

Ed Stranc, Jr, Area Chair, ascertained that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 10:10 at the State Farm Oakland Avenue Building facility.

1. All present members were introduced, and the Area Committee Roster was routed for updates. The updated roster is on the website (www.ilswimy.org) and has been updated to the bylaws.
2. The minutes of the September 30, 2007 meeting were reviewed and approved as submitted.
3. Dean Bromann provided the Area Treasurer's report indicating a cash balance of \$2,258.30. Expenditures for the day include \$100 to Avanti's and \$108.30 to Rome Yount for meeting expenditures for food and beverage. The report was approved as submitted, and is attached as [Appendix A](#)
4. Ted Powers, 2008 Area Championship Meet Director, reported on the area championships (slide show presentation included as [Appendix B](#)). Key points provided included:
 - a. 'Pinch' points created by the location of concessions and posting of results created some logistic challenges.
 - b. Restroom facilities were inadequate for the numbers at the facility. Need to look at renting portable restrooms.
 - c. There were instances of coaches sharing credentials– with parents – which should not have occurred.
 - d. Hospitality food was abused by some, treating the food as an 'all you can eat and take to others' buffet. Going back to a punch card system appears appropriate.
 - e. Logistics in handling volunteer positions for the meet were significant. This contributed to an inadequate number of marshals to monitor the deck, which contributed to issues of individuals standing in front of the timing computer window, spectators on the deck area, and too many coaches and swimmers standing in the way of spectators on the east side of the pool.
 - i. A fair amount of discussion occurred regarding changes during the meet of where coaches could be, along with the identification of many empty seats on the west side of the pool as coaches set up their chairs at the beginning of the meet.
 - f. Better management/regulation of the sport court area
 - g. The preliminary net income for the area championships was \$29,433.77. A finalized accounting report will be provided once the bill from the photographer is received.
 - h. Discussion regarding whether or not a photographer is needed. All districts are asked to pose the question to their swim parents to determine if a photographer should be identified for the 2009 Area Championship.
 - i. A key item Ted brought forward was the need for better communication. Overall, from his vantage point, the meet went well, but as in most cases, communication can always be improved.
 - j. General discussion by the committee ensued, with the following points being brought forward:
 - i. There is some apparent confusion as to the host team's responsibility regarding hospitality. This is an expectation and an expected expense, and needs to be understood by future hosts.
 - ii. There was an issue in the warm-up pool between the lifeguard and two coaches. Escalation process/procedure needs to be understood and followed to address misunderstandings.
 - iii. Knowing the facility, are there alternatives to locating coaches in order to provide them room to coach and talk with swimmers without being in the way of other coaches or spectators?
 1. General preference not to use officials as marshals.

2. Potential to limit the number of chairs on the west side of the pool to free up deck space, and to reserve a portion of the bleachers on the southwest corner for the coaches.
3. Have the coaches ‘police themselves’ via the coaches on the area committee. Identify the protocol on how the deck is to be used, and have the coaches address issues/violations. This thought was met with favor and is to be reviewed/determined at the next area meeting.
5. 2008 Area Championship meet records will be updated to the area bylaws and rules document
6. 2009 Area Championship Meet host selection
 - a. Aurora is disbanding, and will be unable to host the meet
 - b. Location and date (March 6-8, 2009) will not change.
 - c. Joliet JETS presented a proposal to take Aurora’s place ([Appendix C](#)). The area committee accepted this proposal.
 - d. Discussion regarding district meets running the same weekend as IHSA boys state meet was covered under new business.
 - e. Discussion regarding probable future dates for the Area Championships. See [Appendix D](#) for future IHSA dates and the ‘pattern’ that USA Swimming appears to follow for the LSC and Zone Championship meets (the IHSA long-term calendar can be found at <http://www.ihsa.org/calendar/longcal.htm>).
7. Ron Marion provided a preliminary report on qualifying times for the 2008/2009 Winter Swim Season. This was reviewed, and a finalized report will be provided at a later date.
8. Rome Yount reviewed the area website and ‘hits’ counter via the website. All districts are encouraged to send updates to him for posting.
9. The area officials committee reported no rule changes.
10. The 2008 Area Summer Championship will be held at the Elgin YMCA July 14th, 2008. Ed encouraged all districts to feel free to hold summer championship meets or to attend the one at the Elgin YMCA.
11. Old Business:
 - a. Report on the possibility of the Area Committee purchasing Team Manager and Meet Manager
 - i. John Lynch and Rome reported that the functionality in the demo version of Meet Manager meets our reporting needs. There doesn’t appear to be a reason for us to use Team Manager.
12. New Business:
 - a. Discussed the district makeup and the impact of Aurora YMCA’s departure. After discussion, it was agreed that there would be no changes, but that statistics of swimmers in each district, along with participants at the district meets would be maintained for review. [Appendix E](#) shows statistics for the 2007-2008 season.
 - b. Election of officers for the 2-year term 2008-2010. Ed Stranc, Jr., and Dennis Norton did not stand for re-election. Dean Bromann was nominated for Area Chair. No other nominations were made, and Dean was elected Area Chair. Rome Yount was nominated for Area Secretary. No other nominations were made, and Rome was elected Area Secretary. John Lynch, Jr., was nominated for Area Treasurer. No other nominations were made, and John was elected Area Treasurer.
 - c. The YMCA SWYMS database was noted. Results from the 2008 District and Area Championships have been submitted. The top 16 times are based upon the age of the swimmer as of the first day of the meet.

