

United States Masters Swimming (USMS)
Delaware Valley Local Masters Swimming Committee (DVLMSC)
Minutes of Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 16, 2016

Welcome

The annual membership meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Patterson in the Parents' Room of Germantown Academy, Fort Washington, Pa. at 12:30 p.m. Everyone introduced themselves. *Attending:* Chairperson Tom Patterson, Vice Chair Sue Watts, Treasurer Steve Dougherty, Secretary Chris Schroeder, George Horan, Dan Allen, Laurie Hug, Pam Shepard, Gary Sangmeister, Stephanie Walsh Beilman, Stephanie Saucy, Vikye Swanson, Susan Figenshu, Dave Diehl, Dave Schneider, Barbara Burke, Pat Timmins, and Tom Steel. USMS clubs represented were: Colonials 1776, FINS, Spring Valley Y, and Unattached.

Secretary's Report

Presented by Chris Schroeder, Secretary

Chris submitted the minutes from our 2015 Annual Meeting and the document "Other DVLMSC Actions" which briefly describes significant decisions made by the officers or Board during the time between annual meetings. The 2015 minutes were posted on the DVLMSC and USMS websites for the past year. (Note: All committee and Treasurer's reports were also on the DVLMSC website this past year.)

Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned that we officially thank Laurie Hug for her service to our LMSC as our former Chair for six years/S/P

Sue Watts motioned to accept the Secretary's Report/S/P

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Steve Dougherty, Treasurer

All financial reports required by the IRS and USMS have been filed in a timely manner. We are in compliance with the USMS LMSC Development Committee financial standards. Our annual cash income is about \$6,000 from fees and donations. Operating costs are close to budget. USMS encourages LMSC's to spend funds on member benefits rather than accrue large reserves. USMS will charge the LMSC \$50 for sanctioned meets and \$100 for recognized meets in 2017.

Recommended Action:

1. Discussion about budgeting for various activity expenses was deferred to New Business.
2. Note: Sue Watts submitted the following statement on 10/20/16: "I reviewed the financial statements and bank records for the DVLMSC on 10/19/16. The check register, bank statements, and financial statements appeared to accurately represent the financial condition of the DVLMSC. "

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

Registrar's Report

Presented by Steve Dougherty for Janet Jastremski, Registrar

Report statistics were reviewed. Steve noted that, as Treasurer, he cannot identify from the reports he receives who makes donations to the LMSC. (Note: After the meeting the Registrar informed the Board that she can identify the donors and sends them a thank you.) Again this year

we discussed the cost to the LMSC for mailing paper registration cards to the 30% of our membership requesting them; almost everyone registered online and could print their own cards.

There was discussion about LMSC and USMS fees, especially meet fees. We want to encourage more sanctioned meets in our LMSC, so we are willing to absorb half of the USMS fee for those meets. People have to be USMS members to swim in a sanctioned meet. While non-USMS swimmers can participate in recognized meets, those meets require more work by the Top Ten recorder, and FINA does not consider times achieved at non-sanctioned meets for World Records or FINA Top Ten recognition. Tom Patterson motioned that the following amounts be our LMSC fees for 2017:

- Individual full year and end of year – \$5
- Club registration fee and workout group fee – None
- Club transfer fee – \$5
- One event fee – None
- Sanctioned pool meet - \$25
- Recognized pool meet - \$100
- Open water event fee - None

The motion was S/P

Recommended Action:

1. Dave Schneider will email DVLMSM coaches recommending that they encourage their swimmers to print their own registration cards.
2. The Registrar will email members wanting paper cards asking them to print their own. (Note: After the meeting the Registrar informed the Board that she is obligated to mail a paper card to any member requesting one).
3. Tom Patterson will send an email to our entire membership before USMS renewal notices go out November 1st encouraging everyone to print their own cards.

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

Sanctions Report

Presented by George Horan, Committee Chair

Our LMSC had 12 meets this past year, including three sanctioned meets. The one sanctioned Open Water Swim (OWS) was cancelled due to weather.

Laurie Hug motioned to accept the Sanctions Report/S/P

Competition Schedule

Presented by Gary Sangmeister, Committee Chair

Gary highlighted that the Ursinus meet had a very good turnout, and the pool at Wilson High School in Reading (the site of a new meet in October) was a good one. We would like to see more new meets (perhaps at Penn, St. Joseph's, Rowan) and more swimmers at meets in general. Gary encourages new meet directors to mentor with an experienced director for assistance.

