

United States Masters Swimming (USMS)
Delaware Valley Local Masters Swimming Committee (DVLMSC)
Minutes of Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 18, 2015

Welcome

The annual membership meeting was called to order by Chair Laurie Hug in the Parents' Room of Germantown Academy, Fort Washington, Pa. at 1:15 p.m. Everyone introduced themselves by telling about their swimming interests. *Attending:* Chairperson Laurie Hug, Vice Chair Tom Patterson, Treasurer Steve Dougherty, Secretary Chris Schroeder, Registrar Janet Jastremski, Dan Allen, Caroline Stein, Vikye Swanson, Charles Bender, Sue Watts, Matt McGuriman, Kim Inverso, Joan Waldbaum, Pam Shepard, Gary Sangmeister, Tom Tulenko, Stephanie Walsh Beilman, Stephanie Saucy, Kelly Eckel, John Kenny, Allie Spreng, Peter Alberti, Thomas Limouze, Susan Figenshu, Dave Diehl, and Rick Heimann. USMS clubs represented were: Colonials 1776, FINS, Pennypack, Ursinus, Spring Valley Y, Suburban SC, YWMA, Swarthmore College, and Unattached.

Secretary's Report

Presented by Chris Schroeder, Secretary

In addition to the 2014 minutes, this year's report includes "Other DVLMSC Actions" which briefly describes significant actions taken and/or decisions made by the officers or Board during the time between annual meetings. The webmaster had some problems this past year posting the minutes and reports on our website (dvmasters.org), but he assured us they have been corrected. Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to accept the Secretary's Report/S/P

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Steve Dougherty, Treasurer

Our balance as of 9/30/15 was \$21,320.95, and our budget is about \$5,000. A new budget will be established this coming year. USMS recommends a reserve of six months operating expenses and is encouraging LMSC's to provide member benefits. USMS will refund us our portion (\$500) of the Open Water Swim (OWS) sanctioning fee (\$1,000) for the cancelled OWS in our area. (Note: DVLMSC policy is to split the OWS sanctioning fee with the race director; potentially we could be liable for the full fee if the race director's portion is not collected in advance).

Recommended Action:

1. Charles Bender will conduct the annual financial review required by our by-laws. *Note:* Charles submitted the following statement on 10/19/15: "I reviewed the financial statements and bank records for the DVLMSC at the Annual Meeting on 10/18/15. The check register, bank statements and financial statements seemed to accurately represent the financial condition of the DVLMSC."
2. Steve will convene the Finance Committee to develop a budget; the committee is composed of Secretary, Registrar, Sue Watts, and Charles Bender.

Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report/S/P

Registrar's Report

Presented by Janet Jastremski, Registrar

USMS policy states that swimmers can request printed membership cards from their LMSC; this cost us approximately \$316 last year. While our website recommends members print their own cards, it was suggested that our registrar send an email to anyone requesting a printed card informing them of this option.

When someone requests that a mass e-mail be sent to our membership, Janet needs to have the exact wording, title, etc. The system is not designed to forward emails or send more than one attachment; however, a link to additional attachments on our website can be included. Mailings can be sent to some designated groups, e.g. certified coaches. Per DVLMSC policy, mass e-mails can only be sent to members about sanctioned and recognized meets in our LMSC, any USMS zone or national championship, and any message the officers or board approves. Other information can be posted on our Facebook page or website.

Clubs need to be registered by 11/1 so individual members can register with their preferred club. Clubs can charge an extra fee through USMS, but should also notify our Registrar.

The USMS portion of membership fees for next year can be found in Janet's report. We voted to establish the following LMSC fees (in addition to the USMS fee) for next year:

Individual full year – Sue Watts motioned to keep the LMSC fee at \$5 / S/P

Individual end of year - Sue Watts motioned to keep the LMSC fee at \$5 /S/P

Club - Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to keep the LMSC fee at \$0 /S/P

Workout group - Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to keep the LMSC fee at \$0 /S/P

Club transfer – Swimmers can transfer clubs for no additional fee when registering annually. Any other time, the transfer must go through our Registrar, and we establish the fee for that. Charles Bender motioned to keep the LMSC transfer fee at \$5 /S/P

One-event – DVLMSC allows one-event registration only for open water swims (OWS). The OWS director collects fees and sends them to USMS. There was discussion about ways to reach athletes who utilize the one-event registration option. Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to keep the LMSC fee at \$0 /S/P

Recommended Action:

1. At the USMS convention next year, propose changing USMS policy re: LMSC being required to print membership cards at cost to LMSC.
2. Ask Dave Schneider to send an e-mail to DVLMSC coaches recommending that they encourage their swimmers to print own cards,
3. Registrar send an e-mail to anyone requesting a paper card informing them of the option of printing their own.

Pam Shepard motioned to accept the Registrar's Report/S/P

Sanctions Report

Presented by Tom Patterson for George Horan, Committee Chair

Tom briefly reviewed George's report.

Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to accept the Sanctions Report/S/P

Competition Schedule

Presented by Gary Sangmeister

This past year Gary attended numerous meets around the area and spoke with swimmers regarding what they liked, did not like, etc. He indicated our LMSC is more focused on individual meets than on LMSC-wide series like other LMSC's. We need to recognize there are a lot of non-USMS swimmers in our area. He would like to see DVLMSC host a SCM meet; Laurie suggested we might be able to run one at Upper Dublin HS or Episcopal Academy; we could even make it a championship meet for our LMSC.

Matt McGuriman distributed information about the 12/13/15 Ursinus meet, and Kelly Eckel distributed a flyer about the new Suburban Seahawks Masters Program (information at office@sscswim.org). Probable dates for other meets: Lower Bucks - 3/6/16, Swarthmore - 3/20/16. Stephanie Walsh Beilman reported that the UMLY meet is 2/7/16, and Burlington CCC March meet depends on the outcome of the school's merger with Rowan (*Note*: after our meeting Burlington confirmed their meet is 4/17/16). Gary indicated Phoenixville cannot set a date for their meet until the age group team sets their competition calendar.

