

# METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Saturday, July 18, 2015

**PRESENT:** John McIlhargy, Mary Fleckenstein, Monique Grayson, David Ellinghaus, Edgar Perez, Amine Boubasis, Denise Byrne, Michael Zuppone, Emily Sullivan, John Collins, Dave Ferris, Brian Hansbury, and Jason Montgomery – In addition, Jeff Chu attended as he requested to make a report.

1. **WELCOME:** John “Mac” McIlhargy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:02pm, in between Senior Mets’ prelims and finals, at the Nassau County Aquatic Center, Eisenhower Park, in East Meadow, NY.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2015 BOD meeting was made, seconded and accepted by all members in attendance. The minutes were approved as published.
3. **GENERAL CHAIR:** John McIlhargy
  - a. Hall of Fame – The project is progressing – Mac had to purchase some old photos. A sampling of the pictures was handed out at the meeting.
  - b. Backstroke Start Platforms – have been ordered – no invoice yet.
  - c. Senior Mets LCM – the meet is going well – Denise asked why 1 ½ hour warm-up at finals – Dave Ferris and John Collins responded that they are trying to make our meet as close to the format of Nationals as possible.
  - d. News – Woody Davis, a 2008 Hall of Famer, passed away last month – Woody was a coach and administrator at Long Beach.
  - e. ASCA Inquiry – they want to do an ASCA Clinic – David Ellinghaus will figure out best dates for metro based on 2015-16 schedule – Fall or Spring.
  - f. Stipend Request – Request from Rob Ortoff to add a Travel Reimbursement Stipend for the Senior Zone meet in Buffalo, since Metro swimmers did not attend the SuperSectional Meet in Ithaca (very small meet and many have dropped out of the meet). The time standards for Senior Zone meet are easier than for SuperSectionals! Discussion followed on whether or not give stipends to the “Futures” meet – if we decide to add a meet eligible for stipend then it should be the Futures Meet which is a higher caliber meet. This is a Senior issue and also Finance issue (budget). Denise Byrne made a motion to help support swimmers attending the **Futures Meet** – about same time standards as NCSA. Motion was seconded – more discussion about the budget. It would probably not affect it since stipends will not be given to SuperSectionals this year. Friendly amendment was to support the Futures meet for this year only. The Seniors committee should then review these issues. Vote: All were in favor of the motion as amended. **Motion carries.**
  - g. Registration Report – Mac is happy to announce that we have now more than 11,000 athletes – we are growing but are still only in 6<sup>th</sup> place among all LSCs. We get votes at USA Swimming based on the numbers of registrations! It may become a time when the top 5 LSCs will have a lot to say! In addition, Metro has probably the least amount of problems of all the top LSCs!!!

h. LOGO



A few pages called “Metro Moments” were included with the hand-outs. Mac will send an email to the board every months asking what should be included in the newsletter from the Board – examples: Message from the general Chair – Important info for meet hosts – Safe Sport Update – Diversity and inclusion – Age group swimming – Senior swimming, etc... These newsletters would be emailed directly to all. Another topic was to agree to start using a 2<sup>nd</sup> logo for Metro – makes great pins, patches, car magnets, etc... We would still keep the official Metro Logo.

i. Jeff Chu – Report from the Safety Chairs Workshop – some of the topics that were discussed are:

- **Hypoxic Blackout** – This is the severe reduction of oxygen to the body which dramatically affects brain function, leading to unconsciousness which can be followed by brain damage then death. All coaches must be aware of this and make their swimmers of the dangers of breath holding in water.
- **First Aid Kit** – Jeff gave one to Edgar – many first aid cabinets contain inadequate and old supplies. This must be checked regularly!
- **Coaches Credentials** – must be checked. Must be current and coaches can’t be on deck at practices or meets if they have any expired credentials. Safety committee is working with Registration to let coaches know that they are expired! If using Mailchimp, please check who does or does not open those emails!
- **Safety Award at Convention** – please let Edgar know of anyone that could be a candidate!
- **Report of Occurrence** – will be changed again!
- **Racing Starts** – legislation is adding language to specifically address the backstroke starts and backstroke ledge
- **Concussion** – swimmers can’t go back to practice until they are cleared by their physicians. Some swimmers recover in a week to 10 days but many take much longer.

