

Florida LMSC Annual Meeting, October 16, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Meegan Wilson* (FACT).

The following members were in attendance: Scott Bay*, DBMS¹; Bill Brenner*, SYSM¹; Fern Ramnath*, SYSM²; Dianne Ohlandt*, TTM; Jason Brauer*, Newsletter Editor (FACT); Margie Hutinger*, FMM¹; Sherry Bogue, FMM; Pat Tullman*, FMM²; Meredith Moore* -Registrar (SWIM), Doug Messineo*, FACT¹; Marly Wilson*, Records-Top Ten-(FACT); Joan Campbell*, Senior Games Liaison - FACT²; Jim Matysek*, SYSM³; Mark Canterbury*, WPRC; Sue Moucha*, Sanctions (FMM); Rae Suttie*, FACT³; Joyce Hutchinson, FACT; Jamie Biondi*, SUN Proxie; Rachel Vargo*, Blue Dolphins Proxie; Dana White*, DBMS² Proxie.

A total of 18 members attended the meeting and nine clubs were represented. Voting members were verified. Total number of voting delegates were 16 plus 3 proxies for 19 votes.

*Indicates voting members and number of votes per team is designated.

I. Approval of July 17, 2010 Minutes - Victor Buehler (Absent)

Tabled because minutes were not available.

II. Reports of Officers and Committee Chairs

A) Treasurer's Report - Jim Stine (Absent)

1. Approval of the Treasurer's report was tabled.
2. Jim's report was posted online and summary is below:
 - Total Assets as of 9/30/2010 were \$52,479.19
 - Total Income from Jan-Sept was \$28,689.44
 - Total expenses were \$27,804.31
 - Total Net Income for the nine month period was \$885.13

B) Registrar's Report - Meredith Moore

1. Current Membership

- As of October 15, 2010 we have 1858 members, representing a 10% increase over 2009 with 1757 members. A transfer of 96 swimmers from MSI were not included in this total since it happened at the end of the registration year. Our membership represented 50% female and 50 % male . Online registration increased to 65% compared to 60% in 2009.
- We had 56 clubs register in 2010 with 11 new clubs: DTMS – Deltona Masters Swimming, Deltona; GCST – Gulf Coast Swim Team, Estero; HTA – Hightide Aquatics, Grainesville; KSAM – Kissimmee Swim Assoc Masters, Kissimmee; LM – Loggerhead Masters, St. Johns; MSI – Miracle Swimming Institute; SPWM – St. Petersburg Waterfront Masters, St. Pete; TBAM – Tampa Bay Aquatic Masters, Tampa; WOO – Wahoos of Ocala, Ocala; YFFC – YMCA of Florida's First Coast Flyers Masters, Jacksonville, Fernandina Beach, Pointe Vedre Beach, and Fleming Island.

- Our largest Clubs are: SPM (261); FACT (213 with 11 workout groups); SYSM (212); DBMS (118); and FMM (70). Orlando only has 52 members not 70 as stated in Meredith's Report.
- All Clubs must be registered for 2011 by the end of the month, October 31. Only 17 Clubs have registered as of this meeting. A new USMS Club Development Team led by Mel Goldstein will be contacting clubs who have not registered by October 20.
- Susan Ingraham, Club Development Coordinator for the Dixie Zone, sent out a flyer outlining her goals and vision. She has set standards for Gold, Silver and Bronze level Clubs. Margie said that the Recognition and Awards Committee dismissed this idea as not working well for Masters and was puzzled how this "idea" became a reality since convention.
- See the Florida LMSC website for Meredith's complete report.

2. Club Fee Collection Online

- Margie Hutinger didn't think Club Assistant could collect club fees online, but it does.
- Checks are sent from USMS to the LMSC monthly, and then the treasurer would be responsible for sending the fees to clubs.
- Out of 50+ LMSC clubs, approximately 20 have club fees.
- Margie says it is difficult to get the club fee when someone registers online. She suggests that the LMSC treasurer could send the checks bi-annually instead of monthly.
- Margie and FMM members believe that collecting the club fees should be the LMSC's job.
- Meegan Wilson pointed out that in the USMS minimum standards it states that an LMSC cannot commingle LMSC and Club fees.
- Margie said that a separate escrow account would have to be set up for club fees.
- Sherry Bogue stated that most people pay bills online. She supports it as a younger member. Some clubs are large and don't want to be a collection agency.
- Marly Wilson wonders how many of these people (who don't pay the club fee) actually train/swim with the team. She suggests just raising monthly fees and doing away with the club fee altogether if the loss of money is a big concern.
- Margie said the club fees are used for relays, so it's not easier to just raise the monthly fee.
- Only 18 clubs out of 689 in USMS actually have their club fee levied by their LMSC because it is such a hassle.
- Meegan: Our treasurer doesn't want to be writing a lot of checks. Other clubs might instigate a club fee because our treasurer will be responsible for a lot of the work.
- Clubs are not 501c4 or 501c3, and Meegan thinks the LMSC should stay out of club's business.
- Jason: Clubs know how to keep track of their own swimmers and accounts. Fine people if they don't pay it on time.
- Meegan: They should not receive Club benefits if they don't pay the club fee.

