

## **House of Delegates Meeting**

**May 2, 2015**

General Chair Jim Bowen called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

**Reading Corrections and Adoptions of the previous meeting** It was moved and seconded to accept the minutes as written. The motion passed.

**Roll Call:** Present are 50 clubs, athletes, 13 Board of Directors for a total of 63 votes.

### **Reports of Officers**

**General Chair:** The report is posted on the Niagara website. The Chair thanked members of the Board whose terms are expiring: Ryan Callan, Will Chidsey, Nick Olson, Martha Keating and John Kingston.

**Administrative Vice Chair:** The report is posted on the Niagara website. Moved for \$1500 to rent a facility so that Board can establish good communications. This was deferred to new business.

**Senior Group Vice Chair:** Awards were distributed. He is willing to field questions about reimbursements for travel.

**Age Group Vice Chair:** The report is posted on the Niagara website. Both teams placed third at the Zone Meet.

**Finance Vice Chair:** The LSC maintains a sound financial standing. Club recognition applications should be filed now. Level One is the door opener for clubs to start getting funds for improvement.

**Technical Planning Chair:** The report is posted on the Niagara website. Added four new members to the Committee.

**Coach Representative:** About 30 coaches attended the earlier meeting. Chris Musshafen was elected as the Coaches Representative.

**Athlete Representatives Report:** No report. A question was asked about athlete representation on or committees. Per discussions at the National Convention, the athlete representation requirement is not meant to be applied to the local swim committee. Thus, there is no firm/fixed requirement. Niagara is in compliance through its By-laws. A discussion occurred about the conflict between this meeting and athletes taking the SATs. The date of the HOD is part of the BID Calendar.

**Safe Sport:** Five reports are posted on the Niagara website. There is a new page from USA and there is a link on the Niagara website.

**Treasurer's Report:** See attached.

**Niagara LSC Records:** Short Course and Long Course records are posted on the Niagara website. 44 new records were set.

**Secretary's Report:** No report.

### **Reports of Committees and Coordinators**

**Open Water:** No report. The two scheduled meets are as stated.

**Officials:** Reports are posted on the Niagara website. Starts and finishes during practice is a good opportunity to have the club's officials practice their skills.

**Disability:** We are looking for a new chair. This is an appointed position.

**Diversity:** The chair reported that there is a new icon on the website so that information is more accessible. While general national membership is declining, outreach membership is increasing. The 100 Freestyle at Division I was won by three African American women placing one through three.

**Scholarship:** The Application and Instructions are on the Niagara website. **THE DEADLINE IS 5/31/15.**

**National Times Verification:** The report is posted on the Niagara website.

**Communications:** Five reports are posted on the Niagara website.

**Website:** Questions were solicited, but none were asked.

### **New Business**

#### **Approval of Meet Calendar:**

See attached. There are two conflicts: 1) Niagara Championship Qualifier I the Southern Tier (2/5-7/16). Presentations were made by both clubs. The HOD awarded the meet to UNAC. 2) Weekend of March 5-6, 2016 in the Buffalo area. A motion was made and seconded to allow both meets to run. The motion passed.

We tried to schedule 14 & Under one weekend and a Senior meet on another weekend, however, combined/consolidated age groups Championships Meets were held over the past decade. This past year the size exceeded 900 swimmers and the facility became concerned. FAST explained changes to the meet that the Technical Planning Committee should be able to make that will tailor the meet to fit the athletes' needs: faster time cuts, maximum number of heats, fewer distance events, etc. Restrictions from Webster Aquatic, the facility: number of athletes on deck, 30 minute between warm-up and start of the meet, etc. A motion was made to approve the alternate proposal eliminating the two weeks for which there are no bids. (This

frees up February 26-28/15 weekend. The combined meet stays on 3/10-13/15.)  
The motion passed.

A motion was made by the three host clubs to move all of the Niagara Championship meet to February 26-18. The motion passed. (This will open up the 2/5-7/15 weekend.)

A motion was made and seconded to approve six additional meets that arrived after the deadline. The motion passed.

The bid calendar as amended [above] was approved by a motion that passed.

### **Proposals for Additions to Policies and Procedures:**

#### **205.3.1**

**H. Qualifying time standards for the Niagara (short course) Championship Qualifier and Championship Meets must be updated with any changes and posted to the Niagara website no later than August 31 preceding the championship meets.**

**Qualifying times standards for the Niagara (long course) Championship meet must be updated with any changes and posted to the Niagara website no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> preceding the meet.**

There was a motion made and seconded to approve the addition to 205.3.1. Discussion ensued. A motion was made and seconded to amend the proposal by changing the word “must” to “should”. Discussion took place. The motion failed.

The original proposal passed.

#### **202.2**

The following procedures shall apply with respect to the application for a sanction in Niagara LSC:

C. Once the calendar for any season has been established by the House of Delegates, sanctions may be issued only for open dates during that season, and only by action of the Executive Committee, **Administrative Vice Chair or Meet Sanction Coordinator.**

The motion was made and seconded to approve the change to 202.2. The motion passed.

A general discussion ensued concerning philosophies of how to structure the Championship meets. Emails should be sent to Will Chidsey.

## **Niagara Elections:**

**General Chair:** Marci Callan was put forward by the Nominations Committee; nominated from the floor was Eric Lind. Nominations were closed by a motion that passed.. The nominees addressed the HOD. Eric Lind was elected.

**Senior Vice Chair:** The Nominations Committee put Dave Baker forward. Nominations were closed by motion. The secretary was directed to cast one unanimous vote for Dave Baker. Due to the absence of the candidate, a motion was made and seconded to invalidate the election of the Senior Vice Chair. The motion passed.

**Registrar:** The Nominations Committee put Eric Stimson forward. Nominations were closed by motion that passed. The secretary was directed case one unanimous vote for Eric Stimson.

**Junior Coach Representative:** The coaches elected Christopher Musshafen from EAST as Junior Coach Representative.

**Junior Athlete Representative:** The Nominations Committee put Jared Kettinger forward. The secretary was directed to cast one unanimous vote for Jared Kettinger.

**Secretary:** The Nominations Committee put Sara Smith forward. Nominations were closed by a motion that passed. The secretary was direct to case on unanimous vote for Sara Smith.

**Finance Vice Chair:** The Nominations Committee put John Kingston forward. John Kingston withdrew. Nominations were solicited from the floor. No nominations were made. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations passed.

**Technical Planning Chair:** (1 year term through 8/31/16): The Nominations Committee put Will Chidsey and Ryan Callan forward as Co-Chairs. Nominations were closed by a motion that passed. The secretary was directed to cast one unanimous vote for Will Chidsey and Ryan Callan.

A motion was made and seconded that the ballots be destroyed. The motion passed.

## **Resolution and orders**

Proposal to amend the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Article 203 was posted on the Niagara website. Discussion occurred. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal. The motion passed.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.