

## Metropolitan Swimming Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2023 / Zoom

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### CALL TO ORDER

Dom Boccio, General Chair called the March 21, 2023 Regular Board of Directors meeting to order at 7:36pm with the following members in attendance:

### PRESENT

Frankie Anderson, Joseph Apat, Christopher Arena, Dom Boccio, Jeff Chu, Lamar DeCasseres, David Ellinghaus, Sandy Graham, Kate Hallex, Zac Hojnacki, Annette Mackrel, John Yearwood

### EXCUSED

Robert Frawley

### GUESTS

Elaine Ang, George Fleckenstein, Kenneth Graham, Monique Grayson

### STAFF

Kim Wyer-Ferraris

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### MINUTES

**MOTION:** *To approve the January 5, 2023 Board of Directors meeting minutes (attachment #1) Seconded. APPROVED.*

### REPORT OF OFFICERS

#### General Chair's Report

USA Swimming will host the Annual Business Meeting in Denver, April 20-23, 2023.

**MOTION:** *Mr. Boccio moved to have the Board of Directors select up to 5 individuals, including an athlete, to attend the USA Swimming Annual Business meeting. Seconded. APPROVED*

The Eastern Zone will host an Athlete Leadership Retreat June 2023 at Colby College. Eligibility information is available on the Eastern Zone Website

([http://www.easternzoneswimming.org/misc/2023\\_Leadership\\_Retreat\\_Information.pdf](http://www.easternzoneswimming.org/misc/2023_Leadership_Retreat_Information.pdf)). Hallex described an option to provide financial support through reimbursement, similar to how Zone Coaches' reimbursement was previously handled. Maine Swimming is supposed to send out information about selection. John Yearwood will follow up with other LSCs to see how they are selection participants.

Email transitions. Generic emails have been created. Dave Ellinghaus suggested transitioning after the elections in April.



### **Finance Chair**

Mr. Arena reported we were doing better than last year. He then discussed the timeline for the LSC Budget, suggesting it would be better to have additional information from the Summer before drafting and approving the Budget. Dom indicated having the budget in the Spring because he believed that was when it was supposed to happen.

**MOTION:** Mr. Chu motioned to have the Finance Chair and Committee to prepare a budget for the Fall House of Delegates Meeting, instead of the Spring. Seconded. **APPROVED**

### **Administrative Vice Chair**

Mr. DeCasseres reported that post-meet reports were coming in, only one was outstanding at the time of this meeting. The deadline for the Club Excellence Achievement applications has passed, there have been 3 submissions. A record of the applications, including verification of athlete eligibility is saved in the Metro Dropbox.

**MOTION:** Mr. Chu motioned to extend the deadline for the Club Excellence applications to the Spring House of Delegates Meeting. Seconded. **APPROVED**

### **Coaches Representative**

Mr. Yearwood reported having materials prepared for the Coach of the Year award after the Long Course season. He also inquired as to availability of funds for coaches to attend the Leadership Retreat. Mr. DeCasseres inquired about the requirement for US Citizenship for club excellence. He will follow up with USA Swimming about this.

### **Athlete Representatives**

Nothing to report. Mr. Chu reported having received no nominations for the Junior Athlete Representative election at the time of this meeting. Mr. Apat said he would put together a post for the Instagram account.

### **Secretary**

Mr. Chu reminded committee chairs that all committees are required to have 2 meetings per year, and some committees have not held theirs. Mr. Chu discussed the absence of division assignments for some committees. Mr. Ellinghaus expressed concern about board members dictating committee membership, and suggested a proposal to allow committee chairs to appoint committee members, with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. Mr. Chu indicated he would draft a proposal.

### **Senior Chair**



These minutes will be officially approved by the Metropolitan Swimming Board of Directors at its April 19, 2023 meeting.

Mr. Hojnacki reported that we had a successful Senior Mets, it was competitive and well attended. The overarching sentiment was that it was a positive experience. The Senior Committee conducted a survey of coaches about how the meet was run, and potential changes. He reported the committee approved adding the 200 Medley Relay to the Thursday evening session. One major item that came up in the committee meeting was the possibility of changing the dates for Winter Senior Mets, as substantial conflicts occur with boys' high school swimming. Mr. Hojnacki acknowledged the admin team at Senior Mets. Mr. Ellinghaus discussed a history of failed proposals to change the dates of Senior Mets.

### **Age Group Chair**

Ms. Hallex reported the Age Group Championships ran well, the athlete participation was up. Ms. Hallex indicated she would hold a committee meeting, and was discussing with the host team about data related to historic athlete participation by gender and age group. Also that the TeamUnify site for Zones was prepared for Ms. Hallex to hand things off to her successor.

### **Safe Sport**

Ms. Graham reported that of the 71 clubs Metro has listed, 39 have initiated their Safe Sport recognition. 5.6 percent have achieved it. She discussed the option of requiring Safe Sport recognition to host meets, indicating some LSCs have already done this and seen significant participation in the program.

### **Operational Risk**

Mr. McIlhargy was absent.

### **Technical Planning**

Mr. Ellinghaus reported reviewing cut times from the short course season. There were some events where there appeared to be low representation. Mr. Ellinghaus suggested a policy amendment to allow the Technical Planning chair to decide if late meets could receive a sanction, rather than the existing process which requires the Board of Directors to approve.

### **DEI**

The lifeguard opportunity grant application is finalized, and will be able to be implemented after the House of Delegates by the next DEI Chair.

### **Governance Committee**

Mr. Frawley was excused, but reported to Mr. Boccio that the committee is close to setting a date for its next meeting.



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### **Hall of Fame**

Mr. McIlhargy was absent. Mr. Ellinghaus described historic practice for nominating and induction to the Metro Hall of Fame, indicating that we have not inducted anyone in a few years. He also suggested updating the website to include the inductees. Ms. Grayson indicated having relevant materials for the Hall of Fame.

### **Meet Host Committee**

Mr. Boccio discussed needing to appoint a chair and members, and requested suggestions.

### **Officials Chairs**

Ms. Ang and Mr. Graham reported needing officials to sign up at the Bronze Championships, and that Ms. Ang would send additional emails to officials. Mr. Graham described the recent rule change regarding resubmerging in backstroke and the advancement process. Mr. Graham indicated that Metro's history may not have been downloaded, but he would reach out to the former Officials Chair. Mr. Graham indicated that he and Ms. Ang may pursue a policy amendment to change Part 4 (Officials). Mr. Graham indicated he would search for materials for the Stetz Scholarship application.

### **Office**

Ms. Ferraris inquired about travel reimbursement related to an athlete competing in the Para World Series meets, and will follow up for the April meeting. Athlete registrations were up to about 8100 athletes including flex premium and flex memberships.

### **Unfinished Business**

None

### **New Business**

Mr. Chu, as a representative of Hauppauge requested to change a sanction already received for a time trial to an intrasquad meet, to provide opportunities for apprentice officials session to count.

**MOTION:** *To change the Hauppauge March 29 time trial sanction to an intrasquad meet. Seconded.*

**APPROVED**

Mr. Boccio discussed the upcoming House of Delegates meeting.

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### **CLOSED SESSION**

Minutes for a closed session are on file with the Secretaries.

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### **ADJOURN**



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Dom Boccio adjourned the meeting at 10:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
/s/ Jeff Chu  
Secretary

/s/ Annette Mackrel  
Secretary

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**Metropolitan Swimming Board of Directors Minutes Attachments**  
March 21, 2023 / Virtual

Attachment 1

Page 1 – Agenda: March 21, 2023

Attachment 2

Page 2 – DRAFT BOD Minutes DATE

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