- Jason proposed a motion to research about what we would need to do to start collecting club fees online. On the Club Fee Committee was Treasurer Jim Stine, Sherry Bogue, and Jason Brauer. Committee's report is due by the July meeting. Doug Messineo seconded the motion.

Marly Wilson moved to accept Meredith's report. Scott Bay seconded. The motion was approved.

C) Top Ten Report - Marly Wilson

- Marly is currently in the process of compiling the Top Ten for the 2010 LCM season and updating the Records and Top 5. In August she learned that HyTek is going to donate a free 'For Office Use Only' copy of Meet Manager to each LMSC for use by the Top Ten Recorders. She has recently had trouble securing the proper format from meet directors when they submit results, and a copy of Meet Manager would help with this problem.

Scott Bay moved to accept the Top Ten report. Jason Brauer seconded. Approved

D) Sanction's Report - Sue Moucha

- Sue has sanctioned three meets since our July meeting: **Gulf Coast Fall Splash, SCM #140-031**, October 23-24; **Rowdy Gaines Classic, SCM #140-032**, October 16-17; and **Bay-to-Bay, SCM #140-033**, November 13-14. She has recognized three meets: **Sr. Games, SCY #140-028R**, Gainesville, Oct. 24; **Sr. Games, SCY #140-029R**, Jacksonville, Oct. 4; and **Sr. Games, SCY #140-030R**, Gulf Coast University (Ft. Myers), December 4-5.
- Due to communication problems, Sue has started sanctioning for 2011 without input from the entire Technical Planning Committee (Scott Bay (chair), Sue Moucha, and Fernette Ramnath). The goal of the Technical Planning Committee is to give long standing meets priority with regard to scheduling. Scott Bay said that dates for the long standing meets should be given to Sue as soon as possible. Sue requests that they please print requests clearly in ink.
- Doug Messineo asked if the meet sanctioning could be done online. Jim Matysek said that USMS is working on an online sanctioning process.
- Sue has had some problems with some of the sanctioning process. The Rowdy Gaines meet sent her cash and was constantly updating their information and registration form after the sanction was given. The Clinic that was offered wasn't on the updated form. Meegan said that there were problems last year too and suggested that a performance bond (\$200) be requested before issuing another sanction to them. The bond is returned when all rules are followed.
- Sue was also concerned that when an individual registered online and then opted not to attend the meet, there was no way to receive a refund. Fernette said it can be done, but Club Assistant doesn't support it.
- Scott suggested as far a scheduling for big meets, the week before and week after should be left open. (e.g. the Shark Attack and Rowdy Gaines meet should have no other meets scheduled the weekend before and weekend after). Meegan said we need to be careful about issuing such a hard and fast rule since there may be

- extenuating circumstances. For example, a meet in Tallahassee probably wouldn't take swimmers from a meet in Sarasota, but perhaps permission should be requested from the parties involved through the Sanction's Chair.
- Joan Campbell has received lots of complaints because the State Senior Games is the same date as a Coral Springs meet, but the Senior Games have their own system of scheduling.
 - Joan Campbell and Scott might consider reviving the Valentine's meet. SUN Masters cannot run it in 2011.
 - Jim Matysek noted that there is a conflict between the Bumpy Jones meet and the National Open Water Championship in 2011.
 - Current blacked out dates for the year are: 22-23 Jan, Shark Tank meet; April 1-3, St Pete meet; June 10-12, LCM Dixie Zone Championships, Sarasota, FL; July 9-10 St Pete LCM meet.
 - Margie Hutinger made a comment that people holding a meet with a movable bulkhead are now required to measure the pool before and after each session.
 - Sue mailed the steel tape measure to Dick Brewer.
 - It was noted that 1-event registration fees are \$17. These fees will increase to \$19 in 2011. Yearly registration fees will increase from \$35 to \$37. Meredith asked if the meet director has to approve the use of 1-event registration forms - yes.

E) Fitness Report - Sue Moucha

- Sue has submitted an article for the November newsletter and is waiting for correspondence from the USMS Fitness Coordinator. Jason said he will put both in newsletter.

F) Newsletter Report - Jason Brauer.

- Jason says he dropped the ball. He only gets 5 regular teams (out of 55 teams) who submit reports. About 5 others do it occasionally . He is hoping to make it more inclusive.

G) Official's Chair - Charlie Kohnken - Absent

- Meegan commented that Charlie is worried about overhearing a Meet Director telling an Official to just call the really sever or obvious infractions. She pointed out that it is important for meet directors to follow all rules. Swimmers need to be held accountable, since they would be very disappointed to be disqualified at a National or Worlds meet. Meegan thinks we should send out something to explain the spirit of what is required by Meet Directors in the meet packet. This item was tabled until Charlie is available for input .

