

Florida LMSC Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2005
North Shore Pool
St. Petersburg, Florida

Present: Tom Bliss, Meegan Wilson, Victor Buehler, Joan Campbell, Margie Hutinger, Sue Moucha, Joe Biondi, Pete Nickodem, Marianne Bradlely, Harlod Ferris, Patty Nardozzi, and Chuck Slaght

Introduction:

Tom briefly discussed the misfortune of the 1500 being conducted during the same time as the meeting and that some swimmers complained about this.

Call to Order: 1:20 PM

I. Review of April 9, 2005 Minutes, Victor:

We discussed two proposed revisions to the minutes provided by Dick Brewer via e-mail to Victor. The first was to amend the suggestion provided by Bret Hamlin that reads in the treasurer's report, but concerns how the registrar keeps her records from, "that the registrar does a monthly recap cumulatively throughout the year." Dick wants it spelled out what she is cumulatively tracking, e.g. the number of registrations, the number of clubs, the number of one event registrations. We acknowledged that Pat was not happy with Bret's suggestion going into the minutes without her input and her comments on this will come out later in her report. It was noted that she provides totals at every meeting when she is in attendance and that she keeps monthly records but that they are not cumulative. Meegan also pointed out that Pat tracks things from November to November whereas the treasurer tracks the money from January to the end of December, so the cumulative reports would not be reflective of one another. Dick's suggestion to amend Bret's suggestion that was moved on and passed in the April meeting failed to pass.

The second was to amend the wording on the motion that addressed the performance bond from "Effective this date..." to the "As of April 9, 2005..." This motion was 2nd and passed.

Joan moved to place the dates of the 2006 Valentine Meet into the minutes. This was 2nd and passed.

Motion made to accept the minutes, 2nd, and passed at 1:31 PM

Reports

A. Treasurer's Report, Meegan Wilson:

1. Meegan presented the six month (January - June), 2005 Treasurer's report. The following is condensed. For a complete report contact Meegan (meeganwilson@bellsouth.net)

Revenues	\$ 30,584.87
Expenses	\$ 28,111.76
Net Excess Revenues over Expenses	\$ 2,473.11

Cash Checking Account (6/30/05)	\$ 22,250.83
Savings Account (6/30/05)	11,165.43
CD	5,748.72

TOTAL FUND BALANCE \$ 39,164.98

We are well within our budgeted expenses.

2. Meegan stated that Dick Brewer designed an LMSC Reimbursement Form which is now posted on our website.
3. Meegan suggested that the LMSC purchase Hytek meet software for all meet directors in the Florida LMSC. This may solve the problem that meet directors are having when scoring the meet as FACT chapters versus teams and then submitting final results to Margie as FACT only versus other teams. There was considerable discussion.

A motion was made for the LMSC to utilize some of our \$30,000.00 reserves to purchase a licensed Hytech's Team Manager software and make it available to all meet directors. Motion was 2nd and the benefits discussed at length without anyone really disagreeing. Most of this discussion was an explanation of the benefits by clubs who are already using it. The motion was passed at 1:41 PM.

B. Registrar's Report, Pat Tullman, (Victor Buehler):

1. Victor read Pat's report to the group. A motion was made to amend the motion provided by Bret Hamlin in the last meeting in April. It was discussed that Pat was not here to present her views, which we know are not in support of Bret's suggestion. We also know that cumulative reports of the numbers of clubs and members registers can be pulled up monthly from the national office. A motion was made to discontinue requiring the registrar to keep monthly cumulative records, 2nd and passed at 1:48 PM

A motion was made to accept this report, 2nd and passed at 1:49 PM.

