

Sunday, November 8, 2009

Metropolitan Local Masters Swimming Committee ("MLMSC") Board & Annual General Membership Meetings

Nassau County Aquatic Center, East Meadow, New York

Called to Order at 10:59AM / Adjourned at 11:46AM

=====

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDEES (9)

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>POSITION</u> | <u>CLUB/AFFILIATION</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Lisa Baumann (LB) | MLMSC Chairperson | AquaFit Masters |
| Conrad Johnson (CJ) | MLMSC Vice Chairman | Team New York Aquatics |
| Roberta Saint-Amour (RS) | MLMSC Treasurer | Red Tide of New York City |
| Andrea Velazquez (AV) | MLMSC Secretary | Yonkers Masters |
| Jason Troiano (JT) | MLMSC Webmaster | Westchester Masters |
| Colleen Driscoll (CD) | Insurance/Safety Chair | AquaFit Masters |
| Steve Miller (SM) | | Westchester Masters |
| Rich Benson (RB) | | AquaFit Masters |
| Drury Galllagher (DG) | | AquaFit Masters |

EXCUSED

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Maria Anderson (MA)* | MLMSC Registrar | Seawolves Masters |
| Cristian Vergara (CV)* | MLMSC OWS Chairman | CIBBOWS |
| Holger Fietkau (HF)** | MLMSC Officials Chairman | Unattached |
| Mary Fleckenstein (MF)** | MLMSC Top Ten Recorder | Seawolves Masters |
| Steve Newman (SN)** | MLMSC Ex-Officio/Special Projects | Badger Masters |

* Registrar and Open Water Swimming Chairman reports presented by Lisa Baumann

** Officials Chair, Top Ten Recorder and Past-Chairman status reports presented by Lisa Baumann

READING, CORRECTION & ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MLMSC Meeting called to order by LB at 10:59AM.

Review, correction, and approval of 11/23/08 Board & Annual Meeting minutes by CD; seconded by RB.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

Chairperson Report (LB): Thank you from LB to entire Board, appointees and employees for the past year of hard work and dedication to MLMSC. Priority work still in progress with automating most if not all MLMSC services from event to team registration, results tabulation, record updates, top ten local rankings, etc. Club Assistant ("CA") being used for SCM Zone Champs online event registration on a trial/evaluation basis. CA has monopoly access to USMS registration database, which currently overrides the negative of their triple billing (service/use fee + athlete registration percentage fee + LMSC per athlete registrant fee) and weak customer service track record to date (example: took six days to make a one-word change in online event information).

LB communicating regularly with Ed Tsuzuki (NJLMSC & USMS officer) with top ten, meet results, top times, and Hy-Tek/computer issues. MA converted Metro swimmer USMS registration database into file format that can be merged into Hy-Tek Team Manager program. This will enable MF, MA and LB to create, update and maintain current metro database for MLMSC meet results, records and top ten rankings automatically.

Chair Report (LB) continued: In the past, Dan Levy (WM) and Steve Newman (BDGR) spent many months manually tabulating and creating MLMSC age group and event records. Aim is to streamline operation with quick and easy upload of meet results files for automatic updates of all data.

Emphasis this past year placed on communicating with MLMSC membership. 32 emails sent out in 2009 to date with focus on upcoming events, clinics, entry deadlines, recent results, registration, newsletter, and alerts about anything new, exciting and pertinent in the world of swimming.

MLMSC was awarded two Zone Championship event bids at Convention: SCM Champs being held December 5-6, 2009 at Flushing Meadows Corona Park pool and Grimaldo's Mile 2010 open water swim event. A third Zone designation for September 2010 Hudson River 5K open water swim event being processed.

Vice Chair Report (CJ): See Convention Report attachment. Four delegates sent to USMS Convention in Chicago in September: CJ, RS, Jane Katz (AGUA), and Kristin Gary (REDT). CJ feels new USMS Executive Director, Rob Butcher, is good for USMS. Butcher soliciting corporate sponsorships for the organization and for national championships. RS interjected the importance of sending maximum allowable delegates to 2010 Convention. LB indicated MLMSC is sixth largest LMSC in the nation. MLMSC budget has a \$5,900 surplus from last year, as monies earmarked for online registration and automated services has not yet been used.

SM questioned budget item incentives offered to Meet Directors for distance freestyle events. LB responded that this was an idea she got from the Metro LSC, is an incentive to encourage meet directors to offer more distance freestyle events in local meets, and to offset pool time rental expense and loss of additional meet entry revenue.

RB inquired what does the Top Ten Recorder do? LB responded that they merge all LMSC meet results, sort data into top times/rankings, and forward compiled data to USMS National Records & Top Ten Tabulator.

Treasurer Report (RS): See attachment. All good financially; all monies accounted for/2009 books closed.

Secretary's Report (AV): Has created, updated and will maintain email contact list for all head coaches and team representatives. Intent is to send out periodic communication to all. Since a number of our area head coaches and team reps are not registered with USMS, Secretary communication to them is their sole source of information (since they do not receive USMS-registered swimmer email blasts from Registrar).

Open Water Swimming Chair Report: Presented by LB. Grimaldo's Mile awarded Zone Championship status for 2010. Will be held late June instead of early August. New York Aquarium Mile and 5K open water swim events will be held first weekend in August 2010 (earlier date due to anticipated high interest of Metro swimmers in attending USMS Summer (long course) National Championships in Puerto Rico. Additional reason for date switch (June versus August) between Grimaldo's Mile and New York Aquarium open water swim events is the increased chances of hypothermia in longer races earlier in summer as opposed to late summer. LI Open Water SwimFest will be held again in 2010.

Registrar Report: Presented by LB. Approximate 9-10% MLMSC membership growth rate in past year, with a 25% membership increase over the past 5-6 years. Automated online USMS registration a big positive contributor to this. Many Clubs do not have head coaches, coaching staff and/or team rep USMS-registration status. They have secondary insurance through facility, organization or school where they train and therefore do not feel the need to join USMS.

Registrar Report continued: Currently no rule to force them to join USMS. Need to find a way to entice non-USMS people to join. 32 emails sent to Metro swimmers this year, with positive feedback from the general membership.

Officials Chair Report: Presented by LB. HF regularly communicates and interacts with USMS national officials committee chairman and provides MLMSC with feedback and updates. HF training and grooming additional officials who are experienced at specifically officiating masters events and who understand the rules and differences.

Insurance/Safety Chair Report (CD): No diving permitted unless supervising coach is teaching/observing race starts or when into one-way sprint lanes at sanctioned swim meet. If coach is not a USMS-registered member, then USMS swimmers in that workout are not covered by USMS insurance, nor is team considered operating a bona fide masters workout or program. Need to continue communicating importance and benefits of USMS membership to these people.

Webmaster (JT): MLMSC website analysis (see attachment). Hits always sky rocket before and after swim events and after MLMSC email communications.

NEW BUSINESS

LB appointed MF new MLMSC Top Ten Recorder. Will be working with LB, ET and MA to fully automate data. LB stated that SN remains a great resource on all MLMSC issues. Chlorine Chronicles continues with Sharon Snyder as Editor. LB noted submission deadline for next issue of Chlorine Chronicles is Tuesday, November 10. DG indicated desire to become more involved with MLMSC. RB expressed need to encourage greater participation in local masters events; must explore both event participation and USMS registration incentives to increase numbers.

NO UNFINISHED BUSINESS REPORTED

NO NEW RESOLUTIONS AND ORDERS

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by LB at 11:46AM. SM seconded motion.