

July 11th 2009, Florida LMSC Meeting Minutes

The meeting was brought to order at 3:40 pm on July 11th, 2009 in St Petersburg, FL. In attendance were:

Joe Biondi (FACT/SUN); Marianne Bradley* (FACT/SUN); Joan Campbell* (FACT/SUN); Charles Kohnken* (SPM); Sue Moucha*, Sanctions (FMM); James Stine*, Treasurer (SPM); Marly Wilson*, Top Ten/Records (FACT/300); Meegan Wilson*, Chair (FACT/300); Patricia Nardozzi* (SPM); Bill Brenner* (SYSM); Rick Walker* (SYSM); Gary Trimble* (SYSM); Margie Hutinger* (FMM); Robert Mraovich (FACT/VAST); John Cornell* (FACT/VAST); Shirley Fishlock (FACT/VAST); John Ware (guest); Ted Bradley (SPM); and Rob Butcher (guest).

*Designates voting members. (17 members, 2 guests, 12 voting members not including the Chair who only votes to break a tie)

A motion was made to postpone accepting the minutes until the secretary arrived. There was some confusion over whether quorum was made with the above in attendance. If quorum was not established, no motions could be approved. Marly Wilson volunteered to act as secretary.

Meegan decided to press forward with the next thing on the agenda. Ted Bradley was introduced to give a proposal for a redesigned LMSC website.

I. Website Proposal

Ted presented two options for redesigning the website. Both involved him reevaluating the content and layout of the current site, designing a content management system (CMS) to address the needs of the LMSC. The main features of the CMS would give volunteers the ability to:

1. Write articles
2. Upload photos
3. Add meet information / entries / results

Both proposals would require a 25% payment up front.

Proposal #1: Ted redesigns the site as described in his proposal. There would be no ongoing development.

Cost:

* \$1500 - design and implementation

* \$2500 - software (CMS)

* \$35/month - hosting

* \$250/month - working as LMSC webmaster and hosting support

Total: \$4000, plus \$285/month ongoing

Proposal #2: Ted does a stripped down version of the redesign, then adds features as requested.

Cost:

- * \$1000 - design and implementation
- * \$1500 - software
- * \$35/month - hosting
- * \$400/month - webmaster & additional software development

Total : \$2500, plus \$435/month ongoing

Before the meeting Meegan had requested that Ted do an additional estimate for using an Open Source CMS. He said that he is not familiar with many of the Open Source options, and this could slow development and raise the cost for the LMSC. He also said that Open Source options aren't as customizable as his design would be.

Attendees weighed in on the proposals and asked Ted questions.

- * Rob Butcher pointed out that the new site will be content-generated. It will be the volunteers' responsibility to provide content to the site. The system will be there, but members must keep it active.
- * Meegan said that very little content comes in at the moment, so she's not sure how much easier it will make the webmaster position.
- * It was pointed out that the main reason to redo the site was it seemed outdated.
- * Marianne Bradley wondered if it would be possible to do away with the newsletter and have it all on the site. More clubs might contribute stories. Meegan reminded everyone that some members might not have access to computers, so doing away with the paper newsletter might be a bad idea.
- * Ted was asked which option he suggests. He said most of his clients have preferred the second option because they end up wanting to add more to the site. Rob Butcher said that USMS chose a similar development option when redesigning their website with Club Assistant.

Meegan thanked Ted and moved onto officers' reports. She noted that she had made a mistake in her addition and there was a quorum. There must be a majority of Board members present (at least 4). She verified the list of members voting for clubs:

FACT - Joan Campbell, Marianne Bradley, John Cornell
SPM - Charlie Kohnken, Patty Nardozzi
SYSM - Bill Brenner, Rick Walker, Gary Trimble
FMM - Margie Hutingner

II. Old Meeting Minutes

Meegan proposed some changes to the minutes:

- * Page 1: Mark Calvert should be listed as TMM, not TTM.

- * Page 2: Under current membership, there was a typo on one club designation. It should be BAMS.
- * Meegan read a few other word changes throughout the minutes to clarify the actions taken.

Patty Nardozzi motioned to accept the minutes with changes. Marianne Bradley seconded and the motion was passed at 4:26 pm.

III. Treasurer's Report

Jim Stine presented the treasurer's report and gave the final numbers for 2008. The books for 2008 will be reviewed by an independent accountant in time for the annual meeting. Jim also handed out the current balance sheet for 2009. He purchased some additional CDs to save up money for the end of the year expenses (e.g. subsidizing the awards banquet). As of June 30, 2009 total liabilities and equity were \$54,019.55. Expenses were (January - June) \$17,481.06. Leaving a net income of \$7,096.34.

John Cornell motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Marly Wilson seconded, and the motion passed.

