

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, March 14, 2006

PRESENT: Mary Fleckenstein, Bea Hartigan, Mary Ann Senecal, Monique Grayson, Dave Ferris, George Rhein, Rich Finkelstein, Holger Fietkau, Paul Furbeck, Bob Vializ, Carolyn Johnson and Steffi Niessl.

EXCUSED: Corinne Cody, Barry Roffer and David Ellinghaus.

ABSENT: Brian Brown, Larry Collins, Gil Smith, Kris Sawicz.

1: CALL TO ORDER, WELCOME, and INTRODUCTIONS:

The meeting was called to order at 7:12pm at the Nassau County Aquatic Center in Long Island. Mary welcomed all members in attendance and introduced Steffi Niessl (BGNW) as the new Junior Athlete Rep.

2: ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:

Minutes of BOD of February 19, 2006: after #2: *Due to time ~~constraint~~ ~~restrain~~ the meeting #13b: Eastern Zone meeting will be May ~~14~~ **13**, 2006 #6b: Bea will try to schedule two clinics before June (she will be on Jury duty **starting March 27th** ~~until mid-March~~).*

A motion to accept the minutes of the BOD of February 19, 2006, was made by Bob Vializ, seconded by Carolyn Johnson, and approved by all. Minutes were accepted as corrected.

3: GENERAL CHAIR: Mary Fleckenstein

- a) Zones Update: Volunteers are still needed for meet marshals, admissions, announcer.
- b) Eastern Zone Meeting: Flight arrangements were made for those attending.
- c) Request from Badger: Carle Fierro sent a request to move her LC meet of April 9, 2006 to May 7, 2006 – Mary will contact Middies as they are hosting a meet that same weekend.
- d) Elections in May: email nominating committee as soon as possible if interested in a position.
- e) Results of Athletes vote at JO's: Revote took place at JO's. Steffi Niessl, a sophomore from BGNW, won the election as new Junior Athlete's Rep.

4: TREASURER'S REPORT: MaryAnn Senecal

Mary Ann presented her report from 9/1/05 – 3/14/06. She asked George to give her an updated budget. George Rhein made a motion to accept the report as presented. Bob Vializ seconded the motion. All were in favor.

5: FINANCE CHAIR: George Rhein

- a) Please email George your budget requests for 2006-07 before April 10th.
- b) The funds invested are up to \$238,600
- c) Club Excellence update report: Checks were going to be sent this week to all 7 clubs that received grants.

6: ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR: Bea Hartigan

- a) Status of Athlete Rep: Bea will contact Sophie again.
- b) Update on clinics being offered this spring: Bea will work on that depending on her time away from Jury Duty!
- c) Post Meet Reports:
 - o Fran Schnaar meet donation has been used to fund the Junior Athlete's rep to Convention
 - o Bea is almost caught up with the January meets – Report from a team is still missing.
 - o Problems with a Club that has cancelled 2 meets already and uncertainty about the 3rd meet. Bea will send a certified letter to the club.
- d) Meet host Metro surcharge update: Bea will investigate to see what the decrease in profit was for Metro. Based on the results she may make a recommendation at the next meeting.

7: SENIOR CHAIR: Dave Ferris

- a) Senior Mets: The addition of the Bonus events worked well at this year's SC Senior Mets.

- b) Request to add an Archive Box on the Senior page of the website with a list of the Top 3 teams Combined, Women and Men over the years. We can also add the Female and Male High Point Winners

8: AGE GROUP CHAIR: Paul Furbeck and Bob Vializ

- a) Age Group and Technical Planning (and Senior Chair) will meet to discuss Team Scoring of Junior Olympics and will make a recommendation in May.
- b) National Age Group Conference Call, Monday, March 13, 2006: The speaker was Peter Barry – Age Group Chair for Alleghany Mountain. The topic was establishing an effective age group committee. They have established a committee of 15 members to oversee issues including but not limited to, Coach and Parent education. They seem to spend the vast majority of their efforts on LSC meets. Alleghany Mountain exercises a fine level of control on all meets in the LSC. (micro manage) They dictate how many meets will be held during the season, the structure/type of those meets and who may host (through a bid process that includes all meets). One aspect of their control that may make sense for us to explore, is that they limit how many meets can be awarded on a given weekend. We have occasionally experienced weekends with so many meets, several are severely undersubscribed, and our rules (as well as USA) force such meets to be held “as is”
- c) Development of IMX style award program. We’d like to solicit volunteers to form a committee to establish such a program aimed at athletes who have experienced significant improvement. The committee would be convened to determine and recommend the numerous details required to make such a program effective. The goal of the program would be to encourage athletes who are making the commitment towards improvement. As it stands, our LSC has numerous reward programs for high end athletes. This program would focus on athletes who make major improvements during the course of a season. Athletes of any level can be recognized, however, its more likely that lower to mid level athletes would tend to be the more frequent recipients. A request for volunteers to sit on the committee will be posted on the Metro Web site. Interested parties should email Bob Vializ swimcop@aol.com
- d) Coaches Education – Speaker at Sept 06 HOD meeting. Coaches who may have suggestions on speakers for our September meeting should email Bob. We’d like to have a speaker who can focus on strategies/techniques on developing strong age group athletes.