There was discussion about DVLMSM championship meets. The first championship meet this year at Suburban attracted 140 swimmers. The DVLMSM Recognition Awards presentation and social following the meet generated excitement. While we were appreciative of Suburban hosting the meet, we thought it might be beneficial for the LMSC to assume more responsibility for future championships, as this would allow for more control over dates, location, etc.

Recommended Action:

1. Gary Sangmeister volunteered to mentor new meet directors.
2. Identify pools in our area that are appropriate and available for a championship meet, and that are accessible to USMS members, including swimmers from surrounding LMSC's.

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

Website Report

Presented by Dan Allen, Web Master

Dan said he will continue to list tentative events in order to help swimmers plan, although it is recognized that some of those events may not materialize. Stephanie Walsh Beilman distributed information about a tentative SCY meet to be held 2/5/17 at Upper Main Line YMCA (UMLY). Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to accept the Website Report/S/P

Top 10 and Records Report

Presented by Tom Patterson, LMSC Chair and Committee Chair

There was more discussion about the rule that FINA records can be set only at sanctioned meets, not recognized ones.

Recommended Action:

1. Our Sanctions Chair should require directors of recognized meets to clearly state on the entry form that FINA records cannot be established at that meet.

Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to accept the Top 10 and Records Report with an edit replacing "This swimmer" in last sentence describing Summer 2016 meet at UMLY with "A swimmer"/S/P

Coaches Report

Presented by Dave Schneider, Committee Chair

Dave does not know who the 62 self-identified coaches are in our LMSC because USMS limits access to its member database (this is why all emails to our membership have to come from the Registrar). Therefore, he cannot determine where they coach, what at their interests are, etc.

Recommended Action:

1. Dave send an email through our Registrar, listing his own email address and asking coaches to respond to him directly so he can communicate more effectively with them.

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

Officials Report

Presented by Stephanie Walsh Beilman, Committee Chair

While Stephanie was not able to submit a written report, she verbally summarized key issues. Someone can now become a USMS official through an online process on USMS.org. Dave Diehl added that in-person shadowing is still part of the process. Stephanie has a list of officials in Middle-Atlantic area. George Horan mentioned that meet directors often ask him what they should pay officials. Some officials are paid an hourly rate for big local meets, while others are given gift cards.

Recommended Action:

1. Leave reimbursement for officials up to discretion of meet directors.

Steve Dougherty motioned to accept the Officials Report/S/P

Open Water Report

Presented by Chris Schroeder for Delia Perez, Committee Chair

Chris highlighted some new additions to Delia's report: French Creek Racing, Steelman Swim at Lake Nockamixon, and the USMS 10 mile OWS championship in Vermont (women's division won by our own Laurie Hug). Stephanie Walsh Beilman mentioned that Tom Krug, a long-time OW swimmer and friend of many, died recently.

Recommended Action:

1. Swimmers wishing their OWS race results reported by Delia should contact her at dgperez@erols.com; pictures are appreciated.

Sue Watts motioned to accept the Open Water Report/S/P

Marketing Report

Presented by Pam Shepard, Committee Chair

Our Facebook page has 441 members, including some Olympians! Pam continues to be willing to survey our membership as needed. Some people would like to see more stories about well-known local swimmers. Pam encourages swimmers, especially Open Water swimmers, to send her articles, photos and results for posting.

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

Fitness Report

Allison Spreng and Kim Inverso, Committee Co-Chairs

No report was submitted prior to the meeting. There was discussion about the Virtual Triple Challenge we conducted this past year. With over 100 swimmers participating, Laurie Hug needs more assistance administering the Challenge if we are to repeat it. She also suggested that we could also promote virtual challenges put on by other LMSC's. It is not known how many non-USMS participants in this challenge became USMS members; perhaps our Registrar could cross match names.

Recommended Action:

1. Tom Patterson will contact the Chairs to request a report. (Note: Subsequently the report was submitted, and Tom learned that Allie can no longer be Co-chair; therefore, we are seeking a volunteer to Co-Chair the committee.)

Social / Recognition Report

Sue Watts and Steve Dougherty, Committee Co-chairs

The committee suggests that next year we recognize all LMSC certified coaches for their valuable service at the awards ceremony (i.e. not name a "Coach of the Year"). Laurie Hug suggested posting a list of coaches and certification level on our web site. Because of the amount of work needed to research nominees, we should start thinking about nominations for next year's awards. It is difficult to identify open water nominees because there are not many USMS sanctioned open water swims (the consensus was that nominees should have participated in sanctioned events).