Recommended Action:

1. Gary will explore the possibility of DVLMSC hosting a SCM meet in early Nov. '16. Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to accept the Competition Report/S/P

Website Report

Presented by Dan Allen, Web Master

Several officers and chairs expressed concern that our website is not always current, nor is it always consistent with USMS events. Dan indicated he will ensure that items are posted accurately and timely. Sue Watts motioned to accept the Website Report/S/P

Top 10 and Records Report

Presented by Tom Patterson, Vice-President and Committee Chair

While Tom has access to several databases, it would help if DV swimmers breaking a DV record outside our LMSC send Tom that information.

Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned accept the Top 10 and Records Report/S/P

Coaches Report

Presented by Laurie Hug for Dave Schneider, Committee Chair

Each year USMS will alternate a National Coaches Clinic (even years) with the Leadership Summit (odd years). There will be a Level 3 Coaches Clinic in the Philadelphia area 11/21/15. USMS could conduct a swimmers clinic the following day, but the LMSC would have to assume a number of costs, including pool rental. Some members expressed interest in our own DV coaches conducting swimmers clinics throughout our LMSC, but the topic was tabled for later discussion. There was no discussion about reimbursing USMS Level 1-3 coaches from DVLMSC who attend the USMS Coaching Clinics. Charles Bender motioned to accept the Coaches Report/S/P

Officials Report

Presented by Stephanie Walsh Beilman, Committee Chair

Stephanie distributed an explanation of the new I.M. freestyle rule. During a USMS conference call, it was recommended that meet officials make an effort (vs. be required) to find and inform a swimmer who was DQ'd, and that meets have three different "dry" staff: an administrator, timing system manager, and meet manager. Sue Watts also suggested that we all make an effort to share meet protocol with new swimmers.

Sue Watts motioned to accept the Officials Report/S/P

Open Water Report

Presented by Laurie Hug for Delia Perez, Committee Chair

Laurie mentioned that the Steelman OWS in Lake Nockamixon is also popular with many masters.

Chris Schroeder motioned to accept the Open Water Report striking two editorial comments /S/P

Marketing Report

Presented by Pam Shepard, Committee Chair

Pam reported that our Facebook page has been garnering national as well as local interest. Swimmers are using it for a myriad of reasons, including setting up carpools. While Pam continues to be the gatekeeper, she is open to suggestions, and anyone can post. Members expressed appreciation for Pam's efforts.

Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to accept the Marketing Report/S/P

Fitness Report

Charles Bender, Committee Chair

No report submitted as nothing significant occurred. Some ideas discussed during the meeting were reaching out to our members in outlying areas, and promoting Adult Learn to Swim events. Laurie volunteered to do a virtual swim series.

Recommended Action:

1. Allison Spreng and Kim Inverso agreed to be new Co-Chairs of the Fitness Committee.

Social / Recognition Report

Sue Watts & Steve Dougherty, Committee Co-chairs

The committee reminded us that Recognition is a USMS mandate. They are requesting a \$500 budget to do something meaningful in our LMSC. The best option identified is having a social event where recognition awards are presented in conjunction with a meet. Chris suggested awards for participating in Go The Distance as a good way to recognize fitness swimmers. Pam volunteered to send a survey to our members about their social interests if the committee wishes.

Recommended Action:

1. Allison Spreng volunteered to join Sue, Steve, Tom Tulenko & Kim Inverso on this committee.
2. Committee is requesting a budget of \$500.

Pam Shepard motioned to accept the Social / Recognition Report/S/P

USMS Convention Reports

Presented by Laurie Hug

This year we earned three delegate spots to the convention in Kansas City, Mo. Sept. 30 – Oct. 4, but only two delegates attended due to a last minute conflict for the third. A fourth delegate, Dave Diehl, is a USMS Vice-president, therefore, USMS finances his participation. Laurie and Caroline Stein attended many different workshops to gain as much information as possible for our LMSC. The next convention will be in Atlanta, Georgia September 17- 21, 2016.

Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to accept the Convention Report/S/P

(*Note: Chris had to leave at 4pm, so Stephanie Walsh Beilman continued the minutes.*)

Team Reports

Team Reports were given for:

Colonials 1776 - Stephanie Walsh Beilman,

Unattached - Dan Allen gave a humorous report on the status of the unattached swimmers!

Swarthmore Aquatic – Tom Limouze

Spring Valley Y - Gary Sangmeister

FINS - Caroline Stein

Nominations Committee Report

Members: Stephanie Walsh Beilman, Sue Watts, and Vikye Swanson

The committee recommended the following candidates who agreed to serve in leadership positions:

- For LMSC Chair - Tom Patterson
- For Vice Chair - Susan Watts

There were no other nominations for either position from the floor or membership.

Charles Bender motioned that the Nominations Report be accepted/ S/P

New Business

Stephanie Walsh Beilman reported that the DVLMSC by-laws have been worked on for several months. She gave each attendee a draft copy and asked for input by 10/31. She will then send the revised draft to the board. The proposed by-laws will then be sent via email from the registrar to all DVLMSC members, who will be asked to vote on them (accept or reject) during a special "Virtual" membership meeting between 12/1-7, 2015. The sole purpose of the virtual meeting is to amend the by-laws. The results will be determined by a majority of those voting.

Old Business

There was no old business.

Caroline Stein motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:30 p.m. /S/P

Submitted by Christine Schroeder, Secretary

Electronic copy submitted to USMS National Office on November 6, 2015