C. Top Ten Report, Margie Hutinger:

1. Margie submitted times from these SCY meets: Florida Senior Games, SPM Relays, Polk County Sr. Games, Clermont, St Pete, and USA meet times for Rick Walker, Melissa Varlas and Mark Drennen. For the Florida Top 5 and Records, Margie included times from the final results swimmers sent me from these meets: HOF, Y Nationals, Savannah and the LMSC report from SCY Nationals.
2. The original concept of the inclusion of FACT was that each club would decide whether to join FACT or remain as an independent club. At FL LMSC meets, competition would be with independent clubs and chapters (no FACT), with results being changed to reflect FACT (which would be an easy replacement). FACT would be for meets outside of our LMSC and Nationals. In reality, individuals are allowed to choose to join FACT or remain with their club and we have chapters and clubs with the same name. This has caused much confusion with swimmers, meet directors, data entry people and the top ten recorder. There is no easy way to distinguish between chapters and clubs with the same name!
Margie checked with the National registrar and National office to see how other LMSC's dealt with this challenge. There are no others. As a result, we have lost the local team competition (last two SPM meets) that has been a popular concept in our LMSC for many, many years. I would like to see the team concept continue as it encourages team spirit, more entries at meets, swimming for "points," camaraderie and competition among the local clubs.

Meegan Wilson has identified the FACT swimmers on the results that Margie sent her, including those on relays. This has helped Margie with records, but still hasn't addressed the problem of clubs and chapters with the same name. Margie asked, "Can we do away with these duplicate names?"

During the discussion of the above topic, Margie asked if the Hytech software could help with this problem. We decided that a motion was not necessary, but that we do need to encourage the clubs associated with FACT to register all their members under the club name and discontinue the concept of having both, e.g. a 300 club with non fact members and a FACT 300 club. Each team will need to decide how to register their FACT members in order to retain their identity for local meets.

Victor forwarded Bret Hamlin's observation that the current by laws only allow one vote per club at these meetings and therefore all the members of FACT only have one vote. We all agreed that this was not the intent of forming FACT and that this should be the first item of the Bylaws to visit for revision in the future.

Joe Biondi pointed out that the database information on team reps is not up to date and many have different e-mail addresses.

3. POSTPONED FROM LAST MEETING.....Final results need to be submitted in PUBLICATION ORDER to be posted on the FL web site and printed for mailings. Publication order is a requirement of USMS, found in Appendix B, Preparation of meet results. Excellent examples are the National and World Top Ten. Unless you write up results manually (none of our meets do), this is a simple procedure. HyTek's default for results is event order. The operator only has to indicate he wants HyTek to print in publication order. (I only accept results in Publication order.)
4. FITNESS EVENTS
The Virtual Swim Series is an excellent way to involve your fitness swimmers as well as the competitive swimmers who are looking for another challenge. Join others throughout the country and world in applying any pool lengths you actually do to virtually swimming some of the most important bodies of water in the US and foreign countries.
The 30 Minute Swim is a good indication if you have enough endurance to swim that long as well as good training for the One Hour swim in January. This can easily be done in one workout, no matter what the swimmers' ability. Even new swimmers can achieve this positive goal.
The Checkoff Challenge (Mission I.M. Possible) has been revised, this year. You can choose from one or more missions.....freestyle, open water and/or stroke and IM.
A new article about fitness is posted each month on the Fitness Web Site. This year, they will also include Sports Medicine. Check out this page to find a variety of topics for your swimmers.
With the large numbers of swimmers in FL, how can we involve them, especially the noncompetitive swimmers, to participate in these USMS events? If your club has done something unique to achieve this goal, please let me know so I can share it with others.

A motion was made to accept report, 2nd and passed at 2:06 PM

D. Sanctions Report, Sue Moucha:

Since the last Florida LMSC Meeting, April 9, 2005, Sanctions have been approved for:

- 4 additional Swim Meet Events (one for 2006)
- 1 Open Water Event
- 1 Recognition Event (2006)

St. Pete Masters have set the dates for their Short Course Championships-April 7-9, 2006. Swift Swim Team has shown interest in hosting another Swim Meet in 2006.

Corresponded with Aaron Swartzman, Orlando Team Masters, regarding their Sanction materials for hosting a Swim Meet in July and October 2005 and the Performance Bond Policy. He requested the Meet Sanction Check for \$40.00 be returned. Such action was taken. I would like to thank Board Members for their input and for Victor's notes of the Minutes related to the Performance Bond Policy topic.

We discussed this issue briefly and agreed that if they request sanctioning for any meets in the future they still need to provide the performance bond as was the intent of the performance bond motion.

Please note I have had excellent correspondence with other Master team reps regarding the Performance Bond Policy.

Master Swimmers have participated in USA Swimming Events and have followed US Masters rules for their times to be recognized by Florida LMSC.

