

**NIAGARA LSC
HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING
OCTOBER 10, 2010**

- I. **Meeting** was called to order at 1:05 pm.
- II. **Roll Call:** 50 member clubs and organizations were present. 20 athletes were registered. 15 of 20 members of the Board of Directors were present. In all there was 85 total voting members.
- III. **Minutes** The minutes from 4/10. The minutes should read University of Alabama, not Vermont. By motion the minutes were approved with the correction noted.
- IV. **Officers' Reports**
 - A. **General Chair: M Callan** Everyone on the Board is working on moving NI LSC forward.
 - B. **Eastern Zone Meeting and Director's Report** A report is posted on the website.
 - C. **Administrative Vice-chair B. Boyle** A report was given. The Officials work chart should be sent both to S. Seiler and the Admin. Vice-Chair. The meet referee should have this form. It is also on the website.
 - D. **Senior Group Vice-Chair M. Keating** He is developing a couple of clinics for the LSC. One would be Sat/Sun in Rochester and another in Southern Tier for designated age groups.
 - E. **Age Group Vice-Chairman A. Zackowski** We are working with a different clothing vendor; also working with Speedo; hope to have portal available Team Unified for the Zone team. Volunteers are needed to assist with the Zone Team. We hope to expand to 15 and over athletes.
 - F. **Finance Chair J. Kingston** LSC has a solid year. The investment portfolio stabilized. Third year in a row that we have had a surplus. The Board is reviewing investing more in the clubs.

There was a questionnaire completed. Diversity/Outreach—clubs need more information. Shawn Parkhurst is the LSC Diversity Chair; Training (information to member clubs) – BOE considering a regional approach to hold training, Q & A session with a primary goal of aligning the LSC and BOE better. The LSC has a variety diverse level of competition and needs. Both some smaller and larger clubs have gone their own way. There is a perception that the LSC is more aligned to the larger clubs. USA swimming has already set up Club support programs. The BOD will try to have more Niagara Clubs to involve themselves with those programs.

We have shifted several line items into a Club Support program. USA prefers that the LSC switch to four-year blocks for training, finance, etc. A four-year budget will be started in 2012.

- G. **Technical Planning Chair: T. Dubois** The Technical Planning report is posted on the website. Both performance and splashes in the LC season

remained the same. The Versatile and Go-the-Distance are no longer supported by USA. Thus the award will be exclusively for IMX performances. The Go-the-Distance has been removed from the calendar; an IMX meet for 12 and under has replaced this meet. We would like to increase participation to 15%; it is currently around 7%. More support for our members clubs should also improve the swimming in the LSC. Club Recognition program that began last year is continuing. 14 Clubs are participating in this program this year. Information about the Recognition program is on the website. There is also information about Swimming Club Excellence Awards on the web. Virtual Club Championships are listed as well.

- H. Coaches' Representatives: Senior/Junior R. Callan/R. Aronberg There was meeting of the coaches prior to the HOD. Open water opportunities are abundant in the area. Whitney Point has a meet over Father's Day; Canandaigua Aquatics on July 16th; the NI LSC will hold a championship meet. Open water events are now in the Olympics. Coach Staley has been involved in open water events for a while. A former NI LSC swimmer Alex Meyers is a top open water swimmer. The time standards are different and some may be more attainable. The open water nationals this year are in Fort Meyers. Callan can be contact for more information.

Aronberg stressed coaches need to be working together. Our Zone team needs to be stronger; coaches need to get our younger swimmers excited. We need to attend more meets. The coaches need better education. All coaches should also be ASCA certified. Coaches will be undergoing additional background checks. Registrar Bowen is a good resource for information as to certification.

- I. Athlete Representatives Report The report was posted on the website. C. Garman discussed the need for more outdoor LC meets. Clubs should do more dual or tri-meets are fun. More scholarship opportunities should be available. 15 athletes attended the Athlete Meeting preceding the HOD.
- J. Safety Report B. Paradis The report is posted.
- K. Treasurer's Report S. Snyder The Genesee Valley League gave its annual donation of approximately \$1,000. Treasurer reviewed a few items on the Budget Report distributed at the HOD.
- L. Membership – Current Club Statistics The club report is posted on the website. There is a range of between 10 to 200 swimmers. 78 Clubs are registered. Auburn and Jamestown YMCA are newly registered.
- M. Membership – Athlete Registration Graph The Registration graph is posted on the website. Membership did not decrease as much as expected after the Olympic Games.
- N. Secretary's Report: M. Keating No report.

