

HSL Board Meeting Notes
September 13, 2023
Harford Aquatic Wellness Center
2213-A Commerce Road, Forest Hill MD 21050

1. Roll call of members present.
 - a. Executive Board
 - b. Team Representatives
 - c. Call to order.
 - i. Attempt to call a meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Meeting could not be called to order, quorum not present ($\frac{3}{4}$ seated Executive Committee, 8 Teams)
Quorum definition is attached (HSL Bylaws para 3.7). Note that Executive Committee members cannot vote both as an executive committee member and a team representative.
 - ii. Since there was no quorum no motions or votes could be entertained; however; the members in attendance agreed to continue discussions. A summary of the discussions follows.
 - d. Sign In Roster attached
 - i. In attendance: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Aberdeen, Aqua Culture, Arena Club, Bel Air, Emmorton, Fountain Green, Valleybrook
 - ii. Regrets: Head Official, Rock Spring, Joppatowne
2. Correction and adoption of minutes from the previous meeting.
 - a. No quorum to approve May meeting minutes
3. Adoption of Agenda
 - a. No quorum to adopt agenda
2. Reports of officers, committees, and coordinators.
 - a. President:
 - i. Vision for 23-24 Season - President was not prepared to present vision and took an Action item to have vision prepared for October meeting
 - ii. Seating of new Executive Committee members: Elected Head Official Schniqua Roberts' term started September 1, 2023.
 - b. Secretary:
 - i. Welcome back, looking forward to a productive off season
 - ii. Please notify the Secretary if your team will not be represented or an alternative is attending a board meeting. If the Executive Committee knows ahead of time that there will not be a quorum they will consider canceling the meeting.
 - iii. Please notify the Secretary of any changes to your team reps and individuals that should be included in the team email distribution group.
 - iv. Request for volunteer ribbon coordinator

1. Aqua Culture has done it for more than a decade - thank you to Jamie Weaver and Leslie Ziegler for long service
 2. Fountain Green and Bel Air agreed to jointly coordinate ribbons; they will send out a message about ribbon turn in for those teams who have not already turned their ribbons.
- c. Statistician:
 - i. Vacant - See old business discussion
 - ii. Data for 2024 divisions recommendations - See new business discussion
 - d. Treasurer:
 - i. Tax exemption card: Treasurer is working on her third attempt to get a new organization tax exempt card.
 - ii. Bank account balance is reported monthly. Current balance approximately \$16,000
 - e. Head Official:
 - i. absent, regrets
 - f. Bylaw Committee:
 - i. Status of Bylaw revision discussed under old business.
 - g. Nominating Committee:
 - i. No report
 - h. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility Committee:
 - i. Inactive
4. Unfinished business.
 - a. Vote on Statistician
 - i. The President's recommendation from the May meeting was to have a second vote at the May meeting. There were some questions about the By-Law position on this. Since there was no quorum the question of a vote was a moot point. ACTION: The Executive Committee will meet and determine the most efficient path forward to fill the Statistician vacancy.
 - ii. There was an action item from the May meeting that the Statistician candidates shadow the retiring Statistician during the 2023 season. A recommendation was requested from the previous Statistician based on candidates shadowing for the summer season. Response: Candidate Galen Ziegler shadowed throughout the season. Candidate Paul McEndree did not shadow. Previous Statistician, Chris Bley, successor recommendation: Galen Ziegler
 - b. Topic: Bylaw revision
 - i. Voting bylaw amendments were discussed and how they may have avoided the Statistician vacancy. These amendments were also discussed in the fall of 2022 but have not been addressed.

- ii. The Bylaw committee chair, Jim Quinn, reported that a red-line revision of the Bylaws would be complete for the November meeting. Board members requested the most recent copy of the Bylaws and adopted addendums for review.
- c. Topic: Review of 2023 Season
 - i. Aberdeen Championships Host Comments
 - 1. Concerned about officiating both at the championships and during the season. There were “a lot” of DQ’s during Sunday championships. Some may have been from over officiating; however, some seemed to be related to allowing swimmers to swim illegally during the dual meets and then calling the DQ at championships. Would like to see more consistent officiating. This sentiment was echoed by several other board members in attendance.
 - 2. Parking was challenging particularly when vehicles were parked on both sides of the driveway.
 - 3. There were some
 - 4. Asked status of funds distribution. The Championship treasurer is still waiting for some of the checks. When all income is collected the final distribution will occur.
 - ii. There was insufficient time for a complete discussion of the 2023 season and 2023 championships. Agenda item was tabled for consideration at the next meeting.
- 5. New business.
 - a. Topic: 2024 Schedule
 - i. Chris Bley presented the results of the 2023 fantasy season. The results from each week are compared to determine the results of each of the possible dual meets. Each team gets a score based on how many meets they would have won that week. A perfect score for a given week is 11. The score for each week is averaged and the teams were ranked accordingly. Based on the results of the 2023 fantasy season Chris recommended a 3 division season.
 - ii. Considerations;
 - 1. HCPS may get out as early as June 5th (school started before Labor day and there are 3 virtual snow days in the schedule)
 - 2. 4th of July is on Thursday this year and some members expressed interest in not having dual meets on the Wednesday before (7/3) and the Saturday after (7/6). This could also be a consideration for a meet with Freestate was added to the schedule (discussion following).
 - iii. Basic options are:
 - 1. Three division season: where each team swims the other teams in their division twice.

2. Three division season: where there are 3 dual meets that determine division status and the other 5 meets do not contribute to division status. If two teams in the same division swim twice, one meet will be clearly identified as the division meet.
3. Two division season: MG goes to Div I and Bel Air goes to Div II.
- iv. Chris also brought up the possibility of an inter league meet with Freestate. Freestate is not interested in an all star type meet after the season but may be interested in an invitational meet during the 4th break. In previous years the HSL has taken one meet off for the 4th of July; however, the option was raised to take off both the Thursday before and the Saturday after. This opens the possibility for an out of league meet on WEdnesday or Saturday. The option for a preseason meet was also discussed. A preseason is more viable this year since there will be more preseason practice. The idea has been floated for years but has never come to fruition. ACTION: Parties interested in a meet with Freestate work out a proposal to be presented to the board at the October meeting.
- b. Topic: Committees
 - i. Discussion
 1. Looking for volunteers for all committees.
 2. Action: Secretary - send out draft HSL Committee Guidelines for adoption vote in November. The draft was originally distributed in October 2022.
 3. The Secretary proposed that the Bylaw and Rules be separated into two committees since the both require a lot of work.
 4. Board members requested that the committee's meeting schedules be posted to board so interested members could participate.
- c. Topic: Recommendations for Bylaw review
 - i. Discussion of topics for consideration during bylaw review tabled until October due to lack of time.
- d. Topic: Recommendations for Rules review
 - i. Discussion of topics for consideration during Rules review tabled until October due to lack of time.
6. Announcements.
 - a. Next meeting
 - i. Wednesday, October 11 at 7PM , Harford Aquatic Wellness Center 2213 Commerce Drive, Forest Hill, MD 21050 (adjacent to Forest Hill / Hickory Activities Center)
 - ii. Motions to be considered
 1. Adoption of draft HSL Committee Guidelines
 - iii. Topics of discussion
 1. Statistician vacancy

2. 2024 Schedule
 3. 2023 season and championships review
 4. Committee membership
 5. Topics for consideration in Bylaw review
 6. Topics for consideration in Rules review
7. Adjournment.
- a. Meeting ended: 8:25 PM