

**MTHSSA Fall 2025 Meeting**  
**Saturday, August 23, 2025, 10:00 AM**  
**Montgomery Bell Academy**

- I. **Welcome.**
- II. **Schools in Attendance:** BGA, Blackman HS, Blackman MS, Brentwood Academy HS, Brentwood Academy MS, Brentwood HS, Brentwood MS, Centennial HS, Central Magnet, MTCS, Christ Presbyterian Academy, Coffee County, Columbia Central, Cornersville, Ensworth MS, Ensworth HS, Father Ryan, Forrest, Franklin Road Academy HS, Franklin Road Academy MS, Franklin County, Franklin HS, Freedom MS, Gladeville MS, Grace Christian Academy, Green Hill HS, Harpeth Hall HS, Henry County, Hillsboro HS, Hume-Fogg, Immaculate Conception School, Independence, Marshall County, Mill Creek MS, MTHEA Makos, Middle TN Christian School, Mount Juliet HS, Nolensville HS, Oakland HS, Oakland MS, Page HS, Page MS, Providence Christian Academy, Ravenwood HS, Riverdale HS, Rockvale HS, Rockvale MS, Siegel HS, Siegel MS, St. Andrew's Sewanee, Stratford HS, St. Rose Middle, Summit, Sumner County, Hendersonville HS, Thurman Francis, University School of Nashville, Valor Academy, Westwood MS, Wilson Central HS, West Wilson MS

*I missed several the Google Meet Sign-ins – please let us know if you were present. Apologies.*

III. **Reports of Officers.**

- A. **President, Josh Tinley:** Last year, Region meet numbers were down a little bit but in 2024 they were almost TOO high, so it was a successful meet. Lots of success at State, good representation on All-Americans and Academic All-Americans
- B. **VP, Pat Killian:** Division assignments for 25-26 are available. IF you're not currently on the MTHSSA mailing list, please let a board member know.
- C. **Treasurer, April Parker:** this will come in the budget items later in the meeting.
- D. **Secretary, Justin Karpinos:** MTHSSA site is up and running again / URL has been fixed.
- E. **Rules & Regulations, Shannon Philbin (via Pat):** The only major rule change is that backstroke wedges are now legal in HS (and MS) competition.
- F. **Middle School Rep, Drew Brewer:** last year's MS region meet still didn't reach pre-COVID numbers. Seemed to go well. No need to change Q times or formatting at this time. Mostly 2026 MS Region meet. should be a copy-paste of 2025. Meet host (NAC) wants to raise meet fee up to \$45 per athlete; if we take on the awards cost could this offset some of their fees? We'll talk with NAC.

**G. Membership Chair Officer Report (April Parker).** Registration numbers were strong in 24-25, only a couple of schools that didn't register in a timely manner, and we gave them some grace to get them into the Region meets.

Registration will be digital again this year; please don't send in paper to April, with the exception of the MS co-op form. All this will go live on September 1. Please send checks to the new PO Box (41953), not to the old one c/of Polly Linden. Membership forms must include full roster, DOB, year in school, gender. If teams still owe for proof of time, they need to pay the fines.

*Question about modifying registration to update a roster if a new swimmer joins mid-season?*

A: If this situation happens, just send April an email and mail in a check for \$2.00.

#### **IV. Officer Elections**

- A. **President** (currently Josh Tinley, Green Hill). Nominations from the floor? None. Josh Tinley is willing to continue. Motion, Jeremy Stasnbury; Second, Joe Helmer; Josh is confirmed as President.
- B. **Secretary** (currently Justin Karpinos). Motion, Jackie, Second Will McCauley from FRA. Justin is confirmed.
- C. **Rules & Regulations** (currently Shannon Philbin). Jacqui Wright is willing to do this. Nomination, second.

Jacqui has been Wilson Central coach for 3-4 years. Mostly background is as a USA Swimming official and referee and is the LSC representative for Southeastern Swimming.

**VOTE:** Jacqui Wright is affirmed as Rules & Regulations Chair. Thank you to Shannon Philbin for her service in this role.

#### **V. General Business:**

##### **A. Presentation and Approval of Annual Budget. (see spreadsheet [HERE](#))**

\$11829 total expenses. Revenue \$8,041. Deficit of around \$~3700.

We got rid of \$25 per team fee over the past few years b/c we were increasing our balance. Proposed budget for next year is based on the same numbers as previous years. MBA is probably not a viable option for the banquet in future years because of increased hosting costs. We expect a deficit of \$3700 for 25-26, but considering that we might increase membership dues for 26-27 to avoid the debit in our budget long-term.

Motion to approve the budget. Second. **Budget passes.**

Other Treasurer business: we now have a debit card not just a money market account. We will need to get a second signer on the checking account for checks.

The new budget proposal includes \$150 for a MTHSSA logo, and we are budgeting \$4500 for Awards for HS and MS Region championship meets (TEAM Awards, not ribbons and medals)

*Question: does this affect what NAC is charging per athlete?*

*A: We'll get to that shortly...*

**D. Proposal: amend Article 3 of the Bylaws (from Josh Tinley)**

**Current:** *The geographic territory of MTHSSA shall all counties east of the Tennessee River and west of the Cumberland Plateau, including Cumberland County.*

**Proposed:** Schools in counties West of the boundary may appeal to register with MTHSSA submission of appeal to register with MTHSSA must be made to the MTHSSA membership chair by October 1<sup>st</sup>. The membership chair will present the appeal to the MTHSSA board for approval.

