

## TPC MINUTES April 13, 2016

Via telephone:

TPC MEMBERS: Jay Morissette, Fritz Homans, John Smith, Tom Manduca, Matt Montgomery

GUESTS: Leanne Gravel, Nicole Viele, Jim Willis, Mary Ellen Tynan

ABSENT: Caitlyn Tycz, Sam Alvarado

### DI Meet at Pen-bay

This was a good meet, except for the fact that there were not as many people swimming on the second day, causing events to be too close together. Two solutions presented: change this to a 1 day/2 session meet or add 100 yard events for the 12 and under swimmers which could be interspersed with the 200's for the older swimmers on the second day.

By majority decision there will be a two-day meet with one session on each day. We will add one hundreds for the 12 and under swimmers on the second day to space out the events for the older swimmers.

### DII Meet at Bates College

This was a manageable size (about 200 swimmers) and could hold an additional 50-100 swimmers. We might want to publicize this meet in New England Swimming. We could give priority to teams that bring officials.

### Junior Olympic Trials

400 IM and the 500 free will be run fastest to slowest.

In order to better balance the meet, 10 & unders will be moved to the final session, with a separate warm-up time for the 10 and unders.

We will continue to offer this meet two out of LSC teams but we will better spell out in the meet packet that the top two **Maine** finishers in each event will qualify for Junior Olympics.

If a swimmer makes a JO cut for the first time, they will get to enter bonus events at Junior Olympics. If a swimmer qualifies for Junior Olympics because they placed first or second in their event but did not earn a cut time, they will not be able to enter a bonus event. This will be spelled out in the meet information packet.

Oversubscription will still be permitted at Junior Olympic Trials but programs will not be printed until all scratches have been submitted.

To discuss at the BOD: should MSI purchase a high-speed printer for meets such as JOT?

John Smith proposed that Junior Olympic Trials be held more like a championship meet with trophies and team scoring. Consensus was that we do

not want another Bronze Meet format, scored as a team event, however individual awards are reasonable. Perhaps best time awards could be presented.

Maine swimming is not big enough as an LSC to hold a Senior championship, an Age Group championship and a Silver championship as they do in New England Swimming.

It was agreed to keep the Junior Olympic Trial format the same going forward.

John Smith proposed that there be an attendance requirement of three USAS meets for participation in Junior Olympics. He feels that this will better help Maine Swimming to grow long-term rather than just for one meet at the end of the season.

It is the experience of the YMCA coaches on the TPC that those swimmers who sign up at the end of the season to participate in Junior Olympics, tend to stay with USA swimming after that meet.

John Smith feels that YMCA teams should do a better job promote and prioritizing USA swim meets.

Matt Montgomery: The Y swim parent culture, Y swim meet schedule, proximity of dual meets, and cost of invitational meets contribute to the lack of YMCA swimmers participating in USAS competitions. The D1 and D2 and JO meets also give YMCA swimmers incentive to join United States swimming because of the different events offered at these invitationals.

Jay Morissette pointed out that the same rules govern our Junior Olympics as govern the Olympic Trials. Swimmers can participate even if they register at the last minute in both meets.

Tom Manduca added that if a three meet rule is imposed it should require those meets to be in MSI not out of LSC. This rule would include all teams regardless of their affiliation.

Mary Ellen Tynan: Many LSC's require qualifying times for JO's to be entered in SWIMS.

The group consensus is that it is a bonus for the MSI to attract new swimmers even if they sign up at the end of the season.

This discussion will be tabled until the next coaches meeting, and John Smith will explore the issue with the United States Swimming home office.

#### Junior Olympic Cut Times

There has been a steady growth in attendance at Junior Olympics. Does this necessitate new cut times? Jim Willis pointed out that the motivational times are going to change soon. We should base new JO cuts on the new motivational

times when they come out. However, the numbers at our current Junior Olympics are manageable.

#### Bonus events at Junior Olympics

Mary Ellen Tynan pointed out that 10 and under cuts are B cuts bonus events are also B cuts. Many of the 10 and under swimmers could not do bonus events because of this. There was some discussion on the pros and cons of the situation but no changes were agreed upon.

#### Relays at Junior Olympics

12 and under relays are positive experience at Junior Olympics. Matt Montgomery likes the 12 and under rule. It gives him more leeway in creating relays.

TPC agreed that 10 & unders should not swim on the Senior relays. The majority agreed that relays should be specified as "11& over" at future winter Junior Olympics.

#### Longer Events for 12& U at JO's

Jay Morissette suggested doing away with the longer events for 11 and 12-year-olds at the Junior Olympics, keeping them at the D1 and D2 Meets. The majority disagreed and pointed out that these events are offered at Zones (except the 400 IM) and your swimmers need a greater variety of events so that they can experience all different types of events. Developmentally, young swimmers should be doing longer events.

This is an issue that the Championship Meet Committee can discuss in the future if necessary.

#### IMX Meet at Bowden

It was agreed that this is a good format and we should try it again for second year.

#### Summer Championship Invitational in Canada

In 2017, the Attleboro Bluefish will have a 10 Lane 50 m pool available. We could consider the moving the meet to Attleboro in the future.

In the meantime, we will compete in Canada for Summer 2016. Currently, there are 4 to 5 teams interested in attending the meet from outside the LSC. The average number of swimmers attending from Maine and Canada is 250. We only have room for 150 to 175 swimmers from outside of our LSC. It was agreed that there will be a cap placed on out-of-LSC swimmers at 150 to 175 athletes. First precedence will go to teams who have come in the past and who will bring one official for every 20 swimmers and two officials for teams numbering over 20. We will let outside of LSC teams know if they have been accepted to the meet by May 15, 2016. Return teams who are bringing officials can be informed earlier.

The Championship Meet Committee will meet before April 21 to come up with the Canada meet packet.

TPC adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Betsy Perron, MSI Secretary.  
April 15, 2016