

These minutes will be officially approved by the NMSI Board of Directors at its next meeting in October 2021



**New Mexico Swimming, Inc. House of Delegates Meeting
Minutes**

April 18, 2021 / Virtual Zoom Conference Call

CALL TO ORDER:

Murray Kelley, General Chair, called the April 18, 2021 New Mexico Swimming, Inc. (NMSI) Board of Directors meeting to order at 1:06pm Mountain Time with the following members in attendance:

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: John Butcher, Linda Corliss, Aimee Dunavant, Camden Fouser, Vickie Fellows, Sarah Gormley, Murray Kelley, Greta Kuehl, Janet Lyon-Huffman, Mark Scott, Jeanette Skow, Jeremiah Stanton, Lee Taylor, Yoona Valencia, Daryl Wells, Gordy Westerberg, Fujie Xia, Ana Zhang

GUESTS: Kathy Beaudet, Daniel France

GENERAL CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS:

Murray opened the meeting with introductions and by presenting the agenda (Attachment 1). Mr. Kelley went on to remind everyone of the NMSI mission and vision statements (*Vision*: To inspire and encourage our athletes to be Champions. *Mission*: Providing opportunities throughout New Mexico for swimmers to succeed in and out of the water).

MINUTES:

MOTION: To approve the meeting minutes from the August 29, 2020 House of Delegates meeting (Attachment 2). *Seconded. APPROVED.*

REPORTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS:

AGE GROUP VICE CHAIR: Amy Dunavant discussed that the Age Group Zones meet is still up in the air because Mt. Hood can't host due to COVID restrictions (Western Zone is looking at other locations, such as St. George, UT or Clovis, CA). The Western Zone meeting regarding this topic has been postponed until May 1 at the Zone workshop (Western Zone will decide by June 15 on a way forward). Ms. Dunavant stated that the plan is for NM to send a team if the meet happens and presented the NMS 2021 Zone Team Proposal (Attachment 3). The proposal included details on

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swimmer selection, funding, and travel as follows: meet fees/entries; staffing accommodations, travel, meals, and stipend (head coach; 2-3 assistants); gear (bags, caps, apparel - t-shirts/hoodies for swimmers; polos for staff); family travel vs. team travel (families responsible for meals, travel, accommodations); team selection (all zone qualifiers with at least one time who apply). Selection would be based on qualifiers first and then rounding out each age/gender with a total of 5 swimmers each to field relays. Ms. Dunavant expects there may be a similar number of qualifiers this year and there may be more than 24 swimmers attending. There was a general discussion that due to COVID, the prudent course of action would be to have all coaches in a hotel room by themselves and not sharing rooms. The proposed budget for the trip was updated since the BOD meeting and is now around \$17,572. The current allocation within NMS Budget is \$25,000, which should be adequate given the projected cost. Murray Kelley also reiterated that Outreach funding will not be changed.

Ms. Dunavant submitted two proposals to change the NMS Rules and Regulations Manual:

- **Proposal 1:** (Submitted by Aimee Dunavant) To dismiss from 12.2, Zone Team Program, "Athletes are eligible to receive reimbursement for travel" due to the 2021 meet being a family travel trip because of COVID precautions. However, given that reimbursements would be based on what is left over in the \$25,000 allocation in the budget, Ms. Dunavant withdrew this proposal.
- **Proposal 2:** (Submitted by Aimee Dunavant) To dismiss from 13.3 and 13.4, Coach and Chaperone Policy, "Number of Coaches/Chaperones" requirement and "Head Chaperone will be selected by event organizer to travel with team" due to the 2021 meet being a family travel trip because of COVID precautions. *Seconded.* There was a friendly amendment to add that "no chaperones will be chosen for 2021 Age Group Zones trip due to it being a family travel meet." *Seconded. Approved. PROPOSAL APPROVED.* (Attachment 4)

GENERAL CHAIR: Murray Kelley referred attendees to his General Chair's report from the April 11, 2021 BOD Meeting for updates (Attachment 5).

ADMINISTRATIVE VICE-CHAIR: Andrea Campbell did not have a formal report to present.

