

## 5-11-13 Bid Meeting

There is a conflict on 10/20 and HSC was asked to see if they could figure out another date. On 11/17, there is a conflict and it was SSC's 1st choice so that would be their meet. For all other meets selected, there were no conflicts. Last year, there were 5 qualifier meets - 2 in Nov, 1 in Jan and 2 the week before Winter Champs. MSI needs to figure out sites for those meets.

Running the qualifier meets the weekend right before Winter Champs was extremely hard to try to get entries in. From the coaches meeting that was held in April, coaches said they would like to have meets stay off that weekend. If MSI moved the weekend, it would likely go the March 1-2 weekend. How would this affect those meets with numbers? What was the issue with getting entries in? Entries weren't going through to who it needed for this past year. If the process were better streamlined and explained better for next year, some issues from last year could be alleviated. If qualifier meets are not run on those meets, there will be time trial meets that run and it's better if MSI runs the meets.

Motion by Leanne to do one meet on March 1-2 in the state by Leanne. 2nd by Nicole. Discussion: There was concern about there being enough officials to run those meets. If this fails, the schedule stands unless there's another motion. Vote - 10 in favor, 4 against. Motion - Passes.

What is the process of approving time trials? These need to go through the sanction process. Time trial requests would need to be in for 60 days prior to be considered to be approved. Coaches brought up if meet jobs could be done earlier, it would be helpful. CMA bid to host the qualifier meet. 2nd - John Smith. Vote - All in favor. Motion - Passes.

November 2-3 - CMA bid to host. All in favor - Meet will be held at CMA. Approved meets were brought up - can MSI look at running more of these? This might help get YMCA kids to look into joining USA swim. High school or college kids would also be able to swim.

Motion that December Bowdoin Meet by Jay be the only approved meet. 2nd - Jim. Vote - 10 in favor, 2 opposed, 1 abstention. Motion - Passes.

Motion that Penbay get the North qualifier meet by Jay on November 2-3. 2nd - Tom B. Vote - All in favor. Motion - Passes.

Summer Champs are tentatively July 24-26 (Thurs-Sat) in St. John NB.

January qualifier meet bid to be host at Bates. Vote - All in favor.

The SSC meet will move to November 24th and Seals will stay on the same date.

TPC Meeting - Summer champs were discussed. Coaches brought up that they liked 11-12s doing trials and finals and 10 and unders being in one session. Number of relays and different relays were discussed. Jay proposed that we eliminate the 800 free relay at Summer Champs. 2nd - Hodding. Discussion: Teams do not have to enter this relay. Coaches could run

a time trial for this event if they'd like if the event is not offered. Vote - 5 in favor, 10 opposed. Motion - Fails. Motion that the 800 Free Relay is non-scoring. 2nd - Hodding.

Discussion: If you don't score that relay, don't score any other relays. Vote - 2 in favor, 10 opposed. Motion - Fails.

Winter Champs - Jim would like to put the 1000 in a morning Sun session and take the 200 Free Relay and put it first on Sunday and put 200 Medley Relay on Friday. Putting the kids in a morning heat with no spectators is demoralizing. Athlete reps have talked about putting relays in the last part of the session. Other teams would rather have relays in the first part of the session. Friday night is the shortest session so it could take an extra relay. It was brought up to see 3 relays eliminating one of the 200 distances. Coaches discussed Fri and Sat running relays at the end but Sun being run at the beginning. Having relays in the beginning helps alleviate swimmers on deck and parents in the gallery. For kids who travel, it's hard to ask parents and swimmers to stay for an entire session. MSI should look at the greatest good possible for the swimmers. Relays are as important as individual events. The majority of the kids swimming at night Motion by Jay for 1 Fri/ 1 Sat to be the last events and 1 200 Relay on Sunday is the first event. 2nd - Taylor. Vote - 10 in favor, 9 opposed. Motion - Passes. Motion that the Sunday relay is the 200 Medley Relay. 2nd - Taylor. Discussion: A re-vote was asked for on the last vote. 10 in favor, 9 opposed, 1 abstention. Same vote - motion passes. Vote - 14 in favor, 5 against.

