

Minutes

Kentucky LMSC Meeting

December 9, 2001

President Bill Tingley called the meeting to order at 12:23 p.m. EST, at Lakeside Swim Club in Louisville. Others attending were Mike Lemke—Vice Chair (CHMS), Meg Smath—Secretary (WILD), Melinda Schmitt—Treasurer (LAKE), Tom Mester (CHMS), Janice Kregor (WILD), Mark Rogers (WKGG), Tracy Elton (WILD), Gail O'Malley (WILD), Pam Haeberlin (LAKE), and Bob Adams (OMM). Pam had Joanne Tingley's (LAKE) proxy. Bill declared a quorum was present. He also thanked all the delegates for all their hard work at the USMS convention held November 15–18 in Louisville. He has received many compliments from convention delegates via e-mail.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting. The secretary had neglected to bring a copy of these minutes with her. Bob moved, Janice seconded that we table approval of the minutes until the next meeting. All aye.

Treasurer's Report. Melinda did not have a written report because her computer had crashed. Roughly, we have \$6700 in our money account and \$4422 in checking. We have recently deposited over \$5000 in registration fees, and forwarded approximately \$2100 of that amount to the national office. Melinda has written checks recently to Joanne (approximately \$400) and Pam for convention expenses. This leaves us with approximately \$6650 for our current balance. Melinda noted that our convention expenses were practically nothing, since the convention wound up being in Louisville rather than Michigan. Bill recommended that the clubs take care of any volunteers who wish to be reimbursed for parking fees. Janice moved, Meg seconded that we suspend the rules for the purposes of reimbursing Tracy and Bob for their lodging during convention. All aye.

Bill asked that LMSC delegates submit any budget items they may have for 2002 to Melinda, so that she can consider them when she prepares the 2002 budget. Meg noted that if we decide to move our website to the USMS server, this will eliminate a \$480 expense. If we decide to move our website, Mike will notify Norm Schippert, of BluegrassNet.

Top Ten Report. Bob reported that he submitted approximately 15 records during 2001, but not all have been verified yet. The LMSC has a large number of long course All-Americans this year. Bob made a special point to recognize Mary Rose Barr, of Owensboro Marlin Masters, who is the first 85-89 woman in our LMSC to compete in a meet; she swam in the Kentucky Classic meet (short course meters) in November, and is sure to make Top Ten. Bill moved, Meg seconded that Bob order a patch for Mary Rose when it is confirmed she has made the Top Ten. All aye. Bob noted that the preliminary long course Top Ten is on the web, and it has many mistakes. We have notified Carl House about the mistakes we have found, and he has corrected them. If any delegates notice any more errors, they should notify Carl as well.

Officials Report. No report.

Registrar's Report. Pam delivered Joanne's report. Total registered swimmers in Kentucky in 2001 was 497. Re-registration forms were printed and mailed by Sam Blythe, Westerfield-Bonte Printers, by November 11, 2001. Renewals for 2002 are coming in rapidly. At present, we have 202 registrations—177 renewals and 25 new memberships. Joanne distributed rosters including e-mail addresses to each of the clubs.

Webmaster's Report. Our website is currently being hosted by BluegrassNet at a cost of \$40/month. USMS webmaster Jim Matysek has offered us free space on the USMS server. Mike moved, Melinda seconded that we move the LMSC website from BluegrassNet to usms.org. All aye.

Bob requested that Meg correct the date on the results from the last Kentucky Classic meet from 2000 to 2001. Bill asked that Meg add links to the 1989 and 1990 Lakeside results, which are available on the Lakeside website. Meg said she had changed the date for the 2002 Bowling Green meet from January 26 to January 27, at Mark's request.

Meg noted that at the USMS convention, the Registration Committee requested that LMSCs post a roster of the LMSC's registered swimmers on their websites, so that meet directors can check an LMSC's website to verify that a swimmer entering their meet is registered. Out of concern for our swimmer's privacy, we decided to only post the swimmers' names, club affiliation, and USMS number (no birthdates, addresses, phone numbers, or e-mail addresses). Meg will work with Joanne to post this information.