FINANCE VICE-CHAIR: Janet Lyon-Huffman presented the proposed budget for 2020-2021, which had been approved by the BOD on April 11, 2021 for forwarding to the HOD or final approval (Attachment 6). Ms. Lyon-Huffman commented part of the

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rationale with the budget was looking at what could be trimmed back while still funding the Western Zone trip, as well as providing items/services to novice groups (not just funding the elite kids). **MOTION:** To approve the proposed 2020-2021 budget. **Seconded. APPROVED.**

TREASURER: Linda Corliss presented the NMS Short Course Season Swim Meet Income Report (Attachment 7). The 6 meets that have happened this season so far included a \$7 surcharge (\$3 of which goes towards NMSI administrative employee's salary). There are meets on the horizon that will have the full surcharge and will therefore begin generating more income. Ms. Corliss also presented the Short Course Reimbursements Report for Athletes and Officials Travel (Attachment 8). There have been 9 athlete travel requests so far (18&U Champs in Dec, Sectionals in April) and projecting a few additional for the upcoming St. George Sectionals meet. There was one request from an official for travel reimbursement. Ms. Corliss estimated there will be about \$5,000 total for these meets and that we have sufficient funds in the budget for that right now.

SECRETARY: Jeanette Skow presented the Secretary's report (Attachment 9) and highlighted several details from her USA Swimming BOD perspective, to include the notice and comment period that is currently ongoing for USA Swimming proposed legislation in advance of the June 30, 2021 Special House of Delegates Meeting.

SENIOR VICE CHAIR: Jeremiah Stanton did not have a formal report to present. He stated he will be keeping an eye on Western Zone Senior Zones and Sectionals meets. He also relayed that the Olympic Training Center is shut down until January 2022 due to COVID, but they are currently taking requests from teams for time slots.

COACHES REPRESENTATIVE: Gordy Westerberg did not have a formal report to present. He stated that his successor will be John Butcher. They are still waiting on more nominations for the Senior Vice Chair and Age Group Vice Chair positions.

ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVES: Sarah Gormley reported that everyone seems excited to be back in the water. She just went to a high school meet this weekend and more people will continue to get excited once meets are on the schedule, regardless of the level of swimming. Camden Fouser also reports being excited to be back in the water. He is trying to amass as many followers on the New Mexico Swimming Instagram account to get the word out about upcoming meets for everyone else to be excited as well. Both athletes offered to help teams spread the word about their meets through social media.

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MOTION: To approve the Board officer reports as written and/or verbally presented.
Seconded. **APPROVED.**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND COORDINATORS:

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE: Jeanette Skow presented the Governance Committee report (Attachment 10). She stressed the need for participation on the committee, particularly from the athlete side. In addition, as an LSC we are needing more athletes at both the BOD and HOD levels to ensure we have the required amount of athlete representation. Sarah Gormley offered to promote this need on social media and Jeremiah Stanton said he would also help with getting athletes involved in his capacity as Senior Vice Chair.

SANCTION REPORT: Kathy Beaudet provided the NMS Meet Sanction Report (Attachment 11). Thus far, the sanctioned meets have been 7 time trials (2 of which were cancelled due to COVID restrictions) and 3 dual meets.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Kathy Beaudet provided the NMS Membership Report (Attachment 12). We currently have 1209 swimmers registered, which is still down from our pre-COVID numbers. We are hoping to get these up now that pools and competition are opening more.

NMSI OFFICE MANAGER REPORT: Kathy Beaudet did not have a formal report to present.

SAFETY AND DISABILITY SWIMMING CHAIR: Debbie Kruhm did not have a formal report to present. Murray Kelley noted there was one accident report, but there was no indication that we need to follow up on anything.

SAFE SPORT COORDINATOR: Andrea Campbell did not have a formal report to present.

RECORDS AND TOP 10 COORDINATOR: Andrea Campbell did not have a formal report to present. Murray Kelley noted that Orion Henderson broke an LSC record from 1994 in the 500 free; awaiting Andrea Campbell to post it to the website.

NATIONAL TIMES CHAIR: Andrea Campbell did not have a formal report to present.

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DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION CHAIR: Doug Forbes did not have a formal report to present. Murray Kelley briefed that the Western Zone Diversity Camp has been postponed from May to August (no specific date known at this time, but either the 14th or 21st). The change is mostly due to low RSVP numbers across the Western Zone and the fact that the event is virtual. We will still need to get the word out, especially knowing now that attending this event virtually will not count against swimmers to attend in-person ones in the future. Andrea Campbell, Jeremiah Stanton, Camden Fouser, and Doug Forbes will be the selection committee.

