



Athlete Committee Meeting Minutes

March 5th 2022

7:00 PM

Mission: Create opportunities and provide resources to promote excellence in Maine Swimming.

Vision Statement: You CAN get there from here!

Call to Order

Mission/Vision

Roll Call

Present: Brady Hale, Audrey Cohen, Elle Yarborough, Denali Wagstaff, Mary Ellen Tynan, Taylor Rogers, Noah Katz, Sarah Inman

Absent- Ian Fournier, Abby Hollis, McKayla Kendall, Emma Farnham, Evelyn Soule-Parent

Safe Sport

Brady Hale says that in the past Maine Swimming has done a safe sports week. Brady proposes doing a safe sports week before the winter champs that way everybody follows

safe sports rules during winter champs. Audrey Cohen says that that would work great and if she needs help she will let the committee work. Mary Ellen Tynan reminded the committee that no phones would be allowed behind the blocks. This applies to all timers, officials, and swimmers. Brady asks if any teams are putting safe sports posters up. Audrey says that she thinks that KVY is putting posters up. Elle said that CCSC has put posters up. Brady reminded Audrey to reach out to the coaches about safe sport via email.

Banquet updates

Audrey says that her committee has come up with the idea to base the banquet on The Golden Goggle awards. Some awards that were proposed are relay of the year, breakout performer of the year, race of the year, perseverance award, male athlete of the year, and female athlete of the year. Audrey says these awards can be decided through a poll on Instagram and people can read about each nominee. Mary Ellen says there will also be awards for Top 10 times, IMX, and IMXR. Brady says that regarding the venue for the banquet, the civic center and 33 Elmwood are open for private events. At the Civic Center, there is a banquet hall at the Civic Center and you could have games inside of the civic center. Mary Ellen notes that at 33 Elmwood it may be more expensive but they do all the work. Audrey says that a later date would be helpful for the banquet because it would be easier to create the awards. Brady will check to see what dates are available for 33 Elmwood.

Athlete Rep Applications

Brady says that no one has applied yet for Athlete Rep. The deadline for the application date has been moved to March 10th. Audrey is going to post on Instagram about the updated date for applications. Mary Ellen says to look for people who are active in

school and their swim teams and ask them to possibly apply for an Athlete representative. To be able to apply you must be at least 16 or going into your sophomore year of high school.

Winter Champs Reminders

Brady wants to remind everybody about no phones behind the blocks or inside the locker room. Mary Ellen said that technically only coaches are supposed to be videoing on deck.

Leadership Summit

Brady started making the google form for the athlete selection process for the leadership summit retreat. Inside the form, it asks questions about how active you are inside of your LSC and what you want to learn about. Audrey said that during the Eastern zones, Brady and herself will be doing an Instagram takeover. There will be another meeting with Nate to check in on how everything is going and to clarify any questions.

How do you see the future of swimming in Maine

Brady says that we lost almost 300 athletes when PPSC and CMA left Maine swimming so the participation has been really low. Mary Ellen says that since there have been no athlete representatives it is not a good thing and there must be athletes involved in Maine swimming to comply with USA swimming rules. Mary Ellen says that possibly trying to convince YMCA swimmers to join USA swimming might be a good help. Mary Ellen and Taylor Rogers discuss why they think coaches and swimmers do not want to get involved with USA swimming and only be involved with YMCA swimming. Talor thinks that many coaches think that only the top swimmers move on to USA swimming. Audrey and Noah confirm that USA swimming is not just for the highest level of swimming. Taylor says that pulling in the really young kids is also a good idea because you would get them involved with Maine swimming for a long time. Doing fun and short meets on a more regular basis would get more people involved because they are more fun than longer events. Mary Ellen said doing fun events like a mystery IM would be a great idea to get people hooked on the sport. Noah said he would bring up the idea

to KVV coach Mike about possibly hosting meets in KVV making meets more accessible for everyone. Basically trying to incorporate fun aspects into the meets would help to get younger people into the sport.

Abby Hollis makes a motion to adorn

Elle Yarborough seconds the motion