

Montana Swimming Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Zoom Meeting
September 18, 2022

Those present included: Matt Yovich, Jay Friend, Jessica Marshall, Caty Flikkema, Tracy Flikkema, Lon Huckert, Stephanie Boysen, Susan Huckleby, and athletes Connor Mizner, Analise Belasco, Jesse McCormick, and Addy Lewis.

General Chair Matt Yovich called the virtual meeting to order at 7:00 pm. A quorum was present. Matt called the meeting to discuss the 2022 proposals submitted and make recommendations on each. The following proposals were discussed, and recommendations were made by the executive committee. The summary page is at the end of the minutes.

(1) Zone Relay Records

Submitted by Jessica Marshall

Recommendation: Pass

Action: Pass; Fail; Pass as Amended; Tabled; Withdrawn; Pull

Proposal: Montana Swimming Zone Relay Record will be changed to reflect the Age Groups the Relays are swam in at Age Group Zones: 10 & Under, 12 & Under, 14 & Under for each gender.

Rationale: Right now, the relay records are the standard age groups of 10&U, 11-12 and 13-14. Often to put together the fastest relays possible and to give swimmers more relay opportunities, coaches are using the "under" age groups to fill relays.

Example: At 2022 Age Group Zones, there was a 10-year-old on the 12 & Under 200 Medley Relay and that relay swam faster than the 11-12 Record but it does not count because the record is an 11-12 record not 12 & Under. This proposal will make sure swimmers receive the recognition they deserve.

Effective Immediately -- and possibly retroactively to when these relay changes were passed by the Western Zone.

NOTE: This proposal may be amended at the MT Swim Fall HOD meeting pending passage of legislation at the Western Zone HOD meeting September 25.

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### (2) Both Chaperones at Age Group Zones will be Current MT Swim Coaches

Submitted by Jessica Marshall

**Recommendation: Pass as Amended**

Action: Pass; Fail; Pass as Amended; Tabled; Withdrawn; Pull

**Proposal: Both Montana Swimming Chaperones at Age Group Zones will be Current Montana Swimming Coaches.**

The first chaperone will be the Program Development Chair. All Coaches applying for the Program Development Chair will be informed that if they fill this Chair on the Montana Swimming Board, that they will be expected to attend Age Group Zones for the duration of their Term on the Board. This gives our athletes and coaches a consistent contact person who will be at Zones each year for the duration of their term.

These coaches will not be there in an on-deck coaching capacity but will fill the role as chaperone. Responsibilities include: monitoring swimmers in the athlete village, sending kids to on-deck coaches for events, having snacks available for swimmers, coordinating with Zones Chair for lunches and other necessities, communicating with parents, providing feedback to swimmers before and after races and coordinating with on-deck coaches.

This is a paid position with amount determined by Montana Swimming finance committee. If the Program Development Chair is already on the coaching staff for the Zones Meet, another coach will be chosen by application process and by the coaching staff to fill this position. This position will need a car separate from on-deck coaches and will be responsible for the Montana Swimming cash card (or however payments are made for expenses at the meet).

The second chaperone will be a coach chosen by application process decided by the Age Group Zones Coaching Staff and the Zones Coordinator.

Rationale: Most of the larger LSCs have their Age Group Chair or their Program Development Chair at the Age Group Zones Meet in the Athlete Village area. This provides more support for our swimmers, coaches, and families. After going on my third Zones trip, we've taken note of how larger LSCs handle their Zones teams and how having that continuity from year to year is how you have a successful trip year after year. Montana Swimming will build better connection within Western Zones Coaching Staff, Officials and Meet Staff.

Effective Immediately.

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(3) MT Swim LC Summer Senior Zone Team Travel

Submitted by Stephanie Boysen

Recommendation: No Recommendation - This proposal's effective date was amended.
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Action: Pass; Fail; Pass as Amended; Tabled; Withdrawn; Pull
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Proposal: Summer Senior Zones travel will follow format of Age Group Zones travel. MT Swimming will have chaperones in the team camp but will not be responsible for the swimmers before warm-ups and after finals. MT Swimming will allocate money to be applied for in terms of travel for swimmers who are in need.

Rationale: Summer Senior Zones has become increasingly expensive for MT Swimming, swimmers, and their families. The cost of everything is rising and due to this the cost of attending is rising. This summer the cost was \$700 plus airfare. This price should have been increased due to the low number of swimmers who attended, and we priced out at least 5 families at this cost.