A motion was made to accept report, 2nd and passed at 2:09 PM

E. Newsletter Report, Gertie Perry:

No Report from Gertie although Tom stated that in his correspondence with her she had agreed to fulfill the standards of her position proved to her this past year.

F. Webpage Report, Dick Brewer, (Tom Bliss):

Tom reminded everyone going to the annual USMS national convention to send any photographs to both Dick and Gertie.

1. The interactive reimbursement form was now on the website in the forms section. It will be required for all LMSC reimbursements.
2. Minutes from many past LMSC meetings dating back to the spring of 1983, including all minutes of annual meetings dating back to 1988 except for two years are now on the News and Information Page. Minutes from a number of meetings are still missing but hopefully will be added when and if the secretary's notebook is ever recovered.
3. Victor stated that he had discussed this very matter with Bret earlier in the day and Bret informed that he used to have his secretary at his office type up the minutes and he will look for the book. Victor said he will send Bret a reminder before the annual meeting. Once recovered we can work out a way to scan them and get them into the website.
4. Interactive registration forms are now on the USMS website and are being checked out by individual club registrars. About half of the clubs have already proofed the form and made their recommendations for what they want or need for their clubs on the form. The primary reason the interactive website form was made and will be required is because of problems with unintelligible or illegible handwriting on the forms mailed in via snail mail. Here is how it will work: Each swimmer will go to the site, fill it out, print it up, sign the waiver (it doesn't matter whether it is readable or not), and mail it (or hand deliver) with payment to his or her club registrar whose name and address is on the bottom of the form. Pretty darn neat!

Motion made to accept report, 2nd and passed at 2:15 PM

G. Official's Chair Report, Jeffery Demlow, (Tom Bliss):

Tom reported that Jeffery is in the process of moving to Las Vegas Nevada. He also reported talking to Dan Nadosy about filling this chair. Dan isn't real interested but will consider if no one else steps forward. No chair report.

Old Business

A. 2005 Convention, Tom Bliss

Tom reported that he can't go and why and that Victor will be going in his place. He reminded everyone going to take good notes for their report and requested that everyone try to bring back something useful to the membership at large within our LMSC.

Margie suggested that we put a reminder on the reimbursement form, "No report...No money!". No motion made on this suggestion, but a reminder will probably be imputed.

B. Convention Budget, Tom Bliss

Tom asked if there were any questions about the convention budget? Victor replied in the affirmative and asked if travel expenses covered parking one's car at the airport? The answer was yes.

Victor and Joe requested to discuss what they considered an inappropriate amount of only \$0.14 per mile reimbursement on travel. Joe and Victor provided their rationale for increasing it to \$.30 per mile. Tom informed the group that it had been raised last year from \$.12 to the current \$.14. Joe provided an example of his cost in traveling to clinics for the LMSC and explained that this was money out of pocket whether he waited until the end of the year or waited to be reimbursed by the LMSC for whatever amount we decide on.

At this point in time Tom requested that someone propose a motion. Victor did: "I move that we increase travel reimbursement from \$0.14 per mile to \$0.30 per mile." Joe seconded the motion. Then another long discussion occurred including, but not limited to: airfares, current cost of gas, filing for IRS allowances at the end of the year, and the LMSC needing to file said allowances as income, calculations of cost at 20 miles to the gallon, cost of renting a car, cost of using a personal car above and beyond gas prices, and using receipts and mileage from odometers versus AAA, Yahoo, or Map quest estimates of distance. Then someone asked to hear the motion wording again. Victor read it and Tom added when he was done, "for convention", however Tom did not move to amend the motion as it had been originally been seconded.

The original motion was voted on and passed without Tom's addition at 2:33 PM.

Meegan then reminded everyone that in previous meetings we discussed and approved funding at convention for five nights if needed for those who want or have to attend afternoon meetings on Wednesday.

This report ended at 2:34 PM

C. Annual Audit Review, Meegan Wilson

Meegan said that no one has come forward and volunteered to audit the 2004 books. She requested volunteers from those present. A suggestion was made by Joe that he would contribute \$20.00 for us to pay an accountant to do this annually and avoid

this tiresome discussion each year or someone volunteer to check into the cost of having an outside audit. Meegan volunteered to check into this proposal.