Recommended Action:

1. Feedback about the awards and social should be directed to Sue Watts.

Stephanie Walsh Beilman motioned to accept the Social / Recognition Report/S/P

USMS Convention Reports

Our LMSC again earned three delegate spots to the convention in Atlanta, Ga. September 17-21, 2016. Those delegates were Tom Patterson, Kim Inverso, and Paul Sweeney. Two additional DVLMSM members attending were Dave Diehl (USMS Board of Directors) and Laurie Hug (USMS Long Distance Committee Member). The next convention will be in Dallas, Texas September 13-17, 2017.

Laurie Hug presented her report and highlighted some rule changes about open water (OW) and long distance (LD) events: 1) A swimmer's age for both events is determined by their age at the end of year; and 2) OW swims 5K and longer will not start if the water temperature is above 85F, and swims less than 5K won't start if water temperature is above 87.8F. She added that the History and Archives Committee is seeking results from OW championship and Relay Top Ten swims from the 1970's and 1980's to update their database.

Tom Patterson summarized his report, again reminding us that USMS would like to see LMSC's spend excess funds on member benefits. He noted that the entry limit for meets has increased from five to six events, and there will be no 2018 USMS Long Distance Nationals because Orlando YMCA is hosting the Pan American Championships that summer.

Paul Sweeney and Kim Inverso submitted written reports, and video presentations as both were unable to attend our meeting. Tom Patterson played the videos for us; it was thought that the videos might be helpful to future first-time delegates.

Dave Diehl reported that there soon will be various USMS officer and committee openings. He encouraged people who have been active in the LMSC to consider serving USMS on the national level. He has found it to be a valuable and interesting experience, resulting in many friendships. The time commitment varies depending on the position; he would be happy to answer any questions. Sue motioned to accept the Convention Reports/S/P

Team Reports

Colonials – Stephanie Walsh Beilman reported they have about 230 members, did t-shirts for Nationals. *Spring Valley YMCA* – Gary Sangmeister reported they have about 35 members, three weekly practices. *FINS* – George Horan reported they have over 100 swimmers, six practices per week, and swim at Kelly pool in the summer.

Nominations

The current Secretary has served the maximum time permitted by our By-Laws (three 2-year terms). Laurie Hug nominated Barbara Burke for Secretary S/P; Barbara agreed to serve. Sue Watts nominated Steve Dougherty for a second 2-year term as Treasurer/S/P; Steve agreed to serve. Sue Watts gave notice that she may retire and return to Florida in 2017; she encourages new members to consider serving as Vice-Chair should that occur.

Old Business

A. By-Laws:

Stephanie Walsh Beilman reported that our revised By-Laws were approved December 12, 2015, and should be reviewed periodically.

Recommended Action:

1. When giving notice of the annual meeting, remind members to review the By-Laws and bring suggested changes to the meeting.

New Business*A. Reimbursement for LMSC coaches attending USMS coaching certification courses:*

There was discussion about repeated recommendations from committees and officers for some type of reimbursement to LMSC coaches who attend USMS certification courses as they are valuable to our membership.

Barbara Burke motioned that DVLMSM give 100% reimbursement retroactively to active coaches taking a USMS coaching certification course, achieving certification, and coaching a USMS group currently or within a year; the total amount for all reimbursements for 2017 to be capped at \$3,000./S/P

Recommended Action:

1. Dave Schneider will develop a coach's reimbursement form. The Coaches Committee will provide guidance on reimbursement if needed by the Treasurer.

B. Convention delegate selection:

There was discussion about the responsibility of delegates sent to the USMS convention by DVLMSM. We need to make explicit the obligation of those delegates to serve our LMSC in some capacity since we reimburse their expenses. .

Laurie Hug motioned that our LMSC delegates be selected in this order: 1st priority goes to Officers; 2nd priority to Committee Chairs; and 3rd priority to members who are active on a committee or have attended annual meetings in two of the last five years /S/P

Recommended Action:

1. Consider new ways to get more members to attend our annual meetings, e.g. have a well-known speaker, hold another membership meeting in the spring, etc.

C. DVLMSM championship meet:

Tom Patterson requested authorization to plan another DVLMSM championship meet, similar to the one held this year. George Horan noted that Phoenixville prefers to host only a Recognized meet; Laurie Hug said Germantown Academy has pool availability for a sanctioned meet in February.

Gary Sangmeister motioned to authorize the planning and management of another DVLMSM championship meet in spring 2017 /S/P

Sue Watts 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 1, 2016