Motion by Jim to add 200 Free Relay as first event to Friday night. 2nd - Lori. Vote - 15 in favor, 4 opposed, 2 abstentions. Motion by Jay that in subsequent years that the last chance to qualify is 2 weeks before the entry deadline. 2nd - Lia. Discussion: This is a policy and procedures thing. A vote here does not change the rules, but it is something that can be discussed. The reasoning is that there should be a last date to qualify for Champs. Taylor asked to amend it to be a week before the deadline. It was very, very hard for the meet staff to get all the last minute qualifications and they need to be in a little bit sooner. The qualifier meet and Y States are on the same weekend - if entries are due the Wednesday after those meets, that would be a week and a half. Jay said he was OK with that amendment. A friendly amendment to 8 days was accepted. It was the first year for this entry process so MSI made exceptions this year and this made it hard on meet staff. Vote on entries due 8 days before the start of the meet. Vote - 16 in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstentions. This would have to be officially submitted before the fall meeting.

## **HOD - 5/11/13 Meeting**

Attendance: Tom Manduca, Jim Willis, Jay Morrisette, Emma Waddell, Tom Branch, Beth Preglovisk, John Smith, Betsy Perron, Lori Lapointe, Nicole Viele, Judy Whyte, Bob Russell, Mardie Lariviere, Lia Langeveld, Amy Pichette, Hodding Carter, Mike Babich, Travis Libsak, Carrie Peabody, Leanne Gravel, Aaron Winslow, Fritz Homans, Taylor Rogers

Proxy form turned in by Beth Preglovisk.

**Secretary** - Minutes from last meeting: If anyone sees errors with minutes when they are sent, please contact Lia.

**Treasurer** - No report.

**General Chair** - Tom is happy with the direction of Maine Swimming in the last year. There are a number of things in the works for the fall and seems to be a general goodwill that's happening.

**Age Group Chair** via e-mail from Matt Montgomery - Matt is collecting info on a clinic for the fall and has sent info to Tom and Jim regarding bringing the Fitter and Faster clinic in October. His recommendation is that we choose a clinic that would allow the greatest number of swimmers to participate. Maine is eligible for a Swimposium in 2014 and his recommendation is that we submit a date by this summer's Champs. The sooner we do this, the better the chance that we can get a bigger name athlete. He recommended that we evaluate last year's winter Champs and ask each club to submit changes to either age group chair and/or TPC. Send changes to Matt, Tom and Jim

**Senior Chair - Leanne** - She attended the Zone meeting the past weekend and there will be a conference of small LSCs in November in Colorado Springs. This would be a chance for small LSCs to share ideas. Sectional meets were talked about a lot - Next year, there will be 2 short course meets on one week and 1 a week later on. The Northern teams will have to go to the north meet and southern teams have to go to Southern meets. The Long course meet will be open to all. Northern meet will be in Ithaca and Southern in Christianburg. The long course meet has not been bid on yet. They are looking to create a board of review at the Zone level to help alleviate the pressure on the Sectional level. There is an athlete video for 12 and older for safe sport and coaches, parents and athletes are encouraged to watch it. It's on [usaswimming.org](http://usaswimming.org). There is a new ruling that Fina will vote on that could allow athletes to do as many dolphin kicks as they want, but that they'd have to do a stroke cycle by 15m. The recommendation right now by the Fina board is just off the start, but there are other recommendations that have discussed having it off of every wall as well. Eastern Zones will be back in Webster again. Arena non-carbon fiber suits have been banned.

**Registration/Membership – Tom B.** - There are 149 non-athlete memberships, 6 family, 21 year round clubs (6 of whom paid extra for being after), 1 seasonal club, 131 season 1 memberships which was down from last year, year round jumped by 60 to 1000 total, which is

the largest MSI has ever had. 22 were outreach memberships and 43 transfers which was up from last year. It was asked that Tom send this out to the board via e-mail.

**Mardie - Coaches Rep** - On April 13th, we had 18 coaches attend a meeting in Husson. It was a great meeting to discuss everything concerning Maine Swimming. One of the topics that came up was issues of lack of respect in meetings and on the deck. Some of this is individual coaches and some of this is the leadership of the meeting. People thought a coaches clinic would help this issue. Mardie has contacted Brad who would like to run another coaches clinic and will get back to her with dates. As far as open positions on the board, it was recommended that the nominating committee look for suggestions before meetings. There was a proposal to have Winter Champs discussed and to make sure that live results were working. There was also a recommendation made to form a committee to work on issues regarding Zones and Winter Champs. The coaches group is the TPC group. The website is not quite up to date, but look at paying someone. There will be a TPC meeting on May 22 at 10am at Bath and all coaches are welcome to attend. The meet schedule was brought up on the website to make it a little more user friendly to have meet information up as links from each team.

