

**US Masters Swimming Championship Committee Minutes  
Conference Calls to National Meet Bidders- Mission Viejo & San Antonio  
July 31, 2011**

**Action Items:**

\*MSA to recommend to the Championship Committee that Mission Viejo be selected as host of the 2013 US Masters Swimming Summer National Championships

**Mission Viejo, California Call**

**Members Present:** Jeff Roddin (Chair), Sandi Rousseau (Vice Chair), Debbie Cavanaugh, Barry Fasbender, Lisa Watson

**Guests Present:** Mark Moore, Meet Director and Mission Viejo coach; Rick Brotherton, Foundation President and City Liaison; Steve Kuan, meet operations, timing systems, and officials coordinator; Kim Burton, marketing and promotions

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 1 PM Eastern by Jeff Roddin, Chair.

**Introductions:** Committee members and guests introduced themselves.

**Purpose of the Meeting:** Jeff explained the purpose of the call as an opportunity for committee members to ask questions that were left unexplained in the bid or that needed further explanation as well as for bidders to ask any questions that they might have. It was explained that the Championship Committee now selects the host for each national championship meet and recommends this host to the House of Delegates.

**Question/Answer Session:**

- Starting Blocks: It was clarified that the adjustments for leg length on the starting blocks should not delay the meet. The adjustments can be done very quickly.
- Order of Events for 5 Day Format: The meet will run August 7-11, 2013, which is Wednesday –Sunday. The 1500 will be held on Wednesday. For all other days, there will be 4 individual events plus 1 relay. Registration Day is Tuesday. Monday will also be available for interested swimmers to participate in the coached workouts at Mission Viejo.
- Possibility of Longer Relays: Mission Viejo is open to the idea of having longer relays as well if the timeline permits.
- Temperature Control: All pools can be regulated at separate temperatures if needed.
- Improvements since 2005 Nationals: Mission Viejo now has new starting blocks and new touchpads for both ends of the competition pool with individual lane speakers.
- Social: Mission Viejo is currently working on 2 possible options for the social. One would be a harbor dinner cruise.
- Gold Medal Sponsors: There is a very good crew working Hospitality who will work with area restaurants to keep the Hospitality Room fully stocked.
- Biggest Concern for Meet: Mission Viejo feels fully prepared, with a great group of volunteers. 90% of the volunteers for 2013 also worked at the 2005 meet. The volunteer

base will be comprised of parents and age group swimmers. Mission Viejo is well accustomed to hosting meets with over 1000 swimmers.

- Corrections to Proposed Budget: Mission Viejo will make the adjustment to \$12 per entrant on Expenses and understands that the entry processing fee has now been eliminated.
- Cost for Medical: This cost can be done for \$3000 for 6 days.
- Concerns of Championship Committee for Mission Viejo bid: Jeff stated that this committee has no concerns about the Mission Viejo bid. Mission Viejo has proven their ability to host a successful national meet, since they have already hosted one in 2005. Only possible mitigating factor would be that the Championship Committee needs to balance SC and LC Nationals in terms of region.
- Outside Temperature: This should be a big benefit as the temperature should be very comfortable. There is no risk of bad weather. Tents will be provided.
- Volunteer Base for Timers: There are 600 age group swimmers. Parents are required to do mandatory service at Mission Viejo meets.
- Computerization & Timing: Jeff explained that the \$5000 expense is now paid to USMS for Hy Tek services and this also includes entry processing services as well as delivering a fully seeded meet file.

#### **Summary Statements:**

- Mark Moore feels that the Mission Viejo organizing committee is well prepared to host 2013 Summer Nationals, with a strong seasoned volunteer base.
- Steve Kuan: Improvements have been made since 2005 with new starting blocks, touchpads, and individual lane speakers.
- Rick Brotherton: Mission Viejo is used to handling large numbers of swimmers at meets.
- Jeff Roddin: Reviewed the timeline, stating that the Championship Committee would have a conference call to vote on the bids on August 8, and bidders would be notified on August 9, 2011.

**Analysis:** The Mission Viejo representatives left the call. The Championship Committee discussed the bid. No significant concerns were expressed. Mission Viejo seems very well prepared. The region is advantageous since there has not been a LC meet held out west since 2008. There have been very nice upgrades made since 2005. It was felt that Mission Viejo would do an excellent job as a meet host. It was also pointed out that just because a bid has run a successful meet in the past does not insure that they will win the bid since the committee does look favorably toward new hosts/locations (e.g. Greensboro).

#### **San Antonio, Texas bid**

**Members Present:** Jeff Roddin (Chair), Sandi Rousseau (Vice Chair), Debbie Cavanaugh, Barry Fasbender, Michael Moore, Ed Saltzman, Lisa Watson.

**Guests Present:** Susan Ingraham, host team representative; Tiitta Elias, hotel and transportation accommodations; Randee Burke, volunteer coordinator; Todd Erickson, pool liaison.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2 PM Eastern by Jeff Roddin, Chair.

**Purpose of the Meeting:** Jeff explained the purpose of the call as an opportunity for committee members to ask questions that were left unexplained in the bid or that needed further explanation as well as for bidders to ask any questions that they might have. It was explained that the Championship Committee now selects the host for each national championship and recommends this host to the House of Delegates.