4. **ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR:** Denise Byrne

- a. A lot has been coming out about Policy & Procedures, including officiating. New information should always be presented to the Committee Chairs at a Committee meeting, and this would then be followed by a presentation to the Board. They will meet in September.
- b. A couple of meets are really running over the timeline. Some issues also with Meet Directors and the paperwork that needs to be sent to Denise, this includes the OTS report from the referee, which must be included. Denise may start finding those clubs.

5. **SENIOR CO-CHAIRS:** John Collins and Dave Ferris

- a. Senior Chairs did a great job setting everything up for Senior Mets and we thank them.

6. **AGE GROUP CO-CHAIRS:** Jonah Montgomery and Andrew Copley

- a. Andrew was unable to attend the meeting.
- b. Questions about tickets for admission for JO’s – actually – this is the future and it seems to be working well. At this time, the BOD can’t promote this as JO’s is a team hosted meet.
- c. Hotel rooms are reserved for LCM Zones.

7. **ATHLETES REPRESENTATIVES:** Michael Zuppone and Emily Sullivan

- a. This was Emily’s first meeting as an athletes’ Rep (actually the 2<sup>nd</sup> one as she was not aware of a canceled meeting but did show up anyway! Way to go Emily!!!)
- b. Questions about Safety – defects or something unsafe on the blocks – swimmers can hurt themselves – what should they do and who to report the problem to! Probably let the referee

know right away. If injury – must report it and complete the report of occurrence with USA Swimming.

- c. HOD will be after the Convention so it will be harder to inform athletes of all the new information.
- d. For 2016 – could we cancel the stipends for the SuperSectional Meet and give it instead to the Senior Zone Meet. We will need to review this.

8. **TECHNICAL PLANNING:** David Ellinghaus

- a. Nothing new at this time.
- b. The Technical Planning Committee will meet in the later part of August to review all time standards and calendars.

9. **COACHES REP.:** Amine Boubsis

- a. Nothing much at this time
- b. Meet is going well.

10. **SAFE SPORT:** Brian Hansbury

- a. Brian attended a meeting in June in Colorado - Education, deck pass, updates on Safe Sport, maybe pictures on coaches passes (and on Deck Pass), and more.
- b. Education – transgender athletes – how can USAS handle this – some athletes may prefer to use a single bathroom – at this time there are no P&P about this and USAS will handle situations case by case until we have a concrete plan to address this issue.

Question on whether the transgender swimmers compete with their “new” gender – Very grey area for now - Mac said it had to do with the hormone level of each swimmer!

11. **NATIONAL TIMES VERIFICATION OFFICER:** Monique Grayson

- a. **NAG RECORDS** - 9 new individual NAG Records have been swum in June. These are posted on the website so be sure to check them out. Remember that if a NAG record is swum in a meet lower than the zone/sectional level, an application must be submitted. The applications for both individual and relay records are also posted online and can be completed electronically and results scanned and attached and sent with the application.
- b. **SAA DEADLINE IS AUGUST 15, 2015** - 693 athletes accepted for the 2014-15 team - 240 athletes have submitted and are working on completing the process - Sub-committee members are working diligently to review transcripts and confirm athletes to the SAA team. Remember to apply before August 15, 2015!!!
- c. **REMINDERS**
  - Remember that the appropriate meet name for meets is “2015 LSC Meet Name” - If a meet is “approved”, add the letters “AP” after the LSC code.
  - For relay times, there is no team code for relays “UN”.
  - Meet directors must make sure that an LSC is included for all UN or UNAT swimmers
  - Info for all meet management, hosts, officials: the following is the criteria for a Mixed Relay time: 2 males and 2 females on a single relay, age group determined by the meet info in traditional age groups or open or senior categories
  - Note: some meets have combined gender relays in one event called a mixed gender relay! This is not the definition of mixed gender relays. No matter how you combine relays in the actual swimming of the meet, the different events being combined must be separated out for scoring and for data entry into SWIMS.