Mark mentioned that he has upgraded to Acrobat 5.0, and the rest of the LMSC delegates who use Acrobat should probably do so also, because of a number of new features in this version.

Safety Education Report. Mark said he had taken no action since the last meeting, which is good news and means we have been operating safely. Mark warned everyone that practicing backstroke starts was just as dangerous as practicing forward starts.

Newsletter Editor's Report. Mike said he now has enough material to publish the next issue. He will add an item about Mary Rose Barr.

Mini-Meet Chair's Report. Tom said that participation in the short course mini-meet in November was low, probably because it was so soon after the Owensboro meet. The 2002 relay mini-meet will be March 24; the short course yards mini-meet, February 17; the long course mini-meet July 7.

Sanctions Report. The Barbara Stevens Memorial Meet in Bowling Green has been sanctioned for January 27, 2002. This was to have been the date of the Super Bowl, but because of the terrorist attacks on September 11, the Super Bowl has been moved back a week, which allowed Mark to move the meet to January 27. He had a conflict on January 26 with a meet at Western Kentucky University, which made it difficult for him to find officials. Conflict with the WKU meet is an ongoing problem. Bill suggested that maybe in the future we should switch the dates of the short course mini-meet and the Bowling Green meet. Mark said this might be in conflict with a meet at Auburn, Ala., which he felt many of the Tennessee swimmers would go to instead of his meet. This issue was left unresolved.

The Wildcat meet will be March 2–3, 2002; the Crescent Hill meet will be June 15–16, 2002; and the Lakeside meet will be August 10–11, 2002.

New Business.

Convention reports. Bob reported on Records and Tabulation. FINA now says that the breaststroke kick is legal for butterfly (Masters only), which means that any Masters butterfly records set since September 20 by swimmers using the breaststroke kick are acceptable. The Top Ten program is being changed from DOS to Windows. Committee Chair Pieter Cath emphasized that when records are set, a printout from the timing console is required for verification. Pieter also noted that all swimmers who break a record published in the rule book receive a certificate from TYR.

Pam reported on activity at the certification/registration table. She said that the biggest problem she noticed was people who said they had not received their voting cards. She had been instructed not to give voting cards to people whose names had been checked off on the certification list as having already received their cards. She felt the person who certified these delegates probably had forgotten to give them their cards. Pam recommended that in the future delegates should sign their names to a list to verify that they had received their voting cards.

Meg said she spent most of her time during convention at Legislation Committee meetings. There were many legislation amendments proposed, but ultimately few were recommended by the Legislation Committee. The major legislative change that *was passed* was that 18-year-olds are now eligible for membership, but not for competition. This will allow programs affiliated with universities to register freshmen and allow them to practice. These 18-year-old swimmers are not eligible to compete in short course yards meets, but could compete in short course meters or long course meters meets, provided they will turn 19 during the year in which the meet is being held. Meg reported that the Rule Book Committee chose a cover submitted by Bill Volckening for the 2002 rule book, and decided to dedicate the rule book to outgoing USMS president Nancy Ridout. Also, the Rule Book Committee underwent a name change and became the Publications Committee, and will now be in charge of publishing all USMS publications, not just the rule book.

Meg and Bill both attended the Rules Committee meeting, at which the Rules Committee not only considered the amendment proposed by the KY-LMSC an emergency, but actually recommended its approval. The House of Delegates then passed the amendment. Because this was an emergency amendment, it required a 90% vote of the House of Delegates for passage, which is not easy to achieve! The amendment, informally known as the “Rachel Rule” (after Crescent Hill swimmer Rachel Komisarz), requires that when new USMS records are set, they be published *promptly* on the USMS website. We hope this will prevent a recurrence of what happened at the 2001 Short Course Nationals: women in the 19-24 age group were publicly congratulated for breaking USMS records, when Rachel had actually smashed those records 10 weeks earlier at the Wildcat meet. The swimmers at Nationals did not come close to Rachel’s time, so in our view they had not really broken any records, and Rachel did not receive proper credit for her accomplishments. We hope that at next year’s Nationals the meet management will check the USMS website before the meet begins, so they will be comparing times with the true, most recent records, rather than the records published nearly a year earlier in the rule book.

