

**ANNUAL MEETING  
FLORIDA LMSC  
OCTOBER 24, 2008  
OLIVE GARDEN, INTERNATIONAL BLVD.  
ORANGE COUNTY  
ORLANDO, FLORIDA**

**Attendance:** Tom Bliss; Chair\*, Meegan Wilson; Treasurer\*, Victor Buehler; Secretary\*, Marly Wilson; Records\*, Meredith Moore; Registrar\*, Charles Kohnken; Officials Chair & St Pete-1\*, Joan Campbell; Senior Games Liaison & SUN-FACT-1\*, Jim Campbell-chaperone, Marianne Bradley; SUN-FACT-2\*, Donald Puchalski SUN FACT-3 \*, Margaret Dodson; Holmes Lumber Jax-1\*, Penny Knutsen; Holmes Lumber Jax-2\*, Linda Visser, John Keen; FACT-4\*, Bill Brenner SYSM\*, Jennifer Willis; AQNY\*, Jim Stine CPA; St Pete-2\*, Pamela Sanders; CFYMCA\*

\*=voting authority

**Meeting Called to Order at 1:20 PM**

**I. Approval of July 24, 2008 Minutes - Victor Buehler**

Copies of the last meeting minutes in final draft form were handed out with time provided for everyone to review. Two spelling errors were corrected and Marianne's name in several locations of the report. *Don Puchalski moved the minutes be accepted, Charles Kohnken seconded and it was so passed at 1:47 PM.*

**II. Reports**

**A. Treasure's Report - Meegan Wilson**

**1. Budget Report-2009**

Meegan provided two handouts: one with a breakdown of the 2008 "budget", revenues and expenses as well as the actual numbers for revenues, expenses, variances and assets from January 1- June 30, 2008. The second had all of the same information from January 1-September 30, 2008. (Not attached). The following are the highlights of the second flyer:

Total Revenues as of 9/30/2008	\$45,375.66
Total Expenses as of 9/30/2008	\$39,243.83
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Excess Revenues over expenses	\$ 6,131.83

Total fund balance including savings account and CD as of 9/30/08 is \$47,829.66

Meegan noted that Jim Stine reviewed our 2007 books and gave him the floor. He reported that the books were reviewed for completeness and accuracy and that everything was found to be in good order per state and federal requirements.

*Marianne Bradley moved the report be accepted, Margaret Dodson seconded and it was so passed at 1:55 PM.*

**B. Registrar's Report - Meredith Moore**

**1. Current Membership**

Meredith reported that our current membership is at a record high of 1680, two more than last year's 1678. There are 35 registered clubs, one of them being new this year. We lost three clubs from 2007. It appears there will be 5 new clubs joining our ranks in 2009.

Meredith also mentioned the interactive USMS registration form becoming available on November 1, 2008 for the 2009 registration year. She noted that the link to our website will enable club registrars to pull up

lists of those swimmers registered to their club.

*Victor Buehler moved the report be accepted, Charles Kohnken seconded and it was so passed at 2:01PM.*

### **C. Top Ten Report - Marly Wilson**

Marly reported on some of the difficulties she has had since the last meeting involving two meet sponsors either not sending times to her in the proper format or the sponsor not following USMS requirements for timing and the times being lost. She suggested that something go into the sanctions packet encouraging meet sponsors to fulfill sanction requirements.

Tom then spoke briefly about the history of a couple of clubs in the past having performance bonds placed on them and how this procedure could have been smoother if there was some information in the sanctions packet and if a letter to those clubs explaining that the bond money is given back once they fulfill all expectations including getting the times to the recorder after the meet. He then asked for a motion to be made.

Meegan Wilson initiated the motion: *“We include in the sanction application package a list of requirements that all meet sponsors (clubs) must comply with and if they fail to do so, a performance bond will be issued for the next swim meet that sponsor (club) desires to conduct and a letter will be written to that sponsor (club) by the LMSC chair so that they will be fully aware of the performance bond and the reason for it.”* Joan Campbell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously at 2:07 PM.