OFFICIALS CHAIR: Ken Bernier did not have a formal report to present. Murray Kelley briefed that CO continues to help us with providing training to officials.

TECHNICAL PLANNING CHAIR: Lee Taylor presented the TPC Meeting Notes from the March 27, 2021 meeting (Attachment 13). He gave an update on which facilities are currently or may be in the future hosting meets. Updates from the BOD meeting include that LCAT may potentially be able to host at NMSU for a July meet, LAA may possibly be holding a HS district meet, and Taos just held a HS meet (hoping to be able to host small meets). John Butcher is our LSC point person for those needing help with access to pools in his role on the NM Advocacy Committee. Mr. Taylor reported that most meets will probably be Short Course because it provides more opportunities for more swimmers at the meets. The meet philosophy for right now is to prioritize athletes over spectators, as well as NM swimmers over out-of-state swimmers. Additionally, meet updates will go on the NMSI website (closed meets, or dual meets, would not be posted; recommends a note that says we are actively looking for meets for all NM swimmers). Daryl Wells will post meet results.

Mr. Taylor next provided an update from a meeting he had with John Butcher, Dan France, and Sarah Gormley to discuss the State Meet Championships format:

- Senior Meet projected for Jul 9-11 at Albuquerque Academy; Open meet but with 15 & O BB time standards; Fri distance; Girl/Boy prelims, Combined Timed Finals. Daryl Wells stated that the Duke Last Chance meet will be the same weekend (which could be beneficial to have another meet at the same time)
- 14 & U Meet projected for July 22-25 maybe at NMSU; Thurs distance events, Fri-Sun split session by age group for prelims (13/14, then 11/12); proposing bonus swims (10&U could swim up to event limit with 1 event qual 100 or below; 11/12 200 or below); all timed finals are in the evening. An important part of this proposal would be to have a fallback facility if NMSU can't work (Vickie Fellows said she will check with West Mesa but they're getting very booked already; John Butcher would prefer not to, but possibly could host it at Albuquerque Academy).

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There was a general discussion about getting the schedule out on the website for family planning. There was additional discussion about having the TPC and Coaches Rep to help other coaches with finding opportunities to qualify for Championships (e.g., Mountain Club is looking for 10&U meets to try to qualify for state champs); considering allowing unsanctioned times for state meet qualifying; and pushing back qualifying times to September 2019. Daryl Wells also offered that he is going to try to have some weekday dual meets to accommodate some of these needs.

Mr. Taylor stated there would be a TPC Meeting on May 2 at 1pm to go over Fall/Winter meet schedule & use of non-sanctioned times (now and maybe in future as well), and to discuss the meet bid for Age Group Champs. In addition, he relayed that he met with Juan Caraveo of USA Swimming to try to get more information on league formations and what can be brought to NM.

EQUIPMENT CHAIR: Jeremiah Stanton did not have a formal report to present. Mr. Stanton will coordinate with Murray Kelley on coming back with the trailer from Los Alamos to go through the inventory and put it into storage.

OPEN WATER CHAIR: John Butcher did not have a formal report to present but did highlight that we had one NM athlete compete in the Open Water Junior Nationals this weekend. Additionally, Open Water Zones scheduled for September 18 in Las Vegas is still a go. Mr. Butcher added that he will look for open water opportunities in NM and will try to utilize a connection he has through his team's masters coach.

WEBSITE CHAIR: Daryl Wells did not have a formal report to present. He reported that we are up to date on our team website domain fees, but it's an annual requirement and will be coming due soon. Linda Corliss also confirmed the last payment was made on time. There was a general discussion about a potential scam notice regarding the website domain fees; Mr. Wells will touch base with Andrea Campbell, who had received the notice.