**Question/Answer Session:**

- Distance from downtown San Antonio to Pool: 17 minutes by car.
- Parking: Is available on campus at no charge.
- Volunteer Base: San Antonio has a Masters team of 150 swimmers. Also the San Antonio Sports Foundation supports big sporting events in San Antonio. They have been contacted informally by the meet director, Adrian Montoya at this time, and further more specific communication is planned. It was pointed out that it is sometimes hard to rely on Masters swimmers as volunteers since they are also competing. San Antonio responded that a large portion of the Masters program includes fitness swimmers and triathletes who won't compete.
- Previous big swim events at this venue. The US Open national swim meet was held in 1999.
- Start from Bulkhead End: Yes. Concern was expressed as to whether there would be sufficient room for timers and swimmers on the bulkhead, as well as relays. San Antonio responded that this has worked at previous meets and should not be a problem.
- Previous Masters Meets: Yes, but cannot identify those meets at this time.
- Exiting Pool: There are 4 ladders on the sides of the pool that can be used to exit the pool.
- Possible Conflict with USA meets: There should be no conflicts during this time.
- Begin of fall semester for Palo Alto: Not sure of exact dates for 2013, but this year classes will begin on August 23, so college will not be in session during this meet.
- Budget Changes: The recommended changes have been made to reflect the proper % that goes back to USMS per swimmer, the \$5000 fee to USMS for the use of Hy Tek, and an additional day of pool rental on Wednesday from 3-7pm. It was asked if non-Masters swimmers could swim along with Masters swimmers on this day. The response is no, not in the same pool unless the lanes are separated (insurance coverage requirement). However, the warm-up pool could be used for Palo Alto swimmers at the same time that Masters swimmers were using the competition pool.
- Hotels in close proximity to pool: There is a Best Western near Palo Alto. Shuttle service will be provided from downtown hotels to the pool subject to a fee (approximate shuttle pass fee for the meet is \$35). The original intent was to provide 2 busses, but another can be added if needed.
- Public Transportation from Downtown: There is a Super Shuttle that goes from the airport to downtown. Swimmers would need to take a taxi if going from downtown to the pool.
- Break even point for Entries: The current budget is based on 1000 swimmers. It was suggested to make an alternate budget for 800 swimmers.
- Seating capacity: There is a seating capacity for 1600 people.
- Lockers: At this time, it is not known whether the lockers are half size or full size, but the lockers will be available for use. It is assumed that locks can be used on them.

- Attendance figures for previous LC meets: Not sure, but will find out. The Palo Alto venue has held a number of big SCY meets that ran simultaneous courses.
- Measurement: Since the last measurement documented in the USMS database is from 1991, it was asked whether any structural changes had been made since then. The answer is No. The measurement form included with the bid packet was not clear but the 1991 form is sufficient. San Antonio is aware that the course will need to be re-measured before and after each session.
- Officials: A letter of support has been given from the LSC Officials Chair for this bid. Since no other events will be going on at this time, officials from other local facilities should be available to officiate the meet as well.
- Number of officials: San Antonio was told to expect to need 20-30 officials for the meet.
- Temperature Control: The standard temperature for the competition pool is 80 degrees. The warm-up pool and competition pool will have the same temperature since they are essentially the same pool, just separated by the bulkhead.
- Meet profits: The meet hosts are paying a premium fee for the pool rental. Any other profits will go to the local Masters club as an incentive for getting volunteers.
- Meet Contract: Currently only Sue Ingraham and meet director Adrian Montoya have looked over the meet contract.
- Presentation to House of Delegates: It was confirmed that the selected bid will be expected to make a presentation to the House of Delegates at the upcoming Convention in September.
- Attending other National Meets: San Antonio was informed that the meet director and lead official are expected to attend the preceding Nationals to see how the meets are run.

### **Summary Statements**

- Sue Ingraham expressed that San Antonio is very interested in hosting Nationals in 2013. Any unanswered questions from the Championship Committee will be investigated and she will give Jeff the needed information.
- Jeff Roddin reviewed the timeline for a decision to be made by the Championship Committee. The committee will have a conference call on August 8 at which time a decision will be made. Jeff will notify bidders on August 9, 2011.

**Analysis:** The San Antonio representatives left the call. The Championship Committee members discussed the bid. One concern is the fact that they only have six warm up lanes. Concerns were expressed about operating conditions from the bulkhead end of the pool. There was also concern that San Antonio seemed rather unprepared in their bid presentation. It was noted that the meet director was not on the call, even though he had said he would be on there. It was not really known about their success in hosting Masters meets, much less LC meets. Transportation issues were also noted. Jeff pointed out that the meet hosts were pushing this site as a vacation resort and hoping that would attract swimmers to the downtown hotels. Budget questions still remained concerning this bid. On the plus side, this is a new venue which our committee tries to promote. It would definitely make a nice vacation destination. However, not all parts of the country can directly get to San Antonio (secondary hub). Since this bid was only submitted right before the deadline, there was no time to assign a mentor to help them prepare

the bid. It was felt that with help, San Antonio could be a viable bid for the future and should be encouraged to bid again.

**MSA to take a straw poll of the subcommittee and results were 6 in favor of Mission Viejo and 1 abstention.**

**MSA to recommend to the Championship Committee that Mission Viejo be selected as host of the 2013 US Masters Swimming Summer National Championships.**

**Adjournment:** MSA to adjourn at 3:30 PM Eastern.

Minutes submitted by Lisa Watson.