H) Election of Board of Directors - Fernette Ramnath

- Due to the fact that some Team Reps had to leave early, the elections were brought forward. The following Slate of Officers were voted in unanimously for a 2 year term:

Chairman, Meegan J. Wilson
Treasurer, James Stine

Secretary, Victor Buehler
Registrar, Meredith Moore
Newsletter, Jason Brauer
Sanctions, Patricia Tullman
Records & Top 10, Bill Brenner

I) Web Page Report - Meegan Wilson

- Ted added a section to the awards page so stories can be added. This was on our original website. She has posted most of the stories. Ted is also currently working to make the site a little clearer by adding a Registration tab and Competition tab. Meegan is ready for people to start adding and changing their own content. Ted can give people access to the site.
- Doug and Sue both say they don't use the website anymore because it's not as user-friendly.

J) Senior Games Report - Joannie Campbell

- Rae Suttie will take charge of certifying the Gainesville Senior Games (October 24) again this year. The other Games left to qualify for the Florida State Senior Games on December 4-5, are Golden Age Games on November 1 and Martin County Senior Games on November 10.
- This is a qualifying year for the National Senior Games in 2011 at the University of Houston. Information can be found on the NSGA.com website. You must qualify at the State Senior Games to enter the National Senior Games.
- A set of rules on qualifying for the National Senior Games are posted on the website.
- Good Life Games on March 12th is an LCM meet. There are very few LCM Senior Games.

K) Coach's Report - Scott Bay

- Scott put out a survey to all club coaches and contacts. There is support from the National Office for coach and club development. Some results from the survey:
A) Majority of clubs in LMSC have 6 or fewer practices per week.
B) Florida LMSC is about average nationally for # of practices offered.
- There will be an ASCA certification in the future for Masters coaches. Regional clinics will be put on by the National Office. Years of experience will count toward certification. Marly wonders if there will be overlap between Age Group / Masters ASCA. Scott doesn't know.
- Unclear how/whether this will cover both clubs and workout groups. Scott believes the timeline given for the transition will be generous and they are working out details for handling clubs vs. workout groups.
- There will be a certification clinic in Florida.
- There's a big push to recapture open water events from USA Triathlon. It's harder to sanction a USMS open water event than it is for USAT.

L) Financial Planning Committee - Margie Hutinger, Bill Brenner, Jim Stine

- Margie heard that at the last meeting people didn't like the suggestions the committee had come up with, but some of the ideas were picked up at convention.
- Meegan noted that we did send three coaches to Swim Fest. Meegan and Scott suggested that Swim Clinics could be held at different meets, sponsored by the LMSC. Scott also suggested sponsoring ASCA clinics. He says he will figure out the cost of each clinic and get back to the group.
- Jim Matysek pointed out that clinics don't have to be sanctioned. Insurance-wise clinics are treated as workouts.
- Another suggestion was to offer a scholarship/grant for ASCA certification.
- Bill wonders whether we should bid on hosting Swim Fest this next year. Scott says we'd need a 50 meter facility, access to an open water venue and three classrooms. Joannie says the City of Clearwater might back it. Bill will talk to Mel about the budget required to host. Scott wonders if the club hosting can go out and get local sponsors (since it's run by the National Office). Other possibilities: Sarasota, Gulf Coast, GSC.

III. Old Business

- A) Laser Measuring device update - Meegan said that we have purchased a Leica Disto D330 for \$298.85. Marly Wilson and her dad will be building an apparatus to stabilize the Laser for accurate measurements. Meegan encourages all teams who have moveable bulkheads and hold swim meets to build a "Laser Measuring Apparatus" as per instructions on our website. See: (<http://www.pacswim.org/certifyingpools.pdf>) The pool now needs to be measured before and after each session.

IV. New Business

A) Convention Reports 2010 - Bill Brenner, Scott Bay, Rick Walker, Margie Hutinger, Paul Hutinger, Joannie Campbell, Meegan Wilson and Victor Buehler.

- Joannie wanted more information from Rick Walker's report about Open Water. 2 tiers of open water swimmers.
- High performance swimmers clinic in NC in August.
- Since Convention reports have been posted on our website, Meegan proposed that the secretary select important things from each convention reports. Jim Matysek seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- The following are convention highlights:
 1. Congratulations to Sue Moucha and Victor Buehler for receiving the Dorothy Donnelly Service Award. Victor received his at Convention and Meegan Presented Sue her award at our annual meeting.
 2. National Championship Results and pre 1993 Top Ten data have been posted on the USMS website due to work in the History and Archives committee.
 3. Patty Nardoizzi and Bob Beach made an historical presentation at the 40th Anniversary SCY USMS National meet in Atlanta.
 4. 2011 SCY Dixie Zone Championships will be in Ft Lauderdale Feb 25-27
 5. 2011 LCM Dixie Zone Championships will be in Sarasota June 10-12
 6. 2011 SCM Dixie Zone Championships will be in Charlotte, NC October 15-16
 7. 2011 OW Dixie Zone Championships will be in Fernandina Beach, FL May 28

8. The Open Water Committee held a discussion concerning whether to have USMS office sanction OW events or to keep them with the LMSCs. It is difficult to get Sanctions from certain LMSCs.
9. The 2011 Convention will be in Jacksonville, FL
10. There will be another \$2 increase in USMS registration fees in 2012.
11. See the Florida LMSC website floridalmsc.org for complete convention reports.

The meeting adjourned at 4:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marly Wilson, Acting Secretary