IV. Registrar's Report

Meredith Moore, registrar, was not in attendance. Meegan read her report. So far 50 clubs had registered in 2009, which was 6 more than in 2008. As of June 2009, 1508 swimmers had registered with the LMSC compared to 1455 in June 2008.

Marianne Bradley motioned to accept the registrar's report. Marly Wilson seconded and the motion passed.

V. Top Ten Report

In the transition to the Top Ten report, John Cornell reported briefly on his experiences trying to talk with Greg Troy and Erva Gilliam about the pool measuring procedure required to recognize the Gainesville Senior Games. He felt they were not being cooperative.

Marly Wilson presented the Top Ten report. She submitted the Short Course Yards Top Ten to the USMS in June. LMSC Individual records had been updated, current through the 2008 LCM season. Some oversights had already been pointed out and needed to be corrected. Relay records were still on their way. Postal records had been updated but needed to be posted on the website.

Some concerns had been raised to Marly about the speed of getting the results into the Top Times database. To expedite the process, meet directors should cc the USMS Top Times chair, Jeanne Seidler (meetresults@usms.org) when they email their HyTek backups to Marly. Marly said she would contact Jeanne to see if there was any way she could upload the results herself.

Marly requested that the designated USMS observers who handle the result submissions from Senior Games should make sure that each USMS member, ID, and their club is listed when they sign in. Many sign-in sheets have had IDs and clubs missing. Either that, or swimmers should submit copies of their USMS cards to help her verify registration if they want the times to count for Top Ten.

Patty Nardozzi motioned: All swimmers are responsible for bringing a copy of their current card to all recognized events for the times to be considered for Top Ten. Marianne Bradley seconded and the motion passed.

Marianne Bradley motioned to accept the Top Ten report. Charlie Kohnken seconded, and the motion passed.

VI. Sanctions Report

Sue Moucha was requested to email a copy of the sanction letter to both Charlie and Marly, but she doesn't understand why this is necessary. Meegan suggested putting the information online. In the future after the website redesign, Sue could put the information up herself.

Sue requested a performance bond to sanction an LCM meet in Cocoa Beach because the results from 2008 were not submitted on time in the proper format. She had trouble getting in touch with the Top Ten Recorder and the meet director, Jeff Girten to verify what was expected for the upcoming meet. The performance bond was delayed in the mail; she only received it two days before the meeting, so the sanction had just been approved.

Sue also sanctioned a SCM meet in Orlando.

Marly Wilson motioned to accept the Sanctions report. Marianne Bradley seconded, and the motion passed.

VII. Newsletter Report

The newsletter editor, Jason Brauer, was not in attendance. Meegan read his report.

Jason thanked everyone for helping him with the last newsletter. He was appreciative of the new volunteer schedule that Meegan created. Some people requested a slight

extension in the deadline for the upcoming newsletter so that they could include results from the St. Pete meet. He was also waiting on an article from Charlie Kohnken.

Jason has heard that Ted Bradley might be involved in redesigning the LMSC website and was excited at the prospect.

Patty Nardozzi motioned to accept the Newsletter report. Marianne Bradley seconded, and the motion passed.

VIII. Official's Chair Report

Charlie Kohnken reported that the sanction information had been updated on the website after consulting with Sue and Meegan. The changes should help him make contact with future meet officials. So far he has had some good luck in contacting meet officials. He hasn't made any contact with Open Water swim officials because the National Office doesn't provide any guidelines. He will try to get some guidelines for Open Water meets at Convention.

Charlie would like to get copies of the meet information and the sanction letter so he can keep a log of information he would like to relay to the meet official.

He heard about the meet in Cocoa Beach on July 25-26 that Sue just sanctioned. He plans to get in touch with the meet officials to verify the correct procedure for running a Master's meet. He felt they weren't properly instructed when they held the previous meet in 2008.

Charlie requested suggestions for his article in the newsletter. One idea he had for an article was explaining why certain rules are in place that swimmers typically get annoyed with. Meeting attendees generally agreed this topic would make a good article.

Marly Wilson motioned to accept the Official's Chair report. Patty Nardozzi seconded, and the motion passed.

IX. Web Page Report

Meegan didn't have much to report on the web page. She said she tries to update it as soon as she gets something to put up.

X. Senior Games Report

Joan Campbell received clarification from Kathy Casey about the 60-day club transfer rule as it applies to Recognized meets. A USMS swimmer who is on the 60-day clock to switch USMS clubs should sign in at a Senior Games meet with their registration number and list "unattached" rather than a USMS club for his or her individual times to count for Top Ten. The unattached swimmer should not swim a relay with members of his or her new USMS club and expect the relay to be considered for USMS Top Ten or

records. If the unattached swimmer swims a relay with his or her old club, the 60-day clock starts over, or the relay time is ineligible for Top Ten consideration.

