

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of United States Masters Swimming, Inc., was called to order by President Michael Laux at 9:10 a.m. on October 1, 1983. Secretary Donnelly circulated accredited delegate sign-in sheets: unless there were challenges, the roster would stand as approved. Only accredited delegates allowed to vote. Complete attendance sheet attached. All delegates had been provided with a packet of agenda, reports, rule change proposals, budget and audit reports.

President Laux gave a brief report on his two years in office, citing the continuing increase in registrations, successful long and short course championships, progressive Long Range Planning and Marketing efforts, research being conducted by the Medical Committee. He thanked the officers for their support, and committee chairmen for dedicated volunteer efforts. Although there are many areas still to be addressed, the bottom line is that USMS is alive, well, and growing.

Vice President Verne Scott noted his report would be made as part of the Long Range Planning Committee report.

Secretary Donnelly reported on activities of the Secretary's Office. Without an office or mailing service, duplication of quarterly updates, reports, correspondence and all mailings were handled by the Secretary. Credit is extended to Convention Chairman Kevin Kelly, Hospitality Chair Mary Lee Watson, Jan Huneke, Bill Tingley and Nick Fazzano for assistance in Convention arrangements.

Minutes of the 1982 Board of Governors Meeting in Memphis were approved as circulated, with the correction in the designation of "Board of Directors" to "Board of Governors."

It was unanimously approved to send a letter of appreciation to United States Aquatic Sports for the fine facilities and assistance at the '83 convention. The 1984 Convention will be held Sept. 19 through 23 at the Hyatt Hotel in Indianapolis. The 1985 USAS Convention is scheduled for Phoenix.

Reg Richardson explained the financial statements contained in the packet. Approval of same, budget and audit reports were deferred for the Finance Committee report. Explicit memo to be sent again to each LMSC regarding submission of By-Laws and request for inclusion in the USMS non-profit umbrella.

Committee Reports:

Ransom Arthur Award. Criteria and makeup of committee reiterated: Past recipients, representatives from each zone and age groups 25, 35, 45 and 55. Formal notice to go out by 2/1/84 to solicit nominees for the 1983 award.

Marketing. Darcy Fazio presented the LOGO recommended for approval by the Design sub-committee: unanimously adopted, with the recommendation that it be copywrited. Dick Guido will provide copy ready logos in several sizes. Darcy also explained the questionnaire regarding public relations/publicity experience of the LMSCs; to be turned in to Jennifer Prange before the end of this session.

Long Distance: Dave Gray explained LD is actually a sub-committee of USS and USMS. Highlights of the report include reinstatement of the one-hour swim as a National Championship, with strict criteria, including split times at each 50 yds. A ten-member team distance event is planned (top five to score). The 10K swim, the one and two mile swims are also Championships - winners to be All American. The 1984 Hummer Award was presented to Buck Dawson. Dave noted that the power and authority for Long Distance Swimming flows through the USS Long Distance Committee.

Sports Medicine/Research: Jane Moore reported on the study and statement prepared regarding death occurring at a swim event. Copies to be made available and disseminated. Changes in Policy and Procedures will be reflected in the Report, which was unanimously accepted. Jane also reported on federally funded research on Master Swimmers being conducted by Dr. Jan Culhane of the University of Kentucky. Results will be shared when available.

International: Margaret Samson presented a written report, describing the makeup and planned activities of Masters Swimming International. By-Laws and information may be obtained from Margaret. She spoke on the forthcoming International Competition in Christ Church, New Zealand in April 1984, as well as the Masters Games set for Canada in 1985. It was approved to affiliate with MSI and to pay the \$100 affiliation fee for 1984.

Tabulation. It was approved to drop the restriction that a club would be listed only once in relay top ten. Top 20 relay times will now be compiled; three swimmers may remain the same and a club may rate more than one listing. Enid Uhrich reported the Committee recommended that Top Ten Tabulations be part of a national office function, when and if an office is established.

Championships: The committee will prepare criteria so successful bidders will post with the USMS Treasurer, 14 days after closing date for entries, an amount equal to \$2 for each entrant, to ensure enforcement of USMS rules and procedures during the competition. Up to \$1 per entrant will be returned to the sponsor after the competition, if all is in order. The remaining dollar retained represents USMS share in championship proceeds. A complete section of the code on Championships was presented and approved, to be included in the 1984 code.

Bid presentations were made at 2 p.m. Short course '85 was awarded to Schroeder Swim Center in Wisconsin (second weekend in May). Long Course '85 goes to New England Masters, to be held at Brown University, Providence, R.I., Aug. 17 through 20 (Saturday-Tuesday). The 1500 meter event will be split with the Smith/McDermott School in Warwick.

Long Range Planning. Verne Scott presented the report, which was discussed item by item. Subjects included adaptive swimming, same fees for fitness swimmers who join USMS. Report as adopted is attached.

Registration. Items in the Committee Report presented by Ted Haartz were considered on an individual basis. Complete report on file. Enid Uhrich was engaged as Registrar for 1984-85 and 86; proposals to be solicited after the second year for 1987 and beyond. Based on the proposed new fiscal year, that the registration year be changed to Nov. 1 - to Oct. 31 - new registrations to be accepted on Aug. 1. Rule books to be mailed first class. Enid Uhrich's offer to volunteer office services on a cost-only basis for one year was accepted. A portable copier to be purchased by USMS for her use during that period, and to be available for national championships and convention. Detailed log to be kept of time and expenses and their allocation to committee functions. Activities to be funneled through National Secretary, who will also log time spent. Object is to get a handle on costs anticipated when and if USMS feels the establishment of an official National Office is mandated.