- d. The timing of the district meets and the IHSA state meet was discussed. Districts were encouraged to identify ways to ensure IHSA state swimmers were able to compete in the district meet. After discussion, districts were given great latitude in how this is accomplished, but any qualifying time or winning place made by any swimmer must be done at the district meet. Examples included running a time trial on Sunday to determine qualifying times, to allowing IHSA swimmers to be seeded in the finals on Sunday (with prelims on Sat) and compete in the finals on Sunday.
- e. The following by-law changes were brought up and are listed with their disposition:

Rule 10 – Conduct of Championships

Item E. Current

E. The Official's Committee consisting of the District Chairs and Area Chair will compile, maintain and update a list of all officials in the Area. The Area Chair will appoint a Chair for the Official's Committee. The Official's Committee shall select the Meet Referee for each day of the Area Championship Meet. Further, the Official's Chair shall assign all other officials their duties, using officials from a list submitted by the District Chairs. All deck officials, other than timers, must be nationally certified YMCA swim officials. The Official's Chair shall distribute an annual summary of USA SWIMMING rule changes for the current season.

Proposed:

E. The Official's Committee consisting of the District Chairs and Area Chair will compile, maintain and update a list of all officials in the Area. The Area Chair will solicit nominees for the Official's Committee chair from the District Chairs, and the District Chairs shall vote on the official's committee chair. The Official's Committee shall select the Meet Referee for each day of the Area Championship Meet by the end of January. Each district chair shall submit to the Official's Committee chair a list of recommended officials immediately after their district meet containing:

- a. Name
- b. YMCA Certification Level and tenure as a YMCA official
- c. District and Area Assignments for the past 2 seasons (current and prior)
- d. Desired and recommended (by district chair) positions at area championships
- e. Days available to work the area championships
- f. Other swimming certifications, including levels and tenure

The official's chair shall compile the list of recommended officials and schedule a conference call with the district chair with the purpose of filling the following positions:

- a. 3 or 4 deck referee / starter teams with a designated lead
- b. 2 chief judges
- c. 12-16 head lane timers (depending upon number of lanes)
- d. 6-8 turn judges (depending upon number of lanes)
- e. 4 side judges
- f. 8 relay exchange judges (may have other duties as well)

The positions shall be filled when reasonable with representation by all districts including equitable rotation of key positions. The key positions are:

- a. Deck Ref Lead
- b. Deck Ref/Starter Teams

c. Chief Judges

The Deck Ref Lead will be responsible to work with the Deck Ref/Starter teams to determine rotation. The Chief Judges will make assignments for head lane times, side judges, and turn judges including rotation. The will also be responsible for making relay exchange judge assignments

There was discussion and apparent consensus that assignment of officials should be more transparent and have more input from the district chairs. As proposed, the process is very detailed and may be too constrictive. The by-law change was moved, seconded, and tabled for review at the next area meeting.

New:

10. Conduct of Championships

J. Officials attire shall be either: white pants/skirt, white shoes, white collared shirt, and white socks; or tan khaki pants/skirt, white shoes, white collared shirt, and white socks for the area champs finals session. Shorts of the same color are permitted during preliminaries.

There was discussion regarding multiple colors of khaki, and the challenges some find in obtaining white pants. Ed committed to taking this for referral/discussion at the national officials committee meeting. No further action was taken on this motion.