MOTION: To approve the Committee Chair and Coordinator reports as written and/or verbally presented. *Seconded.* **APPROVED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

CLOVIS SWIM CLUB: Gordy Westerberg submitted a request on behalf of Clovis Swim Club to move LSCs from New Mexico to West Texas (Attachment 14). The primary reason is based on the location of Clovis, it being so far from New Mexico Swimming locations, and the burden that presents to the club and its members both

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financially and viability of participating in meets on a regular basis. The closest pool for competition in New Mexico LSC is farther than the farthest pool in West Texas LSC. Clovis Swim Club is currently going to the West Texas meets already (except for the WT last chance and championship meets, which they are not permitted to attend). Daryl Wells noted that it doesn't appear anyone has dissuaded Clovis to not leave; Mr. Westerberg commented he is not sure there is anything that can be done to mitigate the travel impact to his team. He added that he would take the lead on setting up an all-star meet with West Texas, New Mexico, and Border LSCs. **MOTION:** To approve the request from Clovis Swim Club to switch from the New Mexico LSC to the West Texas LSC. *Seconded.* **APPROVED.**

PROPOSALS TO CHANGE NMS RULES AND REGULATIONS:

Proposal: (Submitted by Murray Kelley) For the 2020-2021 swim season, 9/1/20-8/31/21 (inclusive), the following requirement shall be waived. [Section 11.4] "...must have competed in at least 15 separate individual events (times finals or prelims) at NMS sanctioned meets within each season in order to be eligible for the Athlete Reimbursement." For the 2020-2021 short course swim season, 9/1/20-4/18/21 (inclusive), the following requirement shall be amended to read [Section 11.6] "...Each eligible swimmer shall submit a travel reimbursement form (Appendix A-2) with receipts for approved expenses within 30 days after the event." -> "event" shall read "NMS HOD meeting on 4/18/21." *Seconded.* The NMS BOD recommends approval of this change. **PROPOSAL APPROVED.** (Attachment 15)

Proposal: (Submitted by Murray Kelley) Modify Section 11.5 to update the list of meets/time standards qualifying for athlete travel reimbursement to match USA Swimming usage as of April 2021; to add appropriate Open Water championship events to the qualified list of meets explicitly, based on similar level meets; and to clarify the definition of "season" with regard to Short Course and Long Course. Friendly amendment to merge Pro Series with Summer Junior Nats and re-number levels. *Seconded.* **Approved.** Friendly amendment to round up to the equitable time standard. *Seconded.* **Approved.** **PROPOSAL APPROVED.** (Attachment 16) Final version, as amended, excerpted below (changes highlighted).

Section 11.5 Reimbursement Amounts shall be amended as follows (modifications highlighted): Reimburse athlete travel based on time standards. Athletes will be reimbursed for travel based on achieving individual time standards equitable* with the following meets. Swimmers who attend meets with multiple qualification entry times will be reimbursed, following the meet, at the highest time standard level prior to the meet. Athletes must provide travel and lodging receipts that cover these amounts. Only

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reimburse the swimmers for the highest level meet they attended that season** (ie. Athletes will not be reimbursed for BOTH sectionals and juniors).

*Equitable Time Standards Examples: As stated above, reimbursement for athlete travel shall be based on time standards established for the meet, not the specific name or advertised class of the meet, unless specifically noted otherwise below. When a time standard falls in between existing reimbursement levels as described below, reimbursement should be at the level of higher meet (i.e. "round up").

Example: USA Swimming 2021 18U Spring Virtual Championships used Futures time standards +1% (slower) which are still faster than Sectional Max time standards and thus this meet will be treated as a Level 3 meet ("rounding up")

**Season:

- Short Course: Sept 1 to March 31 regardless of course (SCY, SCM, LCM, OW)
- Long Course: April 1 to August 31 regardless of course (SCY, SCM, LCM, OW)
- Late Season Championship Meets:
 - April: Should a qualifying meet culminating the short course season fall into the month of April, a swimmer may file for travel reimbursement for said meet as part of the Short Course season
 - September: Should a qualifying meet culminating the long course season fall into the month of September, a swimmer may file for travel reimbursement for said meet as part of the Long Course season

Level 1 - \$125 - Western Senior Zones Championships (typically Aug); Western Zones OW (if swimming an event that could qualify for OW Nationals/Junior Nationals)

Level 2 - \$250 - Sectionals

Level 3 - \$500 - NSCA Junior Nationals (typically Mar/Jul); USA Swimming Futures

Level 4 - \$625 - SC Winter Junior Nationals (typically Dec)

Level 5 - \$750 - LC Summer Junior Nationals; Pro Swim Series; OW Junior Nationals

Level 6 - \$875 - SC Winter Nationals; Winter US Open (both typically Dec)