- d. **FOREIGN SWIM TIMES** - As of now, 78 meets where non-National Team member swimmers have competed have asked for their times to be entered in SWIMS. Please email me with the name, id of the swimmers, meet name, dates of the meet, list of events and best times from the meet, and a link to results or a PDF of the results. The list of foreign swim times/meets is posted on the USA Swimming website.
- e. **NATIONAL WORKSHOP APRIL 2016** - USA Swimming has announced that it will host a workshop on April 22-25, 2016 in Denver, Colorado for the following LSC positions:
  - General Chairs
  - Registration/Membership Chairs
  - National Times Officers
  - Safe Sport Chairs

It is anticipated that representatives from Active/Hy-Tek, Team Unify and all team software vendors will lead sessions demonstrating their new online registration software which clubs will be using starting with the 2017 membership year (9/1/16). There will also be sessions to review SWIMS changes and upgrades that will affect LSC registrars and times officers as a result of these team management software changes.
- f. **WINDOWS 10** –there should be no conflicts with the use of SWIMS.
- g. **TEAM UNIFY’S TOUCH PAD PROGRAM** - Many clubs are now using Team Unify’s website along with their registration and database processing. Pam Lowenthal and Suzanne Heath had a webinar session with Tim LaRoche of Team Unify and will let us know more about this..

12. **DISABILITIES:** Denise Byrne

- a. Not much going on at this time
- b. Some coaches have requested travel stipends for coaches attending Nationals with disability swimmers. We do not offer travel stipends to coaches!

13. **SAFETY:** Edgar Perez

- a. Likes his new First Aid Kit
- b. Question – for Metro Meets – should we have “LSC” first aid kits in addition to the facility First Aid Kits!

14. **OFFICE MANAGER:** Mary Fleckenstein

- a. Registration as of July 14, 2015 - Athletes: 11,055 - Single Meet: 65 - Coaches: 616 - Officials: 278 - Total: 12,125 - Big achievement to be over 11,000 athletes and 12,000 total
- b. **Web Site issues:** Mary asked Peter for pages that were not used so we can clean up web site and not have old info on it. Each chair of the following committees should be looking at the page and offering updates as necessary – adding accomplishments and opportunity. Just send me the info and we will get it posted. These are the pages he sent as unused and recommendations:
  - **Disability** - old data - no visitors - should direct to USA-S web site
  - **Diversity & Inclusion** - lot of old data - no visitors - should direct to USA-S web site
  - **Coach Requirements** - sort of a copy of what is on USA-S web site and outdated info - should direct to USA-S web site
  - **Safe Sport** - old data - no visitors - should direct to USA-S web site
  - **Athletes Protection Policies** - outdated info - no visitors - should direct to USA-S web site

- **COPPA Statement** - no visitors - The COPPA statement must remain – it is a requirement of USA Swimming.

- Zones:** The numbers are well below last year at this point (before JO's). Buses, hotel, etc. are all set. A bus has been reserved for Saturday to transport swimmers to pool from hotel so our drivers can sleep 8 hours before trip home. Question re.: swimmers that are very close to making a cut – can they register by the early – mid July – deadline, and then be refunded the money if they do not make the cut. Answer is yes. Payments are not processed until entries are final! Still looking for some coaches – also chaperones – teams with 4 or more swimmers MUST have a chaperone. We need to review this subject (Chaperones must be registered, do background check and APT).
- 2016 Registration** - 2016 Registration information is ready to be mailed mid-August. I sent email to board if they wanted to include anything – please get it to me as soon as possible so it can be copied and included.
- Fines** - Fines have been collected for unregistered swimmers – and it seems to be working – much fewer unregistered swimmers on the pre-meet recon!

15. **OLD BUSINESS:**

None at this time

16. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Problems at the Felix Festa Pool – next Meeting of the Clarkstown School District is August 18, 2015 – the original proposal was to raise the pool fees 20% - but it seems as they want to charge an amount per hour for each lane, plus custodians (3) & security guards (3) , and also restrictions on parking. It will become prohibitive to rent the pool and host a meet at Felix Festa if this passes.

Mac will talk to some people at the Clarkstown.

**Next Meeting – House of Delegates - Saturday, September 19, 2015 at 10:00am at Lehman College APEX – Mandatory meeting for each Club and mandatory meeting for one 13-Over swimmer from each Club.**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved by all. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 2:25pm.

Respectfully submitted  
Monique Grayson

August 1, 2015