K. Districts are encouraged to have YMCA closed competitions use ‘flyover’ starts. District and Area champs shall be run using ‘flyover’ starts. Flyover starting protocol shall be:

- a. Deck Referee chirps swimmers ready when last swimmer has one length to swim.
- b. Swimmers in the water, upon completion of their race, are to remain in the water, moving to the wall by one of the lane lines and remaining motionless until the next race starts.
- c. Upon completion of the race, the Deck Referee will long whistle the swimmers on to the blocks, and when ready, releases the race to the starter. The Deck Referee will ensure swimmers in the water are properly motionless and positioned before releasing the race.
- d. Swimmers are to exit the pool once the race has started.
- e. Should a swimmer require additional time to exit the pool (require ladder access as an example) the coach/athlete shall notify the deck referee prior to the swim. The deck referee will then clear the pool for that race prior to whistling swimmers onto the blocks.
- f. Flyover starts will not be used for backstroke, 25 yard events, or relays.
- g. Should a swimmer fall in prior to the start of the race, the swimmers on the blocks shall be instructed to step down, and the pool shall be cleared. After determination of any false start situations, the start of the race will be resumed with a long step up whistle.

Discussion pertaining to flyover starts included (1) May not be appropriate for our younger swimmers, especially from a safety standpoint, as some swimmers almost ‘fall’ in rather than dive in; (2) Advantage to the swimmer who just completed the race as they do not need to immediately get out of the water after having ‘left it all’ in the pool; (3) Potential advantage to meet timelines, as the interval between heats can be reduced; (4) Impact to timers, and no apparent desire to go to having timers with 2 watches; (5) Definite desire not to have swimmers experience flyovers for the first time at the district/area championship meets; (6) Some districts do flyovers at their invitational meets and have found them to be advantageous for the swimmers.

Motion was made, seconded, and tabled for review at the next area meeting.

Current:

5. Limits on Entries and Entry Changes

A. In District and Area Championships a swimmer may participate in up to four (4) events - no more than three (3) of which may be individual events. (For example, a swimmer may participate in up to three individual events and one relay event or up to two individual events and up to two relay events.)

Proposed:

A. District and Area Championships a swimmer may participate in up to five (5) events - no more than three (3) of which may be individual events. (For example, a swimmer may participate in up to three individual events and two relay events.)

Discussion on this included (1) Impact to times – in the past this was the practice, and qualifying times got quicker; (2) Having the 3/1 or 2/2 limit allows more swimmers to be involved at the district/area championship series; (3) Negative impact on swimmers having the potential of swimming 10 events in one day (prelim/finals format).

The motion was not accepted for tabling at the next area meeting. No further action.

Next meeting was scheduled for Sunday, September 28, 2008, at the State Farm OAB Training Facility.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:35pm.

Illinois / Missouri Area YMCA Swim Committee
 Minutes – May 4, 2008

Appendix A
 Treasurer's Report

Illinois - Missouri Area Swim Committee

<u>Date</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>check #</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Comments</u>
June 7 2006	\$2,106.67					
June 7 2006		\$33.85		\$2,072.82	Ed Stranc	copies - Kinko's
June 12 2006		\$26.10	1001	\$2,046.72	Bruce Bickner	badges
June 12 2006		\$139.26	1002	\$1,907.46	Rome Yount	May meeting supplies
Oct 8 2006		\$86.00	1501	\$1,821.46	Avanti's	October meeting supplies
Oct 8 2006		\$65.21	1502	\$1,756.25	Rome Yount	October meeting supplies
Nov 11 2006		\$110.97	1503	\$1,645.28	Ernie Redfern	Web-site update server fees
March 7 2007		\$183.99	1504	\$1,461.29	Ed Stranc	Area walk-thru expenses
March 22 2007	\$400.00		Dist Fee	\$1,861.29		District fees
March 24 2007	\$100.00		Dist Fee	\$1,961.29		District fees
May 6 2007		\$93.87	1505	\$1,867.42	Rome Yount	May meeting supplies
May 6 2007		\$81.65	1506	\$1,785.77	Avanti's	May meeting supplies
Sept 30 2007		\$11.63	1507	\$1,774.14	Ron Marion	copies - Kinko's
Sept 30 2007		\$108.19	1508	\$1,665.95	Rome Yount	September meeting supplies
Sept 30 2007		\$93.00	1509	\$1,572.95	Avanti's	September meeting supplies
Jan 25 2008	\$400.00		Area Fee	\$1,972.95		Area fees
Jan 26 2008	\$50.00		Dist Fee	\$2,022.95		District fees
March 17 2008	\$300.00		Dist Fee	\$2,322.95		District fees
March 31 2008	\$50.00		Dist Fee	\$2,372.95		District fees
April 7 2008	\$100.00		Dist Fee	\$2,472.95		District fees
April 28 2008		\$214.65	1510	\$2,258.30	Bruce Bickner	badges

Appendix B

Double Click on the picture to start the slideshow (only works in the MS Word document, not the pdf document):