Mark reported on Safety Education. He passed around a preliminary copy of a safety manual, which the committee has not distributed yet because the lawyers are concerned that the manual will establish a safety standard that clubs would be legally required to adhere to. In particular, it contained a facilities checklist that was rather stringent. Janice asked if USMS wasn't protected because all the swimmers sign the liability release when they register and when they enter a meet. Also, Part 1 of the rule book says "It is not the purpose of the *Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition* of United States Masters Swimming (the national governing body) contained herein to set standards of care for the safety of the swimmer. Safety considerations should be addressed by the swimmer, the swim coach, and the local public entity or pool owner in whose facility events are held." Mike said unfortunately that the liability release and the statement in the rule book don't mean much, because if standards were published in the safety manual, there would be an expectation that they should be adhered to.

Mike reported on the Legal Counselors Committee. This committee made several recommendations about proposed legislation. They recommended that several of the more radical amendments not be passed. But they were in favor of the amendment to make the legal counselor only an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee; this amendment was in fact passed. The Legal Counselors also were not in favor of the open meetings amendment. The amendments that would have rewritten the grievance procedure (Part 4 of the rule book) were tabled at the recommendation of the Legal Counselors. The Legislation Committee and a liaison from the Legal Counselors will continue to work on revising the grievance procedures during the coming year.

Tom reported on the Coaches Seminar, the Coaches Committee, the Long Distance Committee, the Great Lakes Zone meeting, and the morning workouts, and gave us his customary overview (attached). Bill commended Tom for his coordination of the morning workouts, and commented that these were the finest workouts, in the largest facility, at the lowest cost ever. Meg supplemented Tom's report on the Great Lakes Zone meeting by saying that the way the LMSC dues are assessed was discussed, but ultimately nothing was changed because we already have enough money in the zone treasury to fund the Zone Rep's trip to the next convention in Dallas. There was also much discussion about the cohesiveness, or rather lack of cohesiveness, within our zone. Meg said she discussed this with Debbie Cavanaugh, chair of the Florida Gold Coast LMSC, and a member of the Dixie Zone, to get the perspective of someone from a different zone. She found out that the Dixie Zone is not any more cohesive than the Great Lakes Zone, but one of the things they do that helps with a zone identity is to compile a Zone Top Ten. This gives the swimmers who don't have a shot at making the national Top Ten something to shoot for. This is something to bring up at next year's zone meeting.

Bill noted that attendance was good at the convention, especially considering it was hastily rescheduled and people had to rearrange their schedules. One of the things that convention delegates particularly appreciated was that Crescent Hill Masters provided breakfast after morning workout. Crescent Hill spent about \$350 on breakfast food. Meg moved, Pam seconded that Crescent Hill be reimbursed for the food. All aye.

Approximately 31 volunteers worked at the convention, including those who gathered before the convention to stuff the bags. Meg moved, Janice seconded that the LMSC award certificates of appreciation to all the volunteers, and that Meg's parents (Ned and Pat Luther) be named

honorary members of the LMSC, in gratitude for all their hard work. All aye. Meg will print and mail the certificates.

Bill mentioned that the marketing survey commissioned by Mel Goldstein, the USMS Sponsor Liaison, was distributed at convention, and he had extra copies for each of the clubs. One of the most significant findings was that 78% of USMS members are participating in coached programs, which shows how important good coaching is to the membership.

The national championships for 2003 were awarded to Tempe, Ariz. (short course), and Rutgers, N.J. (long course).

Bill once again congratulated everyone for a job well done, and noted that one of the reasons we volunteered to host the convention was to show that the Kentucky LMSC could pull together and host a big event. We hope everyone will remember this when we bid on a national championship; we plan to bid, as an LMSC, for long course nationals whenever the new University of Louisville pool is completed.