We are also one of two remaining LSC's (that I can see on Meet Mobile) that continue to travel as an LSC team. Most other attendees are traveling as their team or unattached with another team.

The past two years have also resulted in issues between swimmers, families, and teams which has been carried back to our LSC. These issues have resulted in many different things including SafeSport involvement. The time and energy taken up dealing with these issues takes away from the reason these swimmers are there, to swim fast and have fun.

I believe due to these reasons, the format of travel for Summer Senior Zones should be changed. This also accommodates those teams that are smaller who may not have the budget to send their own coaches and gives a Team Montana atmosphere without having the extra expense.

With this, a portion of what is allocated for Senior Zones can be set aside for application from swimmers who need assistance in travel. A committee can be formed by the Zones Coordinator to determine need and an application process for that determination.

Effective Immediately.

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(4) MT Swim SCY Senior Zone is Team (Club) Travel

Submitted by Stephanie Boysen

**Recommendation: Pass as amended**

Action: Pass; Fail; Pass as Amended; Tabled; Withdrawn; Pull

**Proposal: Western Zones SCY Senior Championships will be team (club) travel.**

Rationale: With the MT Swimming Zones budget not including this meet last year, it is a cost that is not necessary. Teams this year all individually registered and were given shirts and caps with a logo on them but were not actually swimming as Team Montana. This is a meet that is close to so many other championship meets and should be left up to teams whether they choose to attend with their swimmers.

Effective immediately.

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(5) MT Swim Zone Team Qualifiers May Purchase All Team Gear Even if Not Attending the Meet

Submitted by Stephanie Boysen

Recommendation: Pass as amended

Action: Pass; Fail; Pass as Amended; Tabled; Withdrawn; Pull

5. Proposal: Swimmers who make a Summer Sr. Zones or AG Zones cut may purchase all team gear with Zones logos, even if they are unable to attend the meets.

Rationale: With the increase in cost of travel and attending these meets, no matter what the cost there are families that are going to be unable to attend. These swimmers have made the cut and worked hard

to achieve these goals and therefore should be able to show that accomplishment to others. These swimmers may purchase all the team gear.

Effective immediately.

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(6) Non-championship MT Swim Meets Must be Planned to Comply with the USA Swimming 12 and Under Four Hour Rule

Submitted by Jessica Marshall

**Recommendation: Pass**

Action: Pass; Fail; Pass as Amended; Tabled; Withdrawn; Pull

**Proposal: For all non-championship meets, meets must be planned such that events scored for 12 & Unders can reasonably be concluded within four (4) hours. Sessions that exceed four hours are not in violation of the rule if properly planned. Measurement of the time duration applicable to this rule begins with the published meet start time of a session that offers 12U events and ends with the conclusion of the last 12U event of the day for the same gender. Under NO circumstances may a meet or meet session be terminated before all individual events have been concluded as a means of complying with the rule. Relays may be eliminated only if the meet announcement clearly states the conditions under which relays will be eliminated and whether relay entry fees will be refunded.**

Rationale: Rule 205.3.1F, commonly referred to as the four-hour rule, was adopted by the USA Swimming House of Delegates in 1989 to ensure that swimming would be competitive with other youth sports, namely baseball and soccer, insofar as time commitment for both athletes and parents was concerned. Clearly, it is not in the best interest of our sport for developmental athletes to be at a pool all day or for the entire weekend to the exclusion of other family interests, particularly when other athletic activities could be completed in a far more reasonable time.

**Note:** USA Swimming Rule 205.3.1F: With the exception of championship and open water meets, the program in all other age group competition shall be planned to allow for the events for swimmers twelve (12) years and younger to be completed in four (4) hours or less per session (prelims, finals, timed finals). Events for the same 12 and under swimmers shall be limited to one session per day, except for prelim/final meets where events for 12 and under swimmers may be offered in both prelims and finals.

Effective immediately.

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(7) At MT Swim Championship Meets, Non-Qualifiers Who Scratch into Finals Will Not be Penalized for Failing to Show for the Event

Submitted by Susan Huckleby

Recommendation: Pass

Action: Pass; Fail; Pass as Amended; Tabled; Withdrawn; Pull

Proposal: At Montana Swimming Championship meets, swimmers who scratch into finals (non-qualifying swimmers) will not be penalized if they are unavailable to compete in the designated finals.

Rationale: This follows USA Swimming rules regarding qualifying swimmers and those swimmers who are scratched into finals or alternates. This would keep non-scoring swimmers ages 15-21 who fail to compete in the designated finals race from being penalized.