**Josh Tinley:** This would bring us in line with TISCA bylaws. Henry County is sort of our case study for this. They have been included in our MTHSSA meets and divisions for several years, and this would give teams in “no-man’s land” west of our current borders but outside Shelby County to have a pathway to be part of MTHSSA. We expect this will be primarily small teams or individual athletes.

Pat Killian: proposed amendment. TISCA’s guidelines only really govern homeschool teams, not the regions themselves. Proposed to just list our counties, NOT to say “regional guidelines defined by TISCA.”

***Move to vote on the amendment to list counties and include Henry County. Second.***

***Amendment passes.***

***Motion to vote on the bylaw proposal now, which is:***

**Proposed:** *The geographic territory of MTHSSA shall include the following counties: Bedford, Cannon, Cheatham, Clay, Coffee, Davidson, DeKalb, Dickson, Franklin, Giles, Henry, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Jackson, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Macon, Marshall, Maury, Montgomery, Moore, Overton, Perry, Putnam, Robertson, Rutherford, Smith, Sumner, Stewart, Trousdale, Wayne, White, Williamson, and Wilson. Schools in counties West of the territory may appeal to register with MTHSSA submission of appeal to register with MTHSSA must be*

made to the MTHSSA membership chair by October 1<sup>st</sup>. The membership chair will present the appeal to the MTHSSA board for approval.

**Second. *Proposal passes with list of counties including Henry County.***

**B. TISCA Updates (Pat Killian)**

TISCA Changes – looking for feedback from MTHSSA Folks.

1. New State cuts have been posted online [HERE](#):
2. **New Awards Programs:**

-Introducing the top-performing men's and women's teams from all programs from TSSAA Division I-A, I-AA, II-A as well as homeschool teams

-The top performing men's and women's teams among all programs TSSAA Division I-AAA schools.

-These results will largely favor teams who qualify large rosters for State, and will be based on prelim results. Should bring an energy to prelims at State this year. Our ambition as a TISCA Board is to name these awards, to honor those who have been influential to the coaches and alumni who have contributed to our state over the past 50 years.

Our overall trophy is named for Ray Buzzard, the founder of TN HS State meet.

3. **“Bona Fide” competition Rule:** to more closely define what counts as bona fide competition for purposes of *qualifying for the State meet*. Intent is to bring more accountability to extreme cases. Points of emphasis:

- sanctioning and compliance
- certified official oversight
- automatic acceptance criteria IF there are 2+ HS teams competing in a scored meet.
- Time trials and intrasquad meets** must be pre-approved by TISCA Vice-President to be considered bona fide. Time trials held as part of an approved meet are automatically considered Bonafide. Standalone time trials require pre-approval from the TISCA VP. All

meets not automatically accepted most complete a post-meet assessment documenting adherence to bona fide standards. Post-meet template available on the TISCA website.

Goal is to promote a measure of certified S&T status not as demanding as USA Swimming. NFHS has (free?) a 2 hour Stoke & Turn course that anyone can take. WE'LL go over this at the TISCA call.

## VI. New Business for Middle School.

**MTSC Middle School Meet:** hosted on Saturday October 25

**FRHS Relay Invite for MS and HS:** Saturday, November 1 at Ensworth at 2:00 PM (est.).

Contact Shannon Philbin, Coachshan@aol.com.

**Ensworth MS Invite:** on Saturday, December 13. Will invite first the teams that have been there in the past before we open it up to everyone.

**January 17:** last chance meet for MS and HS Regionals. We'll limit swimmers via cut times to those close to Q times; no relays at this one. Please do NOT overwrite entry times on this.

**Contact:** [BahrCo@ensworth.com](mailto:BahrCo@ensworth.com)

### LaVergne Hosted Meets will be on:

November 8

November 15

November 22

December 6

December 13

January 10

January 17

If interested, please contact [TellyColeman@gmail.com](mailto:TellyColeman@gmail.com).

## VII. New Business for High School.

A. Division Assignments. These are public. If you are not in a division and would like to be included, please contact Pat Killian.

B. Region Meet.

1. Proof of time, adhering to TISCA's Bonafide competition policy.
2. Board considering requesting a later start time, which would be a benefit to teams traveling a long way to Centennial Sportsplex.

Some concerns on parking, traffic, parent volunteers or running MS practices afterwards...

### C. Information about hosted meets.

-MTSC Hosted HS invite on November 15.

-Sewanee Host meet will be Saturday, December 6; meet start around 10-11. Lucy Rudman ([LRudman@sasweb.org](mailto:LRudman@sasweb.org)). 3 individual events + 2 relays, include 50's of strokes and 100 IM  
Ensworth will run a HS Invite the morning of November 15. Contact [BahrCo@ensworth.com](mailto:BahrCo@ensworth.com)

**Division Representatives are assigned and will be posted.**

Motion to adjourn. Second.

**Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Justin Karpinos, Secretary