LMSC records. Bill noted that we have several LMSC records published on our website that are faster than the USMS record. This is because these records were set at USA Swimming meets, and our swimmers had not been able to get the necessary documentation (referee's signature and timing console printout) to submit these records for USMS records; however Brad Schmied, our LMSC Records Chair, had been willing to accept them as LMSC records because they had been published. Mike moved, Meg seconded that the KY-LMSC require the same documentation that USMS does, so that our records will be in conformity with USMS records. All aye.

Printer available. Melinda has recently bought a new printer and no longer needs the color inkjet printer the LMSC bought for her use. It is available for any of the clubs to use. If no one claims it within a year, we will donate it to a worthy cause.

Budget. The Executive Committee will review the budget once it is finalized. It will simply be a continuation budget.

Composition of the Executive Committee. Mark asked if we had ever done anything about how cumbersome the Executive Committee had become (all officers plus chairs of all standing committees). Meg said she thought we had already changed the Executive Committee to the officers plus any one committee chair. She will check previous minutes, and report back to the LMSC. Tabled till next meeting.

Melinda moved, Janice seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 2:20 p.m. All aye. The next meeting will be held following the conclusion of the Wildcat meet in March 2002.

UNITED STATES AQUATIC SPORTS CONVENTION XXII

Louisville, KY, November 15–18

Notes by Tom Mester

Coaches Seminar:

First up was Scott Rabalais, Coaches Committee Chair, demonstrating the technical differences in elite athletes. We were able to watch a number of swimmers competing in the last Olympics from a number of different camera angles—many more than TV gives you. While every swimmer has a little different form, the similarities were flexibility and maximum use of every movement. Definitely an eye-opener!

Michael Collins, Novaquatics, was the second speaker. His topic concerned building a powerhouse team. Regretfully, I had to miss most of his presentation (purchasing more ice for the Hospitality Room is important). I've heard Michael speak, and seen him coach before, and it is no mystery how he has been able to build teams everywhere he has landed.

Finally, Marty Hamburger, Dynamo Masters, presented his use of training cycles to optimize the competitive seasons. As in most training regimens, his philosophy is to set “target meets” and work the calendar backwards in order to go from base training to specialized training and finish with a taper.

Coaches Committee:

As this was the last meeting chaired by Scott Rabalais, most of the meeting dealt with an overview of the different programs started or continued in the last four years. Some, but not all, of these programs included Coaches Registration, LMSC Coaches Representatives, Olympic Training Camps, Open Water Clinics, “Ask the Coach” and Coaches Committee Quarterly, Coach and Swimmer Clinics, Video and Book Libraries, etc. A couple of new ideas was a National Masters Coaching Conference at the next ASCA World Clinic in Vegas, 2002. Top Masters coaches will be able to network with other age group and Masters coaches from around the world and promote Masters. The other new idea was to have an International Coaching Program based on the National Coaching Program. This would enable a swimmer to have on-deck assistance anywhere in the world.

Long Distance:

Chaired by Sally Dillon for the last time. Much of the meeting (as always) involved awarding of the different Long Distance Championships for 2003. The list follows:

1-mile OW @ IndySwimfit 6/21

1-3 mile OW @ Florida Gold Coast 4/28

6+ mile OW @ Santa Cruz Masters *8/3

1 hour postal @ Tualatin Hills Barracudas

3000 & 6000 yard postal @ WSU Masters

2-mile cable @ Texas Gold Masters TB A

3-6 mile @ Central Oregon Masters *8/2

5 & 10K postal @ Indy Swimfit

*to be resolved

Great Lakes Zone:

Not much new from Zone. I missed quite a bit of it “running” for the Hospitality Room.

Morning Workouts:

Some of the better attended Convention workout sessions I've experienced. The close proximity to the meetings and the willingness of the Mary T. Meagher Aquatic Center to offer the entire facility made for a very positive experience by all. Attendance at 5:30am ran 54 on Friday (although 10-20 missed the buses), 67 on Saturday, and 37 on Sunday with 7-10 coaches each day. The practices were split between skill work and yardage.

Overview:

Whew!!

Many, many, many THANK YOU'S to all the volunteers from all the members of the different teams in the KY-LMSC and their relatives and their friends. Without them we could not have pulled this off. They were the best.