Current Montana Swimming rules prevent the alternates from being penalized if they are not present for the final.

Effective immediately.

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(8) MT Swim LSC Times Officer to Upload Meet Results to SWIMS

Submitted by Susan Huckleby

**Recommendation: Pass**

Action: Pass; Fail; Pass as Amended; Tabled; Withdrawn; Pull

**Proposal: The Montana Swimming shall upload all times from meets held in the LSC to the SWIMS database. Clubs shall not upload times to SWIMS.**

Rationale: With the change to SWIMS 3.0 the Montana Swimming LSC Times Officer shall be responsible for uploading times to SWIMS. There have been several instances recently when results submitted to Montana Swimming had numerous errors and had to be corrected by the LSC before uploading. This proposal would allow the LSC to review the times first to prevent erroneous data from being uploaded and then needing to be corrected.

NOTE: The Executive Board passed the same proposal on August 9, 2022.

Effective September 1, 2022

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(9) MT Swim LSC Combined Policies, Procedures, and Standing Rules – see attached document.

Submitted by Jay Friend

Recommendation: No recommendation

Action: Pass; Fail; Pass as Amended; Tabled; Withdrawn; Pull

Proposal: To combine the Montana Swimming Rules and Regulations Document and Policies and Procedures Document into a single document. The new document would be our Policies, Procedures, and Standing Rules.

Rationale: Most LSCs around us have already done this. It also puts all our governance into a document that will be easier to reference and upkeep. There is also a significant amount of overlap between the two documents.

To make this as streamlined as possible, I have created a Policies, Procedures, and Standing Rules document that references where each piece came from. I have not changed any language - just moved pieces around.

New document is attached separately for approval by section.

Effective immediately.

Discussion: The group felt it the two documents could be combined, but to not approve the current language as it is not up to date. The admin vice chair needs to proceed to update the language after the HOD meeting. Because Jay was not at the meeting the group voted to no recommendation on this proposal. This proposal will need to be pulled during the meeting for discussion.

Other Business:

HOD Meeting:

Meet bids needed for 2023 long course state and all the long course meet dates need to be submitted. It is too late to receive bid for the 2023 short course state at this time to be evaluated by the executive committee.

The meeting will be a hybrid meeting both in person at Carroll College and a virtual meeting on Teams.

At large voting members need to be determined. Positions such as technical planning, officials chair, registration chair, operational risk chair, and records chair have no vote on the board but could be designated as at large votes. The at large athlete voting members also need to be designated.

Agenda – need to add the webmaster and times officer as positions to be appointed.

Who votes at the USA Swimming annual business meeting? Jay to appoint.

Who votes at the WZ business meeting? Susan has a proposal to be voted upon at the Western Zone meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Huckleby
Montana Swimming Secretary

2022 Montana Swimming Draft Proposals with Recommendations

Submitted for the Fall HOD Meeting

Proposal Summary

Block A – Zones Proposals

Number	Description	Author	Recommendation	Pulled
1	Zone Relay Records	Jessica Marshall	Pass	
2	Both Chaperones at Age Group Zones will be Current MT Swim Coaches	Jessica Marshall	Pass as Amended	
3	MT Swim LC Summer Senior Zone Team Travel	Stephanie Boysen	No recommendation - effective date was amended	
4	MT Swim SCY Senior Zone is Team (Club) Travel	Stephanie Boysen	Pass as amended	
5	MT Swim Zone Team Qualifiers May Purchase All Team Gear Even if Not Attending the Meet	Stephanie Boysen	Pass as amended	

Block B – MT Swim Meet Operations Proposals

Number	Description	Author	Recommendation	Pulled
6	Non-championship MT Swim Meets Must be Planned to Comply with the USA Swimming 12 and Under Four Hour Rule	Jessica Marshall	Pass	
7	At MT Swim Championship Meets, Non-Qualifiers Who Scratch into Finals Will Not be Penalized for Failing to Show for the Event	Susan Huckleby	Pass	

Block C – MT Swimming LSC Operations Proposals

Number	Description	Author	Recommendation	Pulled
8	MT Swim LSC Times Officer to Upload Meet Results to SWIMS (NOTE: The Executive Board passed the same proposal on August 9, 2022.)	Susan Huckleby	Pass	
9	MT Swim LSC Combined Policies, Procedures, and Standing Rules - see attached document.	Jay Friend	No recommendation	