Level 7 - \$1000 - LC Summer Nationals; Summer US Open, OW Nationals

Level 8 - \$1500 - Olympic Trials

d. **Proposal:** (Submitted by John Butcher) To change Section 9.15.1 to reflect a new structure and timeline for the Age Group Championship meet in order to make it a more exciting, championship-feeling event -- to include new language on bonus cuts to make the event better attended for our athletes, with more opportunities for swims. The format will be prelims/finals in a 5 session, 3 day meet. If a swimmer has one State qualifying

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time, they can swim any event thereafter. Maximum of 3 events for the day, no more than 3 events per session and 7 events for the meet. *Seconded.* Friendly amendment to add 13-14 500 free. *Seconded.* **Approved.** Friendly amendment to single age BB time standard. *Seconded.* **Approved.** **PROPOSAL APPROVED.** (Attachment 17)

e. **Proposal:** (Submitted by John Butcher) To change Appendix A-12 to reflect a new structure and timeline for the Senior Championship meet, which includes a reduced championship meet event list option to be used for Summer Champs 2021 to meet COVID restrictions at facilities. *Seconded.* Friendly amendment for the 1650 free in lieu of the 1000 free. *Seconded.* **Approved.** Friendly amendment for the 400 IM to be swum in both prelims and finals. *Seconded.* **Approved.** **PROPOSAL APPROVED.** (Attachment 18)

f. **Proposal:** (Submitted by John Butcher) To have NMSI provide financial assistance to teams hosting LSC championship meets to offset rising pool usage fees without the need to pass on additional pool use fees directly to athletes and families because many teams are unable/unwilling to host at a facility due to rental costs being too high. In light of the need to come up with the best framework for this proposal and associated mechanism (e.g., how potential host teams would show need; how the amount provided would be determined, etc.), Mr. Butcher withdrew this proposal. A committee will be formed to develop the details on how to help clubs but without breaking the LSC. The committee will be composed of John Butcher, Jeremiah Stanton, Vickie Fellows, Linda Corliss, and Camden Fouser.

WRAP-UP:

Murray Kelley requested that Lee Taylor develop a one-pager on the new format this summer for the Senior Championships and 14&U Championships so that it can be distributed and posted.

NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS:

The following positions will transition at our October 2021 BOD/HOD:

- AG Vice Chair (currently Aimee Dunavant); Lee Taylor is interested in the position
- Treasurer (currently Linda Corliss)
- Finance Vice-Chair (currently Janet Lyon-Huffman)
- Officials Chair (currently Ken Bernier) – elected by the Officials
- Coaches Rep (Gordy Westerberg, if Clovis moves to West Texas) – elected by the Coaches; John Butcher is interested in the position

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Murray Kelley stressed the need to ask for people to see if they are interested and that the Governance Committee will need to be taking on the lead on nominations/elections.

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Board of Directors Meeting: October 3, 2021 via Zoom

House of Delegates: Weekend of October 9, 2021 during meet at Academy (in person if possible and/or hybrid)

ADJOURNMENT:

Murray Kelley adjourned this meeting at 4:06pm Mountain Time.

Attachment 1: Agenda

Attachment 2: August 29, 2020 HOD Meeting Minutes

Attachment 3: NMS 2021 Zone Team Proposal

Attachment 4: Proposal to Change the NMS Rules and Regulations Manual, 13.3, 13.4

Attachment 5: General Chair's Report

Attachment 6: NMSI Approved Budget 2020-2021

Attachment 7: NMS Short Course Season Swim Meet Income Report

Attachment 8: Short Course Reimbursements Report for Athletes and Officials Travel

Attachment 9: Secretary's Report

Attachment 10: Governance Committee Report

Attachment 11: NMS Meet Sanction Report

Attachment 12: NMS Membership Report

Attachment 13: Technical Planning Committee Chair's Meeting Notes

Attachment 14: Clovis Swim Club Request to Move to West Texas LSC

Attachment 15: Proposal to Waive Minimum 15 swim requirement for Athlete Travel Reimbursement

Attachment 16: Proposal to to Change Athlete Travel Reimbursement Amounts

Attachment 17: Proposal to Change Age Group Championship Format and Timeline

Attachment 18: Proposal to Change Senior Championship Format and Timeline