

Connecticut LMSC Winter Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting held: February 2, 2020.

Location of meeting: Westport-Weston Family YMCA.

Members present at meeting: Rob Duguay, Pam Henry Moss, Sarah King, Barb Baker, Sian Nimkoff, Tommy St. Vincent, Ally Sega, Tait Michael, Melissa Duguay, and Ben Wyckoff.

I. Welcome and meeting called to order at 1:09p.m. After meeting was called to order we introduced our current Board Members who are as follows:

Chair: Rob Duguay

Vice Chair: Pam Henry Moss

Secretary: Sarah King

Treasurer: Barb Baker

Membership Coordinator: Sian Nimkoff

Open Water: Paul Epstein

Communications/Webmaster: Tommy St. Vincent

Diversity and Inclusion: Ally Sega

Sanctions: Bill Geoghegan

Officials: Janet Romayko

Top Ten: Tait Michael

Adult Learn to Swim: Melissa Duguay

At Large 1: Jeff Sargent

At Large 2: Ben Wyckoff

Triathlon Club Liaison: Open (Hoping to fill with Ken Clark)

Fitness and Long Distance: Open (Hoping to fill with Amy Hooper)

Coaches: Temporarily Filled by Rob Duguay

II. Annual Tasks and Treasurer's Report.

- Need to submit board meeting minutes to U.S. Masters Swimming National office by April 30th, 2020. Sarah will send those meeting minutes to the national office once the meeting minutes are approved by the board. In addition to the minutes from our board meeting we must also submit our annual financial statement to the USMS national office. Rob, Barb, and Jeff will see to it that this financial statement is completed.
- Current bank balance is: \$57,211.25. This number will be decreased by the pending convention reimbursements and payment for our Team Unify website. On our bank accounts Rob, Barb, and Pam are listed as signers. We must make sure that our bank account is reconciled by a non-signer. In addition to financial statements and reconciliation of our bank accounts, we must fill out Form 990. Barb will see to it that Form 990 is completed and all signers of our bank account will work together to complete the financial statements and help us reconcile our accounts so that we can move forward effectively and utilize our finances in way that will benefit our entire organization.
- In addition to board meeting minutes and financial statements we must confirm that all board members are registered members of U.S. Masters Swimming. Sian, our membership coordinator, will make sure that this task is completed.

IV. Discussion Topics

- We will continue to reimburse the sanction fee that meet directors pay to sanction their events.

- We want to focus on including both competitive and non-competitive swimmers in our events. This includes organizing dinners at major competitive events i.e. Harvard and national championships and having an end of the year party. This also includes incorporating fun relays into sanctioned pool events and promoting events such as the ePostal National Championships and USMS Fitness Series.
- Discussion on Relays at New England Championships and National Championships. We have decided to reimburse and not limit the number of Connecticut Relays at championship events. This discussion included thoughts on at what point do we have our swimmers paying for relays, how do we encourage swimmers to be a part of relays, and how do we make sure that not just for purposes of relays or events that all swimmers within our LMSC are actively benefiting from being a member of Connecticut LMSC.
- Discussion on how to send emails to everyone in our LMSC and making sure that we put a Frequently Asked Questions section on our website. As we move to the Team Unify Website, we will be able to continue to reach our members within our LMSC. Again, we want to make sure that all members are actively benefiting and sourcing information about our LMSC and upcoming events and places to swim and practice.
- Discussion on Diversity and Inclusion within our LMSC was lead by Ally Sega and included discussion on how to reach out to underrepresented members, the idea of going to athletic events and promoting masters swimming, how to get minorities actively involved in masters swimming, how to get high school and college age group swimmers to join USMS, coordinating with ALTS, and advertising and marketing for our events and our organization within our community.
- Discussion on Dispute Resolution Team to deal with cases of discrimination and harassment. Board voted to add this committee to our bylaws. The members of this Dispute resolution team include the chair, vice chair, diversity and inclusion chair, a member at large, and the member of the board in charge of the area of complaint. For example, if there is an issue with a coach, then we would notify the coaches' chair to be a part of the dispute resolution team.
- Discussion on Adult Learn to Swim Program and Adaptive Training ALTS Program held in September in Washington D.C. As a result of this discussion as a board we approved the motion to reimburse three people per year to attend continuing education certifications through USMS.
- Discussion on electing a coaches chair as Rob is currently both Chair and Coaches Chair. Also discussed meeting with all certified coaches within our LMSC and have a mini clinic and meeting. In regards to officials, Janet Romayko submitted a written summary to Ally prior to our board meeting.
- Discussion on master's swim meets and open water events held in our LMSC. Discussed the idea of Brookfield/ Cheshire hosting a long course meters masters swim meet. Discussed reaching out to Wesleyan to host an LCM masters swim meet. Discussed that there are not many LCM meets within our LMSC or region to provide adequate racing opportunities before summer nationals and worlds. In our recruitment of a site willing to host an LCM we would request that

that meet be held prior to summer nationals. Discussed bringing back the LCM meet at Wilton and holding a meet at Wilton in May and at Brookfield in June. As a board we will need to work with prospective race directors and host sites to provide more events for our members within our LMSC.

- Discussion on support for open water events and sanctioned versus unsanctioned events. We have to budget for our open water events. Discussed that we would pay the sanction fee for the first two events and then budget for other events on a sliding scale. We want to make sure events are well run events. In this discussion we also discussed USMS unified fee and other sanctioning processes and reasons why events might not seek sanctioning from USMS. We also discussed the process of getting previously unsanctioned races sanctioned by USMS. Discussed sanctioned versus sponsored events. We did not vote on giving money to unsanctioned events as Jeff Sargent was not present at our meeting and we could not properly hear both sides of the debate that unfolded on sanctioned versus unsanctioned events.

- Discussion on record board and Top Ten results. Discussed that the Top Ten Results go through a process. That we need to know how to send in results and records. Discussed on why there would be an asterisk after results and records. Discussed that we must work to keep on track with FINA and to provide proper results and records for all age groups and genders.

- Discussion on Adult Learn to Swim Program. Discussed that April is ALTS month, that we need a pool to partner with us to so that we could start an ALTS program there, that Melissa is working on a ALTS PowerPoint presentation, that there is an ALTS retreat in June for certified instructors, and that our LMSC should apply for a Swimming Saves Lives Grant to continue to grow our ALTS program.

- Discussed our LMSC website. Tommy lead discussion on our new website and we discussed the various administrative levels of board members within the creation and update of the website as we move forward with the Team Unify Website. We discussed that our current website domain expires in September and that we would like to keep our Conn Masters. org. domain. Discussion on social media and that currently Tommy is the only one posting on social media. Discussed who would have administrative access to our social media accounts and that while we might have multiple people with administrative access that we should make sure that as we post as CT – LMSC that we are publicly promoting our organization and should create appropriate posts.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m. No upcoming board meeting date set at this time.