Zones Committee. The seven zone concept was approved, with representatives to be elected at Convention - to select a Chairman from within or without their members. House-keeping rule changes required to accommodate the 7-zones were approved, as was an \$800 budget for zone expenses.

Each of the seven zones convened at 1 p.m. Representatives elected are: Colonies, Jeanne Mason Bostwick; Cow and Oil, Karen Barnes; Dixie, Peter Mullen; Heartland, Bill Tingley; Breadbasket, E. Kevin Kelly; Continental Divide, Edie Gruender; Oceana, Jore Schwab. The representatives then selected Gail Dummer as Zone Chairman. Appreciation was expressed to the out-going Zone Chairmen - Bobbi Turcotte, Mildred Anderson, Joe Biondi, and Jack Buchanan, and to Bostwick, Kelly and Schwab, who will continue to serve, for their leadership during the past two years. Copies of the reports from each zone and the minutes of each zone meeting are on file.

Rules. The complete list of rule change proposals submitted to June Krauser had been distributed to delegates for acceptance or rejection, annotated as to the recommendation of the Rules Committee. Complete rules as amended will be published in Swim Master and in the 1984 USS Code Book. Major changes include:

- ...Board of Governors representation: one delegate per association by fiat, one additional for 300, one more for each additional 500 registered swimmers.
- ...Effective 1986 add age group 20-24; consider changing relays to 20 & over, 30 & over, etc.
- ...Age of a swimmer in a competition is as of the last day of the meet.
- ...Team scoring at Nationals will again include relay events; USMS to provide division awards at National.
- ...Executive Committee established; Officers, immediate Past President, Zone Chair and Legal Advisor.
- ..."No false start" rule adopted by USS will become effective for Master Swimmers in 1985.
- ...All rule change proposals submitted by deadline will be acted upon at Convention; majority approval for changes recommended by Rules Committee; 2/3 approval vote for proposals not recommended by Committee.

Finance. Recommendations approved and adopted include:

- ...Capital Reserve Fund of \$100,000 be established and maintained - no less than \$10,000 yearly be budgeted toward this reserve (now stands at \$60,000)
- ...Fiscal year be changed to Sept. 1 - Aug. 31; 1984 will be the short year, ending 8/31/84.
- ...Committee requests approved, budget to divide expenses on committee basis, expenditures paid on a reimbursement basis: Registration \$500; Zone Committee \$800; Long Range Planning \$700; Long Distance Swimming \$110; International \$600. All other committees \$100.
- ...Equipment expenditures to include two copiers: one for National Secretary and one for volunteer office.

Need for increase in individual and/or club memberships for 1985 to be studied using the criteria developed by analysis of 83-84 committee and office expenses, possibility of individual handbook for registered athletes.

The proposed budget was adopted, adjusted for the expenditures approved above. Recommendations of audit committee to be implemented, including revised expenditure allocations.

Election of Officers: Bobbi Turcotte presented the slate from the Nominating Committee (Zone Chairmen.) There being only one vice-president to be elected, Tom Boak asked that his name be withdrawn from consideration. The incumbent officers were then re-elected by unanimous vote: President, Michael Laux; Vice-President, Verne Scott; Treasurer, Reg Richardson; Secretary, Dorothy Donnelly.

Mike Laux, responding for all the officers with appreciation for the vote of confidence, announced that delegates interested in serving on Committees should indicate a preference to the Secretary. Since the makeup of some committees is mandated by the Code, it is not possible to honor everyone's choice.

He announced that the Publications/Public Relations Committee and Championship Philosophy Committee would be top priority. The Legislative Committee, as approved by delegates, will handle all revisions to the Code except Part V, which will remain the responsibility of the Rules Committee.

It was announced that United States Swimming passed a rule, the intent of which was to provide a vehicle by which athletes registered as Master Swimmers can petition for a return to USS domestic competition - not international or Olympic. A review committee will set criteria and consider applications on an individual basis. When received, the official information on the revision to the "Once a Master, always a Master" concept will be distributed to our membership.

Mike expressed appreciation to all the delegates for their enthusiastic and dedicated service, and promised a vigorous coming year in the true tradition of Masters Swimming.

The next official meeting of the USMS Board of Governors will be held at the Hyatt Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana September 19 - 22, 1984. Although we like to keep our rules simple so we can get on with the joy of competition, our expanding complexity mandates more hours spent at our National Convention. To that end, tentative plans call for the Board of Directors to meet Wednesday evening, the various committees to meet on Thursday afternoon and all day Friday. The Board of Governors should plan on two sessions, one on Thursday morning, Sept. 20 with an all day session on Saturday, Sept. 22. This will allow full discussion on all important items, greater participation in committee action, and allow for orderly completion of all business prior to adjournment at 6 p.m. Saturday. Because US Swimming is also adjusting its schedule, the General Reception will be held on Thursday evening, Sept. 20, with the Swimming Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, Sept. 22.

Mike again stressed the importance of LMSC representation at the Convention and the need for each Association to provide at least partial funding for the number of delegates to which it is entitled.

Interim sessions of the Board of Governors will be held at each championship, scheduled for the evening prior to the start of competition. Any actions recommended at the interim sessions would be subject to ratification at the Annual Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Concluding unofficial activities were a no-host dinner Saturday evening, with a mini-meet on Sunday morning arranged by Jan Huneke.

Dorothy Donnelly, Secretary