Meegan stated she did not bring the 2004 books to this meeting.

Someone pointed out that the national office only does it every two years and asked why they require us to do it annually. Meegan explained that they do an external audit every two years and an internal one in the alternating years.

No motions, this report ended at 2:39 PM

D. Policy review and Management, Victor Buehler

Victor started out by sharing his observation that the momentum of discussing changes in polices died down after the April meeting. Margie suggested we address just one issue at a time. Victor forwarded Dick's suggestion that we not put full length job descriptions in the Bylaws. Some pointed out that the Bylaws are archaic. Tom suggested we set up a committee and Victor offered to revise the whole thing between now and the next meeting. Tom suggested that if it was done we would need at least two weeks of e-mail time to discuss proposed revisions. Meegan pointed out that the final version must be sent out to the team reps a month before then can be voted on. Someone mentioned this would be difficult to do this summer because of convention. Tom suggested we not be too aggressive. Discussion ended without any motions at 2:44 PM

IV. New Business

A. Annual Awards Banquet, Joan Campbell

Joan passed around the menu and mentioned that she was told we are not limited to selecting just those items listed. We voted on our selection of entries for the banquet:

Main dishes: Vegetable Lasagna and Chicken Marcell, or if they can't the latter, either Veal or Chicken Parmesan or if possible both. Potato/Vegetable Dishes: California Blend (If not cooked to death) and Rice Pilaf. Salads: Toss Salad and Waldorf Salad
Deserts: We decided to pay the extra cost to get that fantastic desert table back.

We then tortured ourselves attempting to calculate the cost. We decided it would be \$16.00 per plate. Someone suggested a child's plate was less and Meegan offered to figure it out.

No motions and discussion ended at 2:55 PM

B. Senior Games, Joan Campbell

Joan informed everyone that the games were very well run. They arranged to have two venues, one for regular seniors and another

for the even older seniors (geezers), who swam in the shallow pool. She reported that the numbers of participants was about 1,200 and that Don Puchalski broke three records.

C. Meet Calendar and Championship Bids, Meegan Wilson

Meegan said she printed a copy of what was listed on the web and that we need to present our list of meets in September at the Dixie Zone meeting.

To date we have: Clearwater SCY, 2/11-12/06, the St. Pete SCY on 4/7-9/06 and Sarasota LCM sometime in June.

Meegan then informed that any teams planning on entering bids for national championships need to let the delegates know so they don't get surprised while at convention. Margie informed that the Mavericks would be bidding on the January 2007 One hour postal, and the SUN Master bid for Dixie zone championship in 2006.

No motions and the meeting ended at 3:02 PM

D. October Meeting Date and Location, Tom Bliss

We agreed to have the meeting on a non-meet day. We decided upon the date of October 8, 2006. We acknowledged that Pat Tullman and Dick Brewer both offered their homes as a meeting place. Apparently no one took Victor's pole barn location at the pig farm offer seriously. Someone informed of a one day development meet in St. Pete on Sunday 10/9/05 for those who decide to spend the night if we have it in St. Pete. Tom offered his time-share condo in Kissimmee. We agreed on the St. Pete location because of the meet. Tom requested of Patty if she would look into finding us a meeting place and mentioned the church we had the social at this past year. She agreed to do the search and get back to him. Some suggested there may be as many as 25 people there. We agreed that we would need at least three hours. No motions made and the discussion ended at 3:09 PM

E. USMS Reorganization, Meegan Wilson

Meegan explained the reorganization that was voted in at last year's convention. The BOD is being lowered in number from 35 to 16. Eight people from the executive committee and eight people for the zones. She then listed the names of people running for the positions of the different zone reps and who was running for the elected positions of president and several VPs. (Go to the USMS website if you are interested in seeing who won).

Meegan then requested advise on a piece of legislation she knew was going to be presented at the convention. The rule change would allow the president to appoint employees and contractors to the House of delegates. The president position already permits him to appoint at large delegate of up to ten % of the total number of LMSC delegates. She said she was concerned of a possible conflict of interest with the contractors and employees and provided as an example the webmaster and the magazine editor. Everyone agreed with her view and gave her the go ahead to attempt to defeat it. Discussion ended without any motions at 3:13 PM

Meeting Adjourned at 3:14 PM