

**THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND ARE SUBJECT TO REVISION AND APPROVAL AT THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN SWIMMING BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**



## Minutes

Michigan Swimming Board of Directors Meeting  
January 15, 2006  
Farmington Family YMCA  
28100 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, MI

**Voting board members in attendance:** Becky Bouchey (USSC – Secretary), Tom Dudley (CAST – Finance), Lucy Liu (UN – Sr Athlete Rep), Dave Lubinski (USSC – Safety), Dan Meconis (Officials Chair), R. L. Merchant (General Chairman), Larry Merte (AASC – Program Operations), Mike O’Connor (PA – Jr. Coach Rep), Damon Robertson (DWSC – Sr. Coach Rep), Phillip Weichman (CAST – Treasurer).

**Voting board members absent:** Dan Hafner (PA – Program Development), Paul Jones (Admin Vice-Chair), Matt Lee (BAC – Jr Athlete Rep), Ahern Naylis (OLY – Program Development).

**Others in attendance:** Jan Cartmill (Michigan Swim Office), Herman Kellahan (BAC), John Mihalik (DRD), Laura Miller (SAC), Cindi Stefl (FFYS – Chair, MS Board of Review), Larry Walocko (BBA).

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM by Bob Merchant.

Minutes from the October 16, 2005 Board of Directors meeting were introduced for approval.

**MOTION:** by Damon Robertson, seconded by Phil Weichman to approve minutes as written. Motion passed.

There were many expressions of sorrow due to the recent untimely death of Eric Namesnik (Snik). Snik was known to most in Michigan Swimming and many others throughout the world because of his involvement with swimming—first as an age-group swimmer in Butler,

PA and in Florida, a collegiate swimmer at the University of Michigan, then as an Olympic medalist and a member of the USA Swimming Board of Directors and finally as a coach – at the UM summer swim camps, the UM men's team, and most recently, with the Wolverine Aquatics age-group team and the Eastern Michigan University swim teams.

**Old Business:** Bob Merchant reported that he has not yet spent the Michigan Swimming funds that were approved at the last meeting for the Adopt-A-Club Program in the Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort because the immediate needs of the clubs in that area seem to have been met. Their longer term needs are uncertain at this time.

Michigan Swimming and Illinois Swimming have agreed to change dates for both the 2006 and the 2007 Central Zone Championships to avoid conflicting with our Long Course State Championships. Team Michigan has been assigned to Indianapolis, IN for August 11-14, 2006 (note Open Water will be held on Thursday, August 10 at Eagle Lake) and to Topeka, KS for August 11-12, 2007 (Open Water TBD).

**New Business:** Bob Merchant would like MS to make a contribution to SNIK'S KIDS, the trust fund set up for the children of Eric and Kirsten Namesnik.

MOTION by Bob Merchant seconded by Tom Dudley to make a \$5,000.00 contribution to SNIK'S KIDS from the MS money originally earmarked for the Adopt-A-Club program instead of giving to the Adopt-A-Club program. (All dollars donated by MS club members for the Adopt-A-Club program will remain in the Adopt-A Club fund until such time as the long term needs of the clubs affected by Hurricane Katrina have been identified). Motion passed.

**Report of Officers:**

**General Chairman – Bob Merchant**

(see above)

**Secretary – Becky Bouchey**

Becky Bouchey asked if the power point presentation on parent education (originally presented at the USAS Convention by USA Swimming) could be made available for all clubs. This presentation was originally intended for use at parent meetings. Damon Robertson will e-mail it to Jan for distribution to all clubs and possible posting on the MS website.

**Treasurer – Phil Weichman**

See FINANCIAL REPORT ATTACHMENT A

See MEET SUMMARY REPORT ATTACHMENT B

**Finance – Tom Dudley**

See 2005 BUDGET – ATTACHMENT C

See 2005 MS TRAVEL FUND REIMBURSEMENTS – ATTACHMENT D

MOTION by Tom Dudley seconded by Dan Meconis to approve travel fund disbursements for 2005 as per the document “2005 Michigan Swimming Travel Reimbursements” – ATTACHMENT D. Motion passed.