Joan reported dates for upcoming Senior Games: Jacksonville Senior Games - October 10th, Martin County Senior Games - November 4th, Ormond Beach Senior Games - October 31st, and the Good Life Games in Clearwater are scheduled for March 20th, 2010. Joan had not been able to reach the directors of the Gainesville Senior Games or Sanford's Golden Age Games to find the dates they will be held. The Florida State Championships will take place December 5-6 in Ft. Myers.

There will be approximately 30 swimmers from Florida attending the National Senior Games in Stanford, California from August 1-15.

Marly Wilson motioned to accept the Senior Games report. Bill Brenner seconded, and the motion passed.

XI. Coach's Report

Coach Joe Biondi had to leave early, but Meegan reported that he now has a website with coaching information: <http://www.coachjoebiondi.com>

XII. Old Business

- A. Sue, Charlie, and Meegan went through the sanctions packet and updated any references to the rule book with the actual rule. Meegan added a strong suggestion that Charlie receive meet referee information.
- B. The Delegates to USMS Convention were announced: Margie Hutinger, Joan Campbell, Marianne Bradley, and Patty Nardozi (replacing Meredith Moore who cannot attend), will be our four Florida LMSC Delegates. Meegan has submitted Bill Brenner as a Delegate At Large request. . We have three automatic delegates: Meegan Wilson as a member of the Legislation Committee, Joannie Campbell as a member of the Finance Committee and Victor Buehler as USMS Convention Coordinator. Rick Walker has requested a Delegate At Large position. ***Marianne Bradley motioned that Rick Walker be submitted for a Delegate at Large position for the LMSC. Joan Campbell seconded, and the motion passed.***
- C. At the previous meeting, there was discussion about submitting a rule change request to not require swimmers to submit a copy of their USMS cards when entering a meet. The deadline to submit a change to the USMS Rules Committee for sanction requirements was the day before the meeting. Since meet directors have the ability to pull local LMSC cards from the database, local LMSC swimmers should not be required to submit a copy of their cards. Meegan read the following rule from the USMS Rule book:

F - All sanctioned events are subject to the following conditions:

(5) All swimmers shall submit with their entries copies of their current membership cards or travel permits, or supply proof of current Masters membership acceptable to the LMSC; however, at the discretion of the meet director and exclusive of national championship meets, a swimmer may enter indicating "number pending," as long as proof of membership is presented prior to the swimmer's participation in the event.

Since the rule states " proof of current Masters membership acceptable to the LMSC" Meegan said that a USMS rule change was not necessary and each LMSC can determine their own requirements.

Patty Nardozzi moved to not require copies of USMS cards from members of the Florida LMSC in Florida LMSC sanctioned meets. Margie Hutinger seconded, and the motion was passed.

- D. Regarding the missing LMSC meeting minutes on our website, Meegan tried to contact Brett Hamlin who should have some of the old LMSC minutes, but she has not heard back.
- E. Discussion of the social and awards banquet was postponed until the next meeting.

XIII. New Business

- A. The Florida LMSC working calendar had been put online. Meegan would like it reviewed by volunteers.
- B. Meegan will pull policies from old minutes and update the outdated LMSC policy manual. She would like people to read through the current manual.
- C. One of the deadlines on the LMSC Calendar is to have the Secretary get the minutes out within a month of the meeting. Victor opposes this deadline. Patty argued that we can't place hard restrictions on volunteers. One suggestion was to have an assistant secretary note the important action items from the meeting and get those out quickly. The policy suggestion was tabled for the time being.
- D. Job descriptions are online. Volunteers should check them to make sure they're up to date.
- E. Website Redesign - Criticism of the current site: Not easy to navigate, barely used. Redesigning the site could help recruit new volunteers if the services it provides makes life easier for those volunteers; it could also be a good marketing vehicle for the LMSC. General consensus seemed to follow that the second proposal that Ted Bradley presented was the best option.
Rick Walker made a motion that the LMSC accept the second proposal with Ted Bradley. Bill Brenner seconded, and the motion passed.

Meegan said that she wanted to draw up a contract for the web design before any work got started. Joan Campbell reported that Bryan Kutchins (SUN) has offered any legal help necessary, and could potentially help Meegan create a contract with Ted Bradley for the website redesign.

F. Patty Nardozzi reported that SPM had submitted a bid for the 2010 SC Nationals.

G. Sue Moucha reported that Frank Tillotson's memorial service was very nice. One finalist for the Overcoming Adversity award, John Cox, was recently in a very severe accident involving a scooter.

H. Discussion of how to handle the Newsletter once the website is redesigned was postponed until the annual meeting.

With no further business, ***Joan Campbell moved for the meeting to adjourn. Marianne Bradley seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Marly Wilson, Acting Secretary