

General Chair's Report - Metropolitan Swimming

House of Delegates Meeting May 9th, 2024

I want to extend my gratitude to each member of the board and committees for their hard work and dedication. Through your collective passion and diligence, we continue to enhance and improve the sport of swimming in our LSC. Over the past year we have taken many steps to strengthen numerous facets of Metropolitan Swimming. Below I have provided a brief description of some of these initiatives.

Board/Committee Update:

- Continued work on updating and formalizing the Metropolitan Swimming strategic plan. This plan serves as a roadmap for our board to ensure all decisions align with the long-term vision for our LSC.
- Emphasizing the work at the committee level and encouraging more involvement. Committee participation is vital as it is the primary arena for the LSC's operational work. The Board and House of Delegates levels are for managing this work, not performing it.

Metro Office Relocation:

- The Metropolitan Swimming office has relocated, resulting in cost savings of over \$10,000 annually.

Top Initiatives for Metropolitan Swimming:

Senior Metropolitan Championships:

- Recent enhancements include the addition of new relays, improved athlete hospitality, and the implementation of backstroke flags for a more structured and safe warm-up area.
- Continued efforts and evaluations to enhance the meet experience for our athletes.

Junior Metropolitan Championships:

- The Junior Met meet continues to be something we are striving to improve. The Tech Planning and Age Group committees have been working diligently to identify areas for improvement and implementing necessary changes.

Surveys on Senior & Junior Mets:

- We will be issuing surveys on Senior and Junior Metropolitan championships to solicit input from the membership and ensure alignment with all teams' preferences and goals.

Professional Development and Coach Education:

- This year we issued the ASCA initiative to provide all Metro Coaches with a complimentary ASCA membership. This membership is still active, please take advantage!

Officials Retention/Growth:

- The new organization structure for our Officials committee is formed and operating.
- We are positioned now to make a big push on Official Recruitment.

In closing, as I reflect on my first full year in this role, I am grateful for the support of the board and our Metro community. Together, we have achieved significant milestones, yet our journey is far from over. I urge all members to consider joining our committees and contributing fresh ideas and perspectives. It is through our collective efforts that we will propel Metropolitan Swimming into its strongest iteration yet.

Thank you,
David Rodriguez - General Chair, Metropolitan Swimming