

**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  
July 16, 2006  
Farmington Family YMCA  
28100 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, MI

**Voting board members in attendance:** Brandon Converse (EGRA – Program Operations), Tom Dudley (CAST – Finance), Don Kimble (WMS – Program Operations), R. L. Merchant (General Chairman), Larry Merte (AASC – Admin Vice-Chair), Mike O'Connor (PA – Sr. Coach Rep), Erin Shea (BAC – Jr. Athlete Rep), Phillip Weichman (CAST – Treasurer), Julie Youngquist (PAC – Jr. Coach Rep).

**Voting board members absent:** Becky Bouchey (USSC – Secretary), Mike Cutler (ROCK – Safety), Dan Hafner (PA – Program Development), Matt Lee (BAC – Sr. Athlete Rep.), Dan Meconis (Officials Chair), Ahern Naylis (OLY – Program Development).

**Others in attendance:** Pete Biglin (BBA), David Brace (SMAC), Jan Cartmill (Michigan Swim Office), Cheryl Dischler (USSC), Linda Hatt (BAC), Dave Lubinski (USSC), Kirk Nissley (Board of Review), Damon Robertson (DWSC), Jan Schroth (PSC), Cindi Stefl (FFYS – Chair, Board of Review), Chris Swies (BBA).

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by Bob Merchant.

Minutes from the April 6, 2006 Board of Directors meeting were introduced for approval. A correction was needed to add Damon Robertson to the list of voting members absent.

**MOTION:** by Phil Weichman and seconded to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed. The April 6<sup>th</sup> minutes are hereby amended to read as follows:

Voting board members absent: to include Damon Robertson.

### **General Chairman's Report – Bob Merchant**

CONVENTION – All members of the Michigan Swimming (MS) Board and committees who wish to attend the 2006 USAS Convention should be sure to send their registration fees in to USAS so that they meet the “early bird deadline” which is a postmark by August 4th. Bob Merchant will draft an e-mail for distribution to these folks to let them know that MS will reimburse them for registration fees if they wish to attend since it is being held in Michigan. They will be responsible for any hotel bills unless they are one of the Board Members for whom Convention fees are paid by Michigan Swimming. Folks who wish to volunteer at the Convention do not have to pay the registration fee as long as they do not attend any of the meetings.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** Kirk Nissley presented information regarding the Online Meet Entry (OME) System that is now available for use from USA Swimming – **(see OME Procedures, ATTACHMENT A)**. Meet hosts may restrict users to enter meets using Official Times only or a combination of Official Times and times from meets that are neither Sanctioned, Approved or Observed by USA Swimming. A lively discussion followed. Coaches were encouraged to seek input from their peers regarding the use of this system for the MS Championship Meets and restricting those meets to the use of Official Times only.

### **Report of Officers:**

**Secretary – Becky Bouchey**

No report.

**Treasurer – Phil Weichman**

Phil presented a summary of the current finances **(See Financial Report, ATTACHMENT B)**.

### **Reports of Division Chairmen:**

**Administrative Vice-Chairman – Larry Merte**

Larry announced that the 2007 meeting schedule will be distributed soon.

Plans are underway to survey members regarding the MS website and what they would like to see on it, etc.

Meet results should now be sent to the MS Office from the meet hosts. Once the results have been loaded into SWIMS, they will be sent to the webmaster for posting on the MS website. This will ensure that the results on the website mirror those that have been entered into SWIMS.

**Athlete Division – Erin Shea**

Erin made a request to have an athlete section on the MS website. She would like for this to be an interactive section that would ask a question of the week, for example, and allow athletes to enter their responses. The athlete reps will work on this with Larry Merte.

**Board of Review – Cindi Stefl**

Nothing to report.

**Coach Division – Mike O'Connor**

Mike noted how quickly meet results are being loaded into SWIMS. The OLY/AASC meet ended yesterday and was found to be in SWIMS this morning and he was able to complete his OME for the Sectional Meet.

**Finance Chairman – Tom Dudley**

Tom reported on the status of the 2006 MS Budget (**See 2006 Budget, ATTACHMENT C**).