*Marianne Bradley moved the report be accepted, Margaret Dodson seconded and it was so passed at 1:55 PM.*

### **D. Sanctions Report – Tom Bliss for Sue Moucha**

Sanctioned Swim Meets:

Daytona Beach Masters, 9/12-13/2008, SY

Swim Florida, Naples, 10/18/2008, SCY

SUN Masters Valentine Meet, Clearwater, 2/14-15/2009

Recognized Meets:

Gainesville State Games, 10/19/2008, SCY

Sarasota Games For Life, 11/14/2008, SCY

Polk Senior Games, Lakeland, 2/28-3/1/2009, SCY

Open Water:

Race For The Oceans, 11/8-9/2008, Ft. Myers, 1K, 5K & Relay

Meet information and meet contact persons sent to: Marly Wilson, Charles Kohnken and Joan Campbell when applicable.

I have received application paperwork from Jason Brauer for the Countryside January 2009 swim meet. Before I can issue a sanction I must receive a \$200.00 performance bond. Communication has been sent to Jason via e-mail concerning this matter, Tuesday, 10/21/08.

*Penny Knutsen moved the report be accepted, Donald Puchalski seconded and it was so passed at 2:13 PM.*

### **E. Newsletter Report - Jason Brauer**

No report available.

### **F. Officials Chair Report - Charlie Kohnken**

Since the last meeting I have received the names and addresses of meet directors. I want to get the names of the officials for the meets. I have requested this information from the meet directors but have not received any replies as yet. Once I get the names of the officials I will send them a document that addresses the running of a “masters” meet. This document was put together by the USMS Officials Committee. This was accomplished by them during conference call meetings and additional e-mails. I would like to have the sanction papers include the name of the referee for the meets. I attended a sanctioning workshop at the convention this year in hopes of getting copies of sanctioning papers from other LMSCs. The chair of that group suggested that I go to the USMS national website and use that as a guide. I copied the information, but at this time I have not established any changes. I will continue to work on this. I believe that input is needed from meet directors,

other chairs and maybe coaches.

The last few months I have been certified as a deck referee and I have been working all kinds of meets. At these meets I have asked other officials if they would be willing to work Master's meets.

We will be starting our official's committee conference calls shortly. That should keep me busy.

Again, I would like to stress that I need the officials' names early. At the meet in July on the East Coast the officials did not call many DQs. They had a very casual attitude. I do not believe the timers were properly instructed. This is important. Swimmers use the times for Top Ten records and for qualifying for national meets.

*John Keen moved the report be accepted, Penny Knutsen seconded and it was so passed at 2:20 PM.*

## **G. Web Page Report - Meegan Wilson**

Meegan spoke briefly about the interactive registration form having a link to our website for next year and she agreed to continue maintaining the website and the role of web-master for the next year. Everyone applauded.

*Marianne Bradley moved the report be accepted, Margaret Dodson seconded and it was so passed at 1:55 PM.*

## **H. Senior Games Report - Joan Campbell**

Attached in my handout, (not included here), you will find more than the usual information as the Senior Games has not been an uninteresting subject over the last couple of months.

The latest has been a controversy over the measurements of the Gainesville Pool. Meegan has pointed out the rules of measurement to the Meet Manager and those rules were not followed, risking non-compliance and removal of the Recognition status. Victor has addressed the problem to Kathy Casey at National USMS and hopefully there will be a prompt reply. There have been prior problems with this pool before, with a flagrant error discovered in their bulkhead placement (one year).

I have also discussed at length the attached proposals of the Florida Sports Foundation. I have outstanding questions on these proposals, which perhaps Sue can answer. I know that we must have special rules to include USAA swimmers in the same meet with Masters. Obviously this is a different situation because it is a recognized meet, but do we have the authority to include "youngsters" and a separate organized event "Florida Masters Championships" competing in the same pool and at the same time as Seniors? I seriously question this.

In talking with Stephen Rodriguez, Director of Amateur Sports, we went over the reasons for the inclusion of this proposed event. On a State level Stephen was anxious to increase participation, and in turn increase revenue, in view of the fact that there have been some cancellations of games because of the economy. He would like to have an idea of how the Florida LMSC members feel about this added competition.

My thought is that those in this age group have a great deal of opportunity to compete in many meets. The fact that the State organization would encourage those competitors to go on to join USMS is a good thing but would this also mean decreased competition in our meets? Then also I have the point of eligibility, which I discussed earlier.

You will note when you enter the State Meet that we have relays scheduled at the end of each day. I hope that you will take the opportunity to enter these simply as Florida residents. As you may know, I feel that Florida as a state should show its great strength through this medium.

