

2025 Montana Swimming Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2025

General Chair Jay Friend called the virtual meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Attendance: Jay Friend, Eddie Lary, Susan Huckeby, Mike Turner, Pat Gilmartin, Piper Lynch, Elly Lewis, and Teague McElwee.

Committee reports:

General Chair report – Jay: Jay participated virtually in the USA Swimming summit. Some votes went his way, some did not. He has been working with the Havre team. They have no lifeguards available to hold practice. Jay offered to train lifeguards for them. Hayley Coursey stepped down as the HAV coach to deal with a family matter. The team has a new head coach.

No other reports.

New business:

Budget for FY 2025-2026: Jay hopes to email a copy to us before the next meeting.

Kim Jacobs resigned as the program operations chair (zone team). If you know of anyone who may be interested have them contact Jay.

Zone coach SOP committee: Jay, Brady, Mike Turner and a couple athletes to be named. Elly and Teague will contact the athletes on the athlete committee. Jay would prefer a senior zone and an age group zone athlete. The working group will mainly communicate by email and meet virtually. Will try to have a first draft of the SOP available for review at the November meeting. Laura developed a committee with the coaches and athlete members. The SOP should include the roles of the head coach and assistant coach, timelines, and procedures.

Zone coaches: The team coaches include the head coach of the year and the assistant coach of the year who have first choice to coach the zone teams. The remaining coach positions will be filled via application.

Jay is turning down his zone coach position.

Lisa is interested in serving as a zone coach and is deciding which meet she prefers.

The zone coach application should be sent out.

Late meet fees:

Fees owed to Montana Swimming must be paid in full for a team to enter the championship meets.

Can we prevent a team from entering state if the team owes money to another MT Swimming team?

Jay reported Wyoming Swimming has a fee penalty for paying meet fees late to a host team.

Eddie reported teams not paying other teams fees owed is a major issue in other LSCs. He reported in some LSCs if a team didn't pay the current meet host, that host could contact the next meet host and report the non-payment of fees and the at next host could prevent the team from entering their meet. Host teams could collect from the delinquent team's individual members if the host team didn't pay . Such policies would need to be voted upon.

Jay stated if we want to restrict entries at any swim meet we would need to vote on this policy at a HOD meeting.

Eddie explained that swimmers could individually enter the meet and pay their fees, but the team would not be allowed to do submit entries until they paid past due amounts. Eddie will draft a couple ;ate fee payment request proposals we could discuss.

Jay wants to develop a boiler plate letter that can be sent by Montana Swimming to teams who owe money to another team or the LSC.

Is HDST folding as a team? The team is no longer in good standing. Current athletes may transfer to unattached or, if accepted by HLST, they could transfer to HLST or another team. They may attempt to practice with an unattached program at the facility.

Do meet host teams have to provide a coach to supervise unattached swimmers at a meet without a coach in attendance? The host team can assist the unattached athletes or other athletes without a coach present to find a coach to supervise them at the meet. The host team could also contact other teams competing at the meet and ask if their coaches would agree to supervise any swimmers without a coach present at the meet.

Unattached coach credentials should be checked at swim meets.

Action items:

- Budget to review at November meeting.
- Zone Coach SOP committee to meet and hopefully have a draft document to review at the November meeting.
- Program operations chair potential candidates.
- Jay will contact Alana about the future of HDST. How will unattached swimmers be handled going forward? Is anyone taking over this group of unattached athletes?

Next virtual BOD meeting: November 23, 7:00 pm. Same meeting link as this meeting. Send agenda items to Jay.

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Huckleby
MT Swimming Secretary