2008 IL/MO Area Championship



Summary Report

for the

Illinois / Missouri Area Committee

4 May 2008

Ted Powers – 2008 IL/MO Area Meet Director

Illinois / Missouri Area YMCA Swim Committee
Minutes – May 4, 2008

Appendix C

Joliet JETS bid for Area Champs

*Raising Funds to help support the Joliet
JETS YMCA Swim Team*

TO: Illinois/Missouri Area YMCA Swim Committee
FROM: Joliet JETS YMCA Swim Team & Joliet Community Swim Association
DATE: April 28, 2008
SUBJECT: 2009 Illinois/Missouri Area YMCA Championship Swim Meet

The Joliet JETS YMCA Swim Team (JETS) and the Joliet Community Swim Association (JCSA) kindly request the consideration of the Illinois/Missouri Area YMCA Swim Committee (Area Committee) to host the 2009 Illinois/Missouri Area YMCA Championship Swim Meet (Area Meet). As an experienced host of previous Area Meets with 2006 being the most recent, we look forward to the opportunity and challenge of hosting this premier championship swim meet.

To host the 2009 Area Meet, the JETS bring a committee of dedicated, experienced, as well as new and eager parent volunteers. This committee will include former Area Championship meet volunteers who have chaired the various subcommittees during the 2006 Area Meet, along with key parent volunteers experienced with running ISI sanctioned meets. The former 2006 Area Meet Director will once again step up to direct the operations for the 2009 Area Meet should the JETS be selected.

With our current team size and experience running four or five meets a year, we want to assure you that we are confident in our ability to staff the 2009 Area Meet. To date, JCSA has met only to discuss the willingness to host this meet. We have not yet met to discuss or plan specifics for the upcoming Area Meet. We do however understand the commitment and year of planning that is required. We also understand that if chosen, our planning process must be accelerated.

We are offering our bid with the understanding that we will continue with the meet taking place at the Kishwaukee YMCA in Dekalb, Illinois. We will ensure that the meet will adhere to the guidelines set forth by the Area Committee. JCSA has adjusted our hosted swim meet schedule for the 2008-2009 Short Course season to accommodate the possibility of our bid being accepted to host the Area Meet.

We look forward to the opportunity to host the 2009 Area Meet, as this meet is not only the culmination of a very successful YMCA swim season for many of our swimmers but also beneficial to the long-term success of our organization. If our request meets with your approval, we stand committed to making the committee's decision a success.

Illinois / Missouri Area YMCA Swim Committee
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Appendix D

Past and potential future championship dates.

Friday Prelims IHSA	Friday ISI Regional	Friday Sr Champ	Friday Age Group	Saturday Y Champs	Easter
2/25/2005	2/25/2005	3/4/2005	3/18/2005	3/12/2005	
2/24/2006	2/24/2006	3/3/2006	3/17/2006	3/10/2006	
2/23/2007	2/23/2007	3/2/2007	3/16/2007	3/9/2007	
2/22/2008	2/22/2008	2/29/2008	3/14/2008	3/15/2008	
2/27/2009	2/27/2009	3/6/2009	3/20/2009	3/12/2009	12-Apr
2/26/2010	2/26/2010	3/5/2010	3/19/2010	3/11/2010	4-Apr
2/25/2011	2/25/2011	3/4/2011	3/18/2011	3/10/2011	24-Apr
2/24/2012	2/24/2012	3/2/2012	3/16/2012	3/8/2012	8-Apr

Illinois / Missouri Area YMCA Swim Committee
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 Appendix E
 2007-08 District statistics

District	District Roster Information					District Meet Information					
	# Teams	F	M	Total	% of Area	Athletes Entered			Participation %		
						F	M	Total	F	M	Total
Chicago	10	533	403	936	20.2%	237	196	433	44.5%	48.6%	46.3%
Illini	16	617	414	1031	22.3%	260	226	486	42.1%	54.6%	47.1%
Northwest	10	524	297	821	17.7%	359	208	567	68.5%	70.0%	69.1%
St. Louis	15	565	352	917	19.8%	401	276	677	71.0%	78.4%	73.8%
Town & Country	7	558	370	928	20.0%	375	253	628	67.2%	68.4%	67.7%
Area Totals	58	2797	1836	4633		1,632	1,159	2,791	58.3%	63.1%	60.2%
Aurora		67	46	113							

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Illini	16	617	414	1,031	22.8%	260	226	486	42.1%	54.6%	47.1%
Northwest	10	524	297	821	18.2%	359	208	567	68.5%	70.0%	69.1%
St. Louis	15	565	352	917	20.3%	401	276	677	71.0%	78.4%	73.8%
Town & Country	6	491	324	815	18.0%	333	190	523	67.8%	58.6%	64.2%
Area Totals	57	2,730	1,790	4,520		1,590	1,096	2,686	58.2%	61.2%	59.4%

Footnotes:

Number of teams based upon team codes in rosters submitted to Dennis Norton

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