## **Reports of Officers**

**Safety Chair** - John Smith has been nominated. 2nd - Taylor. Vote - All in favor with 1 abstention. Vote - Passes. This is to fill the position immediately and is effective through to August 31, 2015.

**Officials Chair** - Bob Russell - Bob discussed retention and recruitment. There may be 35 registered officials, but are about 23 that actually work. MSI is very light in meet referees and needing 2 for the upcoming year, it will be hard to get people to officiate. When teams submit bids, they count on visiting officials to help work. Bob asked coaches to help recruit. Currently, there are only 5-6 referees, mostly in the north. There are 3 trainers and Bob will run trainings as needed. Stroke and turn is about 3 hours and anything beyond that is shorter. Officials in the state are getting burned out and MSI needs new people to step up. What is the transition between Y and USA? There are over 100 Y officials and Bob made it easier to have those officials work in USA meets, but there wasn't a huge turnover. Y officials can immediately come over as a stroke and turn once they've registered, background check and level II background check. If officials wanted to be starters or refs, they would be monitored by the officials trainers. In September, meets will need to have an admin ref as well to host a meet. Bob will be going to an Officials Chair conference and they will be talking about the Y/USA, Fina breaststroke rule, taping. The meet packets need to be correct when they are sent as this is what is being followed - Bob asked that teams send it to him prior to being approved. Bob urged coaches to help find more USA officials.

**Zones Chair** - Judy - Tom asked that people submit names to him as far as being a Zones chair for the following year. 52 athletes attended It's been mostly a 12 and under group. 4 coaches went and that was a low number for the number of athletes. There were 6 chaperones. Coaches felt the Zones trip was very valuable to the LSC and that coaches needed to sell that to your staff to apply for these positions. It should be a privilege to have people coach to go on the trip. It was also discussed that athletes under a certain age should have their

parents attend. A committee will be formed to look into these issues. Judy recommended looking at times being A or AA and not one or the other and making subsidies more transparent. She also recommended that coaches let athletes and parents know what Zones means. MSI ended up with about a \$2500 surplus. This could possibly feed a subsidy for next year. The static cost to run the trip is about \$5,000 or \$6,000. There's about \$7,000 that goes towards the athletes, which is shared among athletes. This year, that works out to about \$134/athlete. Judy is willing to attend a Zones committee meeting. One discussion was age appropriateness of 11-12s rooming together. An evaluation form was suggested and encouraged. Tom recommended having a committee meeting before the fall meeting. Judy has extra caps to go to Summer Champs.

**Admin Vice-Chair - Jim** - Fitter and Faster charges \$79/athlete. Breakout clinics charges \$6000 total and MSI can set the price. Jim thinks MSI can get Rowdy Gaines and one other athlete. Jay recommended going with the biggest name possible. Nicole echoed this that her swimmers had been to a Fitter and Faster and that the name does make a difference. As a confidence vote, Tom asked if the group will allow him and Matt to get the biggest name possible? The group said yes. The price recommendation is approximately \$6,000 to \$8,000. There was a lot more money spent on athlete support. Send website criticisms to Jim. At Winter Champs, meet staff tried 4 different computers and not sure why they could not get linked in to the Bowdoin website. If officials work at Summer or Winter Champs, MSI will reimburse for their background and registration. It's best if teams submit bills to the treasurer. Regarding the Zones trip, it was recommended that parents stay off the deck. During warm-up time, it might be best to have a parent to monitor stuff. USA Swimming does not recommend or endorse videotaping of athletes without permission of the person. MSI will not allow parents on deck during meets even if they are a USA registered non-athlete unless they are working the meet and have credentials.

**National Times Chair** - What is done for this position? Meets are being loaded into SWIM-s. It's a detail oriented job. A top 16 list can be generated from the meet. If a team goes to a meet out of State and doesn't get results to the National Times Chair, it will not be in the database. Teams within the LSC sometimes do not have results to the National Times chair. This position needs someone who will stick to it. Matt Baxter might be a candidate - Amy will talk to him about this.