A discussion ensued regarding travel fund reimbursement if swimmers with Junior cuts swim at Sectional Meets. Bob Merchant says this must be approved by the House of Delegates.

**Reports of Division Chairmen:**

**Administrative Vice-Chairman – Paul Jones**

No report.

**Athlete Division – Lucy Liu**

A flyer is ready which solicits athletes to run for the junior athlete representative position on the MS Board. Lucy will send an electronic copy of the flyer to Jan for distribution to clubs and posting on the MS website.

**Board of Review – Cindi Stefl**

Cindi reports that two issues brought before the BOR have been resolved and that there are no issues pending at this time. Cindi will be attending a conference in Atlanta in February sponsored by USA Swimming for BOR chairs.

**Coach Division – Damon Robertson**

Damon reports that two meets in the Lansing area (WPSC and DWSC meets) have recently been cancelled because of lack of participation. He questions whether there are too many meets in a row on the schedule from the same geographical area. A philosophical discussion ensued without any recommendations—it was generally concluded that it is impossible to set up a schedule of meets and guarantee that all will have enough swimmer numbers to produce a successful meet.

Mike O'Connor expressed concerns regarding the corporate influences (\$\$) on selection of coaches for clubs, the merging of clubs and the demise of clubs. Again, a philosophical discussion ensued without any recommendations.

**Finance Chairman – Tom Dudley**

(see report above)

**Program Development – Dan Hafner & Ahern Naylis**

No report.

**Adapted Swimming – Shawn Kornoelje**

No report.

**Program Operations – Larry Merte**

No report from Larry. However, Bob Merchant reported that as a result of our question to Bruce Stratton, USA Swimming Rules Committee Chairman, it has been learned that according to USA Swimming rules, if a person is currently registered as a USA Swimming coach member, they may be on deck at meets even though they may not have swimmers participating in that meet. MS can put more restrictive rules in place but has not done so and has no plans to do so.

**Report of Committees / Coordinators**

**Meet Scheduling & Sanctions – Larry Merte**

No report.

**Officials – Dan Meconis**

One official has transferred in from Indiana.

There were 10 apprentices at the Officials Clinic offered at the Pentathlon and another 7 apprentices have been certified as stroke and turn.

Ann Arbor Swim Club held an Officials Seminar and 25 potential candidates attended.

Referees have been appointed for the State Meets. They are as follows: 12 & U – Referee is Dan Meconis, Deck Referee is Mark Daniels and Admin Referee is Paul Jones. 13 & O – Referee is Scott Appleyard, Deck Referee is Ron Reinke and Admin Referee is Paul Jones.

**Safety – Dave Lubinski**

A question regarding Safety Marshals and Assistant Safety Marshals at meets was also referred to Bruce Stratton. Bruce replied that all persons acting in this capacity at meets (whatever we choose to name them) must be registered with USA Swimming as per Articles 101.18 and 202.3.3. Bob Merchant and Dave disagree with Bruce's interpretation and Bob reports that he will discuss this at the General Chairs Meeting and report back on the issue.

**Michigan Swim Office – Jan Cartmill**

Registration STATS: As of today, we have 5,633 athletes (including year round, outreach & seasonal), 388 non-athletes and 75 clubs registered for 2006. This is about 500 athletes behind last year at this time.

**MOTION by Phil Weichman and seconded by Dave Lubinski to adjourn. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 2:35 PM.**

The next MS Board meeting will be held in Farmington Hills on Sunday, April 9, 2006 at 1:00 PM.

The Finance Committee will meet immediately preceding the Board meeting at 12 noon. Members of this committee are requested to attend and all interested parties are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice B Cartmill  
Registration / Membership Chair  
Michigan Swimming, Inc.