9: COACHES REPRESENTATIVE: Gil Smith

Gil was not at the meeting.

10: ATHLETES’ REPRESENTATIVE: Steffi Niessl

- a) Steffi would like to implement a better voting system. Applications from candidates (with brief bio and parents and athlete’ signatures) should be received at least 2 weeks before the election. Athletes Reps should sign a contract about their “job”.
- b) Steffi will check her availability to attend the E.Z. May meeting in Richmond, VA

11: TECHNICAL PLANNING: David Ellinghaus

David was unable to attend. There is nothing new at this time.

12: OFFICIALS CHAIR: Holger Fietkau and Kris Sawicz

- a) Holger received a letter from USA-Swimming about a meeting for officials (referees of 2 years or less) in Colorado Springs, at the end of May. Holger recommends that Michael Panzarino (YMID) and Mike Gartman (NBS) attend the meeting.
- b) Holger will buy 4 more headsets.
- c) Copies of the revised guidelines approved at the February meeting were distributed.
- d) Corinne Cody is working with Holger and Kris to schedule officials for the Eastern Zones. She has received lots of questions and interest.

13: ZONE TEAM COORDINATOR: Barry Roffer

Barry was unable to attend.

- a) Hotel, bus and meals are set for Zones. Team will stay at the Marriott in Uniondale.
- b) Paul Furbeck and Bob Vializ will select the coaches during the Zone Qual. meet.
- c) Reminder that teams with 4 or more swimmers qualifying for Zones must provide a chaperone.

14: REGISTRATION COORDINATOR: Barry Roffer

Barry was unable to attend.

- a) Reminder that coaches must update their certifications and have their certifications in their possession at meets.
- b) Requests for proof of times from Silvers, Senior Mets and JO's have been sent out.
- c) Reminder that first year coaches must pass the test before registering for their 2nd year.

15: NATIONAL TIMES VERIFICATION/TOP 16: Monique Grayson / Mary Ann Senecal

- a) Only a few names left in the Holding Tank. So much better than last year. Still problems with High School sections (or leagues) that don't know what to do in order to have their championship meets approved for observation.
- b) Mary Ann announced that a few Metro records were broken at Speedo Series this past weekend.

16: WEB PAGE COORDINATOR: Monique Grayson

- a) Monique is looking for ideas on what works, what doesn't, what looks good, what doesn't, etc.
- b) We are working on finalizing the use of Real Time results for the Eastern Zone Meet.

17: SAFETY COORDINATOR: Carolyn Johnson

- a) Carolyn has received the 2005 End of Year report from USA Swimming. There were 926 reports of occurrence. Thirteen were from Metro. Carolyn had received copies of 6 of them.
- b) Let Carolyn know if there is a change in the Safety Coordinator from your team.

18: HALL OF FAME: Len Galluzzi

- a) HOF Dinner will be held on Tuesday, May 16th at Riccardo's Restaurant & Catering in Astoria, Queens.
- b) Announcement/Invitation is up on the website.

19: DISABILITY COORDINATOR: Corinne Cody

Corinne was unable to attend the meeting. She has received two applications from swimmers with disabilities to attend Zones. One is from a 12 & under; the other from a 13 & over.

20: SWIM-A-THON: Rich Finkelstein

There was nothing new to report.

21: OPEN WATER COORDINATOR: Bea Hartigan

There was nothing new to report.

22: OUTREACH COORDINATORS: Brian Brown and Larry Collins

Neither Brian nor Larry was at the meeting.

23: OLD BUSINESS:

Meet Championship Manual was never finished. Mary Ann and Bea will work on it.

24: NEW BUSINESS:

Nothing new at this time.

Next meetings:

Tuesday, April 11, 2006 – at 7pm at White Plains – Budget Meeting

Wednesday, May 17, 2006 – HOD at White Plains – 7pm – Bid Meeting season 2006-07

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dave Ferris, seconded by Carolyn Johnson, and approved by all. Meeting adjourned at 9:06pm.

Submitted by Monique G. Grayson – March 16, 2006