**Athlete Reps** - 2 athlete reps were in attendance and one recommended that Zones wasn't advertised as well as it could have been. The screen is great to have for the younger athletes who are making Zones. Athletes also advised that some people were put on the board who weren't planning on going. Athletes said there were mixed reactions for swimmers doing relays first or last. Those who didn't make it back didn't like waiting the whole sessions but others felt like they liked an exciting race at the end. The budget approval will be tabled to the fall meeting.

### **Unfinished Business**

Awards from the last chance meet at CMA just came in and will be given out. At Winter Champs, the vendor that sold t-shirts made \$4900 and \$29 off of the vendor that sold other equipment. A Winter Champs issue that was brought up was team assignments and jobs. It was

hard to get teams to cooperate with the team assignments. The information was given out to the teams late. Team numbers need to be looked at as far as how team assignments are done. It was also recommended to look at how slots are split up versus 12 and unders and 13 and ups. MSI will look at how jobs are divided based splashes, age of kids who might make finals and the meet location.

## **Elections**

Age Group Chair – Matt M. is the current acting age group chair. Tom made a motion to nominate him. 2nd - Lori. Vote - All in favor.

Secretary casts one vote. Matt will be the Age Group Chair.

Treasurer - Tom nominated Lia. 2nd - Bob. Secretary casts one vote.

TPC - Tom nominated Jay. 2nd - Jim. Secretary casts one vote.

Membership/Registration Chair - John nominated Tom B. 2nd - Taylor. Secretary casts one vote.

Officials Chair - Tom nominated Bob. 2nd - Nicole. Secretary will cast one vote.

At-Large - 2 positions open for 2 years and 1 open for 1 year.

Mardie nominated Lori for 2 year. 2nd - Tom. Secretary casts one vote.

Lia nominated Andy Gilbert for a 2 year. 2nd - Taylor.

Leanne nominated Carrie Peabody for 2 year. 2nd - Mardie.

Tom recommended that the person who loses for the 2 year get the 1 year position. Andy will be 2 year.

Tom B. nominated Carrie for the 1 year. 2nd - Jay. Secretary casts one vote.

There is a position on the Board of Review that is a great position for a parent who is a fair individual and they only need to meet maybe once a year.

You cannot be a member of the Board to be a member of the Board of Review. Any parent can be nominated for this position. They need to be a member of USA Swimming and MSI pays for their membership. Send candidates to Tom, Jim and the board.

## **New Business**

Championship Meets - There will be a committee formed to help with technical issues. Summer Champs info for 2013 is up on the website. Winter CMA has Jamie Higgins as their first choice and since their club has the largest number of splashes, CMA gets that date. HSC would also like to have a meet on October 20th. The teams will talk but as of right now, there will only be one meet on that date. MSI pays about \$8,000 to rent St. John and other locations would be much more costly. Other venues would be Williams, MIT and Harvard, Wesley, UConn, Dover Springfield or Brown. Could we run a short course meet? Lia will call pools and figure out

costs. Vote for the proposed schedule. Jay proposed we accept it. 2nd - Leanne. Vote - All in favor with 1 opposed.

Summer Schedule - The current schedule is correct and on the website. There were several changes from the previous schedule due to meet director conflicts and lack of officials.

Junior Athlete Nominations - MSI needs 3 junior athlete reps who have been a member of USA Swimming for at least 3 years and MSI for at least 1 year and will be a junior in the fall. Motion to have the election at Summer Champs by John. 2nd - Tom B. Vote - All in favor. Vote - Passes. Nominations need to go the Senior Chair.

Summer Zones are in Richmond, VA the 2nd week of August. Something will be on the website and swimmers need to have "AA" times to go. If swimmers are interested, they need to fill out the application. If 5 athletes want to go, MSI will pay for a coach. The banquet was discussed. Numbers were up and nearly every team was represented. The Hall of Fame committee was happy. Motion for April 12th banquet date by Fritz. 2nd - Taylor. Trophies would be able to be printed up by the banquet. Capacity for the current location is 200 with approximately 50 that could go into overflow. Vote - 16 in favor, 2 opposed. Vote - Passes. The Hall of Fame needs trophy cases and old mannequin torsos to put uniforms on.

Next HOD Meeting - Oct 5th and Oct 19th were suggested. Oct 5th will be the meeting with the place to be determined. It will likely be Bowdoin or Bath.

Meeting adjourned at 12:21pm.