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

No report.

**Adapted Swimming – Shawn Kornoelje**

No report.

**Report of Committees / Coordinators**

**Meet Scheduling & Sanctions – Brandon Converse / Don Kimble**

A preliminary Short Course Meet Schedule was distributed (**see 2007 SC Meet Schedule, ATTACHMENT D**). Brandon will check with OLY to determine if they plan to host the Michigan Mile in 2007.

Don reports that he is preparing a questionnaire regarding how MS schedules and conducts SC Championship Meets. This will be distributed to coaches at the LC State Meet.

Don predicts that with the use of OME and any requirement that MS Championship Meets accept Official Times only, the number of meets seeking Approved status will increase.

David Brace (SMAC) asked that the 4-hour rule be enforced. He noted that SMAC voluntarily paid a fine for violating this rule during 2006 but he has been to several meets since that have gone over 4 hours. It was pointed out that anyone can contact a member of the MS Board to report a specific violation and ask for enforcement. It was also noted, that sometimes equipment failure or other reasons out of the control of the meet host are the cause of the problem and it is not always due to accepting too many entries.

### **Officials – Dan Meconis**

Bob Merchant reported that Dan has asked that the use of fly-over starts be approved at all meets. Most other LSCs use them and athletes from other LSCs seem confused when they swim here and find that the procedure is not followed here.

**MOTION** by Bob Merchant, seconded by Phil Weichman to hold a special House of Delegates (HOD) meeting at the LC State Meet to vote on fly-over starts since this requires a rule change. Open discussion revealed that Program Operations has the option to approve fly-over starts at each meet until the 2007 HOD meeting. **MOTION** by Bob Merchant and seconded to pull the previous motion. All approved. Fly-over starts will be used in each event that is less than 400M/500Y except for the backstroke events and relays, if approved by Program Operations. The issue of a rule change will be considered at the 2007 HOD Meeting.

### **Safety – Mike Cutler**

A report from Mike was distributed (**see Safety Report, Attachment E**).

Jan Cartmill reported that Jennifer Crisman-Coffey is planning to hold a workshop for coaches to renew all safety cards at Jenison immediately after the 2006 LC State Meet in Holland. An e-mail will be distributed to all clubs and coaches when Jennifer has everything finalized. If we can get coaches to re-do their safety cards after the LC season each year, it will reduce the number of updated membership cards per coach the MS office must produce each registration year.

### **Meet Results – Jan Cartmill**

Jan presented a report regarding errors in sanctioned meet results **(see Issues Within Meet Results, Attachment F)**. These problems noted were all found while loading meet results into SWIMS and were brought up here for discussion and resolution. Hopefully, by communicating constructively with each other and providing a venue for education of our volunteers we can avoid a situation where illegal swims are entered into SWIMS. Memos will be sent to the parties involved to alert them to these problems and to make them aware of their resolution.

Damon Robertson requested that MS sponsor a workshop for meet directors. Don Kimble offered to present information on how to use the Hy-Tek Meet Manager program at the workshop. Bob Merchant will work on getting a workshop into the 2007 calendar.

#### **Michigan Swim Office – Jan Cartmill**

Registration STATS: As of today, we have 7,375 athletes (including year round, outreach & seasonal), 508 non-athletes and 79 clubs registered for 2006. This is about 400 athletes behind August 31, 2005.

**Special Request:** Larry Merte noted that OLY/AASC had just hosted the Senior P/F meet at Canham and had lost money on hosting the meet. The host clubs asked if MS would waive the 5% sanction fee and the athlete surcharge for the meet (\$496.00). **MOTION** by Mike O'Connor that MS waive the sanction fee and the athlete surcharge for the meet and give the meet hosts a small monetary grant so that the meet would break completely even. This was offered due to the great value of this meet to the senior athletes. This was seconded and unanimously approved. MS will write a check for \$133.00 to support the meet for a total amount of \$629.00.

**MOTION:** by Damon Robertson and seconded to adjourn. All approved and the meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.

The next MS Board meeting will be held in Farmington Hills on Sunday, August 27, 2006 at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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