

LMSC of Virginia Meeting Minutes
Sunday, November 15, 2015, 2pm
13441 Stonegate Rd, Richmond, VA

Meeting called to order by Chair Dave Holland at 2pm.

Participants: Betsy Durrant, Charlie Cockrell, Heather Stevenson and Shirley Loftus-Charley by phone; Jim Miller, Jay Peluso, Dave Holland, Patty Miller, Chris Stevenson and Alice Phillips in person

Old Business:

1. Minutes from November, 2014 meeting were approved via MSA. A full report of those minutes is here:
<http://www.usms.org/admin/minutes/va-2014-10-26-1.pdf>
2. Committee reports
 - A. Vice Chair - Denise Letendre offered comments on the weekly boosted Facebook posting; the reach has been between 400 and 1500 and likes on the LMSC page have increased by 100 this year. Expenses for this are included with the newsletter line item. Denise is going to look into having the Facebook interface with the LMSC Twitter account. (written report submitted)
 - B. Treasurer – Charlie Cockrell anticipates a slight deficit for the year (\$1000), but with high attendance at the Virginia Beach meet last weekend, that will be reduced. Charlie has gotten several recent requests for reimbursement with the coaches certification program. That is addressed later in the minutes with the new 2016 budget. A March 2016 training will be held in Richmond, which we anticipate will be well attended within our LMSC.
 - C. Registrar – Shirley Loftus Charley was not initially on the line when this report was given. There is a written report and highlights were shared by Chris Stevenson. One of the highlights is several new workout groups statewide including a Williamsburg group (Club Tribe Alumni 1693) who want to host a meet in March.
 - D. Sanctions – Heather Stevenson reports that we had a good number of meets in the LMSC in 2015 and they all made money. One problem meet was initially sanctioned, but ultimately times could not be submitted to USMS due to problems with the meet administration. There is one more meet this year – the Jingle Bell Classic hosted by Peluso Open Water Masters on December 13. There have been no filed grievances this year. Additionally the group decided via email discussion not to continue charging a \$20 LMSC sanction fee (a decision that will be ratified when the new budget is approved). Any new meet scheduled for 2016 will be charged the \$50 USMS sanction fee.
 - E. Records/ Top Ten /Webmaster– Chris Stevenson did not have a written report, but all results have been submitted on time for the year and the LMSC has seen many team as well as some national records broken by the

- members this year. Chris has also done an elaborate analysis of membership demographics, participation and retention that is submitted with this report.
- F. Communications – Betsy Durrant had no written report but gave some details about newsletter activities for the year. She recommends that we nominate our LMSC at next year’s convention for the communications award. Our LMSC does more than most. Chris keeps the website up to date and sends out email blasts. The newsletter fits in well with these and we offer an option to receive a printed newsletter.
 - G. Safety – Jim Miller had no written report but shared that fees for open water events have been modified as they were cost prohibitive for some meet directors. The USMS fee now is \$100 plus \$5 per participant.
 - H. Long Distance – Dave Holland had no report.
 - I. Officials – Charlie Cockrell had no written report but shared that he has some concern with our increase in meets that we may have trouble finding officials. Charlie would like to check in with the head ref at all of our meets so that he can review some USMS rules accordingly, most recently with regard to disabled athletes.
 - J. Coaches – this chair is empty

New Business:

1. Upcoming meets and needs:
 - January 2016- Tidewater Masters- Ft. Eustis- Steve Hennessey and Charlie Cockrell. (Charlie later reported that this was not possible for this year.)
 - Feb 2016- David Gregg III Memorial Meet- Chris and Heather Stevenson
 - March 2016- Dive into Spring in Lexington- Craig Charley
 - March 2016- Dreaming of Spring in Warrenton- this workout group has requested a move to the Potomac Valley LMSC. A motion was made to allow this move and thus place the sanction with Potomac Valley. It was seconded and passed 9-1.
 - March 2016-Club Tribe meet in Williamsburg
2. Stevenson Service Award – this will be the first year for a new LMSC award named in honor of Heather and Chris Stevenson who will be the first recipients. They will be honored at the David Gregg meet in February. This award will focus on service at the local vs. national level and will be determined annually by the executive committee. The award has been budgeted for in the marketing line item.
3. Appreciation awards for meet volunteers- additional funds have been budgeted for meet directors to award small appreciation tokens to their volunteers such as keychains or tumblers.
4. Workout groups vs. club teams vs. regional teams – there was robust discussion about the pros and cons of these different arrangements. It is too late in the year for us to change in 2016, but a decision was made to nominate a small committee to study the options. New England, North Carolina and Indiana were the states mentioned who would have good insights into the situation. We plan to tackle

the issue early enough in 2016 that we could propose a change in team structure (as well as fees) for the 2017 membership year. VMST needs to study this from their perspective, whether they want to change the nature of the team.

5. Budget 2016: the LMSC will discontinue our LMSC sanction fee and absorb the USMS fee. For pool meets we propose a \$1 fee per participant which would most of the time cover the USMS fee and then provide a small profit. In our current system (20% profit sharing) we currently don't make that much money, usually \$50 -200 per meet.

Discussion varied with regard to the fees for open water. Interest in OW swimming is high currently. Chris proposed that we allow new OW events to apply for a waiver to cover the cost of the fee (\$100) the first year of a new event. Discussion continued regarding what requirements we might place on meet directors as well as responsible use of our LMSC funds. Heather amended the motion to limit the line item allocation for waiver exemption to four newly sanctioned events (\$400 total). This motion was seconded and passed with no opposition.

6. USMS plans to host a level 1 & 2 coach certification class in Richmond, Virginia on March 12, 2016. The LMSC has the option to host a stroke development clinic for our local Masters swimmers the day after the clinic. Jim and Chris will look into pool location options for the clinic.

A motion was made and passed that increases the coaches reimbursement line item from \$500 to \$1000 for this year. We would continue to reimburse half of the program fee to any of our coaches who attend. This motion was seconded and passed without opposition.

A motion to accept the 2016 budget was made, seconded and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 3:56pm.

Summary of Changes to current bylaws and/or motions that passed:

Discontinue the current LMSC sanction fee of \$20
Apply the new USMS sanction fee of \$50 by paying the fee out of LMSC funds but asking meet directors to charge \$1 per participant and return that money to the LMSC.
Warrenton Masters request to move to the Potomac Valley LMSC was approved.
The LMSC will allocate \$400 in 2016 toward the waiving of the \$100 USMS open water sanction fee. This allocation is available to newly sanctioned OW events only.
Allocation toward cost sharing with USMS coach certification will be increased this year to \$1000 in an effort to support greater coach attendance at the Richmond program in March.
The 2016 budget was approved.