V. **Reports of Committees and Coordinators**

- A. Officials S. Seilor The chair was absent but a report was posted. The background check was discussed. Fred Leff, Sharlene Ransford and Dave

Wooster are new clinicians. The LSC has no one that can certify at the national level per Bowen. There is a concern that the NI LSC swimmers may not be closely aligned with trends within USA. The question was raised as to how become regionally/nationally certified. Could something be posted? Thanks were given to F. Leff for referring a recent meet.

- B. Legislation/By-Laws G. Karl A report was posted on the website. Last April some amendments to the by-laws that passed were approved by USA. Some USA rules concerning the Board of Review have been changed.
- C. Disability/Diversity S. Parkhurst A Diversity Camp will be run in the Eastern Zone in Maryland during June 16-18 at LaSalle University. Holding a Diversity Select Camp is a goal for the LSC. Please contact him. Manny Banks is running information on the USA website. Diversity/Outreach is being separated. Outreach is more about finances. Diversity is more about ethnicity/race.

Queenie Nichols received an award at the USA Convention.

- D. Scholarship B. Paradis A report is posted. There is a \$1,000 increase in the scholarship. A question was raised about assistance with USA registration. The Athlete Registration is \$5.00. Two ways are used to qualify. NI LSC uses the Federal reduced lunch criteria or documentation of any federal assistance. Contact through the club's registration person to Bowen is the correct action.
- E. Board of Review R. Sampson No report.
- F. National Times Verification R. Matlack The report is posted.
- G. Communications E. Stimson His contact information is posted on the NI LSC.
- H. Records Report: Individual SCY/Relay SCY Individual LCM J. Bowen
The website will be updated having just received a 47 page fax last week.

VI. Unfinished (old) Business

None.

VII. New Business

- A. Athlete Protection Program Bowen/Karl The program is still in its infancy so details are not available. Background checks will be required for all non-athlete members. There are a few points posted on the website. No vendor has yet to be selected. The implementation schedule is not available. New cards for non-athletes will be printed "Temporary". New cards will be issued once the screening has been passed. All non-athlete registration forms may be sent to Bowen. Common sense should be used in implementing some of the changes. The education program for Athlete Protection is a year away. **Member clubs should review the Policies and Guidelines posted on the website.**
- B. New Club Strengthening Program Dubois/Kingston Any club that has not started on the Club Recognition process can pick one up from

Kingston. The goal is to take some of the liquid assets and plug the money back into clubs. Areas: Club Strengthening: just under \$75,000 by combining individual line items. Swimmer travel remains stable at \$42,000. Camps remain at \$5,000 as well as Club Clinics. \$10,000 for Club Recognition. Coach training remains at \$5,000. Hi Tech is increased to \$2,500. Outreach is still in the building stage with the intent to put dollars and equipment. Some formulas for supporting outreach swimmers that may match funds to encourage these athletes to compete more. Some clubs in economically strapped areas; clubs whose outreach levels reach 30% there would be no matching funds. (2010 budget was \$59,000 and now is going to \$75,000 for these programs.) Outreach swimmers have obstacles including purchasing suits and goggles may be supported by vendors. The grant program was modeled after the Maryland LSC. Cash incentives will be given to club to reach certain benchmarks: Club Recognition, Club Excellence, Virtual Club Championship, % of swimmers competing in IMX; smaller awards for club attendance outside the LSC, open water meet participation, Speedo Sectional participation, Club referee and starter. This is meant to provide incentives all of the member clubs to improve their program. When details are approved by the BOD, they will be posted on the website.

- C. Approval of Budget for Fiscal Year 2011 J. Kingston The proposed budget was posted on the website. Kingston walked the Delegates through the proposed budget. The budget was approved by a motion that passed.
- D. Niagara elections for Nominating Committee The following individuals will serve on the Nominating Committee: C. Torrell (Syracuse), Alec Pokornowski (Buffalo), Billy Patrum (Buffalo), Jean Aurio (Rochester), JJ Bay (Rochester), Jerry Roberts (Southern Tier). The nominations were closed. B. Paradis also serves. The entire slate was approved by acclamation.
- E. Meet Calendar 4/2011-8/2011 B. Boyle **The next HOD will be held 4/30/10.** May 8th Whitney Point the LC super circuit meet was added through a motion that passed. Following presentations by each club (SEAS and STAR) the conflict for the Niagara LSC LC Championships (&/29-731/11) was resolved in favor of SEAS by a vote of 27 to 25 with two abstentions. The August 4-7 Super Circuit was removed since Pennsylvania will host this meet. The meet calendar for the period of April through August 2011 was approved as amended by a motion that passed. The Sizzler Meet should be moved to 7/22-23/11 with FAST hosting. This motion passed.
- F. Award Presentations
 - i. 2010 Niagara Conoco Phillips Outstanding Service Award was presented to Martha Keating.

VIII. Resolutions and Orders None.

IX. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Martha S. Keating,
Niagara Secretary