Good luck to all of you at States this year and to those qualifying for the National Senior Games in Stanford in 2009. I competed there at World's and it is a fantastic facility.

All of Joan's concerns were discussed at length and the group decided to forward these concerns to the national office for clarification and guidance on how to proceed in the future, especially concerning recognized Senior Games meets.

*Marly Wilson moved the report be accepted, Meegan Wilson seconded and it was so passed at 2:46 PM.*

### **III. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. 2009 Annual Banquet-Marianne Bradley**

The LMSC social and awards banquet has been planned and confirmed for 2/14/09. I have attached a copy of the flyer (not included here), which will be in the fall LMSC newsletter and also is posted on the Dixie Zone & Florida LMSC websites, under; “upcoming meets.” Dick Brewer and Meegan Wilson attached it to the information sheet, so it will print automatically when participants print the info sheet. Hopefully this will remind and encourage all of the meet participants to attend.

Our aim this year is to encourage more people to attend this event and think of it more as the LMSC yearly social rather than “the awards banquet.” We are concerned that people have not attended in the past because they think it is just for those who are receiving awards. The LMSC is subsidizing the cost of these meals and everyone will receive a great dinner and evening for their \$10.00. We would like all of the teams to seriously encourage their swimmers to attend this event. The food is very good and there is a full bar for those who wish to “unwind” after the long day of swimming. Instructions for getting there are on the website.

We have requested that reservations for the banquet be sent in with the meet entries to Don Puchalski, or done separately at a later time, it doesn’t matter. If there are any questions, please contact Marianne Bradley at: [bradley@m@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bradley@m@tampabay.rr.com) or call: (727) 784-0420.

Joan Campell, Meegan Wilson and Marly Wilson will be taking care of the compiling of the award information and ordering the trophies/awards. If you have information or nominations for any of the awards, please contact them. The criteria for the different awards are on the LMSC web page, [www.floridalmasc.org](http://www.floridalmasc.org).

There was a request by one attendee that the “leather lung” award be something more than a sheet of paper, perhaps even a set of miniature lungs made out of leather. It was noted that last year the award was a “bobble head”. This did not appear to satisfy the complainer, who at the end of the conversation volunteered to provide the awards for 2010.

*Victor Buehler moved the report be accepted, Charles Kohnken seconded and it was so passed at 2:55 PM.*

### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Convention Reports-Tom Bliss**

Tom noted all those who had attended the national conference in September ( Joe Biondi, Tom Bliss, Marianne Bradley, Charles Kohnken , Margie Hutinger, Joannie Campbell, Meegan Wilson, and Victor Buehler) and those in attendance briefly spoke about what each of them considered the highlights of this year’s convention, five minutes or less. Convention reports were made available (not included here) and Tom encouraged everyone to review and enjoy those reports.

Meegan stated: Both Tom Bliss and Charles Kohnken received the Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award for their dedication and service over the many years they have been members. The newsletter of the year award went to the Florida Maverick Lane Lines; Margie and Paul Huttinger are the editors. Paul received the June Krauser USMS Communication award.

Victor stated: There is a new Executive Director, additional full time positions and a new national office in NC that is costing a lot of money and there is concern among many delegates about the annual expense and what we can expect from these expenses given the state of the national economy. One of the primary goals of the new director is to increase membership.

#### **B. Election of Officials-Joan Campbell**

Joan reviewed the list of candidates running for the elected Florida LMSC positions:

Chair:	Meegan Wilson
Secretary:	Victor Buehler
Treasurer:	Jim Stine
Registrar:	Meredith Moore
Sanctions:	Sue Moucha
Records/Top Ten:	Marly Wilson
Newsletter Editor:	Jason Brauer

Joan entertained any nominations from the floor, of which there were none.

*Marianne Bradley moved the list of proposed officers be accepted, Victor Buehler seconded and it was so passed unanimously at 3:25 PM.*

Joan also thanked Tom for his terms of service as our chair.

### **C. Gift Card Drawing-Tom Bliss**

Bill Brenner won the drawing, a \$25 gift card to Olive Garden.

## **V. Adjournment**

Tom used his gavel for the last time to adjourn the meeting and then passed it to Meegan.

*Victor Buehler moved the meeting be adjourned, Charles Kohnken seconded and it was so passed at 3:34 PM.*