 1 year of deck work before becoming a started. There is a minimum of sessions that must be worked before advancement. The Official's committee will create a mission statement putting the Athletes first.

Brian discussed the National Officials Certification Program and suggested two motions.

1. Re-establish OQM's (Officials Qualifying Meets) where N2 & N3 Evaluations may be done. Bruce Dreyer made a motion to approve this, Erik 2nd. Motion passed.
2. Brian wants to start an adhoc committee to establish a stipend fund to Assist Officials with their expenses associated with meets related to N3 Advancement. A committee will be established. No motion needed to be made. Brian will work with Ben Christiansen to created this stipend. Tom Lombardo wanted to make sure this does not affect the Athlete budget.

DIVERSITY/OUTREACH

Alice stated that at the last meeting we made a proposal that when you purchase a USA Card, you have 30 days to request reimbursement for hardship. We need to adopt that within Ozark as well. Thom Bick's recommendation was that we adopt this in Ozark and that people may apply for Hardship at any time with the restriction that they may not go back in time and reclaim meet fees. The policy would only be for future meets. Gussie made a motion that we adopt this policy, Mark Imig 2nd. Motion passed

The 2nd part of the process is that there is money in the Outreach Fund, but since more people may apply, we are in danger of using up all the money in the budget. The money comes now from fundraisers. Alice stated that we have the opportunity to create fund from the USA Registration fees, but Gussie has already completed this. Tom Lombardo suggested we raise event fees at Ozark sponsored meets such as Division II, Division I, and LC Champs and put that fee in the Outreach fund. Gussie also stated that there were now 15 Unattached Outreach swimmers in the LSC. Ben Christiansen will work on this and figure out what is needed. This will be brought up to the Board of Directors for a decision.

Diversity – Rudy Oates, Junior reported that he had a conference call. They are looking to bring some Senior and College level swimmers back to mentor some of the younger swimmers.

SWIMS DATABASE

Jason Cravens reported all is well. He is now training a replacement. Bob Rettle brought up YMCA Times going to the database and as a fundraiser for Outreach that maybe Y clubs could pay the sanction fee they used to pay. John Lynch said that he would be open to paying that fee. Y meets can sanctioned when all members in the meet are USA Swimmers.

RECORDS

Mark Imig reported all is well.

WEBSITE

Beth Paskoff reported that all is well.

BUDGET REPORT

Ben Christiansen went over the audit which was reported under the Treasurer's report. They reviewed transaction logs, tax returns. They found a couple of questions which were clarified with the bookkeeper. All is in order.

ELECTIONS

Slate of officers is:

Age Group Chair: Brooke Carr/Sean Harrison and Colin Kennedy
Treasurer – Debbie Catani
Secretary – Beth Paskoff
Registration – Gussie Crawford
Tech Planning – Erik Strom
At Large #1 – Steve Grimm
At Large #2 – Ron Marion
At Large #3 – Brian Perkins
Board of Review – need 4 – Lisa Hof, Mary Jane Wohler, Christina Dreyer, Larry Jukes

Tom Lombardo brought up that he was on the nominating committee but was not notified of nominations. Bob said they discussed at the meet last weekend and that he emailed Tom. Mike Hillmer stated that the Slate of Officers was not posted on the website for 20 days. The vote could be protested if it's not posted. A suggestion was made to vote and if it is protested, then the HOD will meet in 20 days to vote again.

Nominations were opened. Bill Hillmer nominated himself for Member at Large, Angie McLaughlin nominated Lori Metz for Member at Large, and John Lynch nominated himself for Board of Review.

Nominations were closed, and no objections were made to the slate. The HOD voted on the uncontested slate first. No one opposed the slate, vote carried by acclamation.

Roll call was made by Beth Paskoff and ballots handed to voters. Ben Christiansen, Bob Rettle, and Beth Paskoff collected and tallied votes. The results follow:

Age Group Chair: Brook Carr & Sean Harrison
Members at Large: Steve Grimm, Ron Marion, Brian Perkins
Board of Review: Lisa Hof, Mary Jane Wohler, Christina Dreyer, Larry Jukes.

A motion was made to destroy the ballots, 2nd. Ballots will be destroyed after the vote.
Bob Rettle announced results.

HALL OF FAME

The following Volunteered to nominate candidates for the Hall of Fame: Dave McCrary (appointed), Mary Liston, Tom Lombardo, Max Byers, and Thom Bick.

HOD MEETING

A date was not set for the next HOD meeting. We need to have one at least once per year.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.