

Pacific Masters Swimming Minutes of Conference Call Meeting, 10/22/08

Present: Glenda Carroll (TAM), Nancy Ridout (TAM), Barry Fasbender (STAN), Michael Moore (USF), Jody Smith (STAN), Caroline Lambert (STAN), Bill Grohe (USF), Jim Clemmons (MAM), John Morales (SRM), Laura Colette (MVM), John King (WCM), Kristy King (WCM), Linda Shoenberger (TAM), Alan Levinson (MAM), Joan Smith (WCM), Richard Smith (WCM) Thanks to Joanne Berven, Cokie Lepinski, Leianne Crittenden, Don Galine, and Joan Alexander for notifying us that they couldn't participate.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm with the **approval of the minutes** from July 23, August 20, and September 17.

It was MSA to table the **2009 Budget** approval until the November meeting. Richard Smith complimented the work of our Treasurer but would like the Executive Committee to find a Treasurer that could come to meetings to answer questions.

Chairman's Report – Michael Moore

- Michael indicated that he hadn't received any by-laws changes proposals.
- He also shared that Karen Duggan has resigned as secretary, effective as of our November meeting. She has tried valiantly to keep up with her many responsibilities – job, family life, illnesses, and losses – and giving up this task for now will help her general stress level. We wish her well and hope she's not a stranger.
- Michael issued a call for the 2009 Service Award nominations that are due by our February meeting.
- Michael attended the USMS Board of Directors meeting in Dallas this past weekend. He found it productive and useful. An active Governance Committee, of which Michael and Nancy are members, reported that they are already working to study how our organization runs and how it can be improved and more effective. Rob Butcher, the new USMS Executive Director visited our Pacific LMSC, October 8th through the 11th. At the BOD meeting he said that he was very impressed with our coaches and swimmers he met while here. He is organizing a Coaches Conference for next May for USMS coaches.
- Richard Smith asked if the purpose of the new ED was to increase membership and if so, how is he going to do this? Michael answered that yes, this was one of the purposes in hiring an ED and that coaches are one key to accomplishing this.

Committee Reports

Registration – Nancy Ridout

For the third time in our history, we have registered over 10,000 swimmers. As of today, we have 10,040 and 122 clubs. Club renewal forms and information were sent out electronically to each 2008 club on Oct. 5th and 45 have been returned so far. Clubs that returned their registration forms and check before Nov. 1st, were offered a \$10 discount. Swimmers registering online will be classified as unattached if their club has not renewed and will automatically be registered for 2009 as of Nov. 1st. If a swimmer wants to register for only the remainder of 2008, a paper form and check must be submitted.

Top Ten & Records – Nancy Ridout

- Long course and Short Course Meters records have been submitted, with the exception of Sacramento (not yet received) and Modesto that didn't print out Colorado timing sheets so two records couldn't be documented.
- Nancy requested that she and Barry finish the Meet Director's Guidelines and that the event evaluation committee be developed as soon as possible to avoid problems such as these.
- Joan Smith volunteered to contact the SAC Pentathlon Meet Director about sending in the paperwork ASAP.

Meet Operations – Barry Fasbender

- The cost to PMS for the LC Championships, above what would have been paid by the host to Dan Corrigan (SAMMS) in the past, was \$1187. The cost included \$300 for importing and formatting World, USMS, and PMS records into Hy-Tek Meet Manager. This is greatly appreciated by the meet host because it flags potential records and saves the meet personnel a great deal of time.
- The comparable cost for the SCM Championships was \$1600, which included \$400 for importing and formatting the records.

- Barry asked about our policy going forward, especially for 2009, so he can communicate with the 2009 meet directors. Michael will appoint a task force to investigate our options going forward that will include those offered in the meeting – 1) raise meet fees that haven't been increased in 20 years, and 2) negotiate an across the board fee with FastLane Tek, subsidize the cost in part, and re-institute sanction fees.
- Nancy commented that the World records used in the SCM meet, were not those that were listed in the 2008 Rule Book. FINA is now tracking the records subsequent to the November listing so those should be the records we use, not ones performed at a later date. Barry will ask Franz to use the November listed records from now on.

Open Water – Glenda Carroll

- Glenda developed an open water survey that was included in the last electronic PMS Weekly Update. She has already begun to receive responses and has found them very interesting. The first part of the survey deals with demographics and the second part with what people like and don't like about open water swims, including why they don't participate.
- Respondents have indicated they participate in open water swims because it's a challenge, they like the venue or want to go to a new place, and they like to swim with their friends.
- Awards are not really important but they like the T-shirts.
- The food is also considered important, more so than awards.
- Of those who reportedly haven't done an open water swim, 66% would consider it.
- When asked why they haven't participated in an OW swim, the number one answer was that had never done it, and second was the apprehension of possible sea life in the water.
- 73% indicated they would try an OW 101, or basic skills clinic.
- Glenda is pleased with the results so far and Michael asked her to head a task force for an OW 101 class.
- Glenda asked if there was interest in an OW timing system that could be used in our swims. She will pursue this if PMS is interested. Nancy commented that the event hosts need to agree to use such a system.

Trailer – Allan Cartwright per Nancy and Glenda

Allan inquired about holding an OW cable swim. There is a course set up on Lake Natoma for rowing. The consensus was that this would be a great idea. Glenda will contact Allan about pursuing this opportunity.

Web Master – Michael Moore

Three weeks ago our web site and email provider cut off our service for a week because we had gone over the allowable limit on email addresses. Michael talked with them and they subsequently turned it back on but will cut it off again if we exceed 20,000 email addresses, which Michael thinks could happen in 2009. He has asked the new USMS Executive Director, Rob Butcher, to consider having USMS host LMSC web sites and he agreed to look into it. Michael will continue to look for options.

Ad Hoc Facilities and Hospitality – Joan Alexander per Nancy Ridout

- Our November meeting is our Annual meeting and holiday potluck. We will meet in the Lakeside Room of the Community Center. Refrigerators, ovens, and microwaves ovens will be available. Please contribute a main dish, salad, or dessert to serve 8-12.
- Please ask your coach and teammates to join us. We will share our potluck dinner from 7-7:45pm and conduct a short meeting that will conclude by 9pm. We invite anyone who would like to see what makes PMS a strong and active LMSC.

Announcements

Michael announced that USMS would be featuring PMS as a featured article on the usms.org home page starting tomorrow (Thursday, 10/23).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Ridout

Action Items

- 1. Find a new PMS Secretary - MM**
- 2. Seek out 2009 PMS Service Award nominees – all, MM in Update, JB in Newsletter**

- 3. Finish "Guidelines for Meet Directors" and develop job description for Meet Liaison & Evaluation Committee – NR and BF**
- 4. Appoint Meet Liaison & Evaluation Committee – MM**
- 5. Appoint task force to create 2009 policy for covering costs of running Hy-Tek computerization at meets – MM**
- 6. Ask Franz Mortensen to use only FINA Nov. records for Hy-Tek Meet Manager – BF**
- 7. Move OW survey higher on Update – MM**
- 8. Plan an OW 101 (OW basic skills clinic) for 2009 – GC**
- 9. Investigate OW timing systems and bring results to PMS Committee – GC**
- 10. Explore opportunity for a cable swim at Lake Natoma – AC**
- 11. Look at options for meeting Pacific's needs for web site and email service - MM**