

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Thursday, September 12, 1996

8:30 a.m. - Salon 6

In Attendance: Babs Larsen, Chairman. Sandy Cattarin, South Central; Dar Ferguson, Great Lakes; Sarah Hromada, Breadbasket; Charles Kohnken, Dixie; Jim Matysek, Colonies; Ginger Pierson, Northwest; Adrienne Pipes, Southwest; Nancy Ridout, Oceana; Anna Lea Roof, At-Large; Diane Black, Ex-Officio, Mel Goldstein, USMS Liaison.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Chairman announced that LMSC Registrar packets would be available from her at the House of Delegates on Saturday. These packets will contain sample registration forms, *SWIM Magazine* deadlines and other important information for the 1997 registration year.

NEW BUSINESS

One Event Registration. Sarah Hromada motioned that the one-event information in the Rule Book should stand as is. Discussion regarding number of one-event registrations (1995 - 150; 1996 - 46 to date), and how this type of registration is particularly good for open-water swims and late October/early November swim meets. MSC.

LMSC Handbook Printing. Babs announced that each section of the LSMC handbook would now be the responsibility of the originator, who would provide the section to the printer to mail separately (with a copy to Babs). This is being done to alleviate delays in the distribution of the Handbook.

Year 2000 Registrations and Other Program Enhancements. Nancy Ridout announced that an update has been made available for the USMS Registration Program .EXE file that would accommodate dates for the year 2000. She cautioned that the update would not work if the computer was unable to process year 2000 dates. Other enhancements include the addition of several more sort fields for collection of additional information. Leo Letendre discussed the features of a registration program he has made available to interested registrars.

NEW BUSINESS

Bounced Check Return Policy. There was general discussion on how various LMSCs handled bounced checks. Suggestions include timely deposit of checks, a form letter that requests payment plus penalty, not allowing swimmers to reregister the next year until bad check is satisfied and/or only take cash for deck entries. The observation was made that meet directors and coaches need to fully support the LMSC in this matter by not allowing participation by swimmers who have outstanding bad checks.

New Swimmers at USMS Meets without Registration Cards. There was general discussion on how LMSCs handled swimmers who cannot provide a registration card (either because they are a newly-registered swimmer who has not yet received the card, or they are out-of-town swimmers who forgot their card.) Suggestions include providing meet managers with a list of official swimmers, being available for registration questions to the meet managers and collecting an application and fee that will be returned upon receipt of copy of registration card.

Swimmer Wants to Register with Unregistered Club. There was general discussion on how to handle swimmers who want to be affiliated with a club, but don't wish to pay club fees. It was generally agreed that this was not an LMSC Registrar issue and that the swimmer and club should work this out between themselves. Suggestions included a policy of "register through your team, or you will be unattached" and quarterly reports to clubs so the clubs can compare their rosters with the LMSCs list.

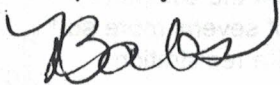
Reduced Membership Fee Pushed Back to August. Nancy Ridout suggested that USMS consider moving the deadline for the reduced membership fee from September 1 to August 1. MSC:

ACTION ITEM: The Registration Committee recommends that the USMS registration fee be reduced from full year rates to discounted rates beginning August 1 of each year.

Rationale: Because the deadline for *SWIM Magazine* is the beginning of August, all swimmers who register in August pay the full price, but only receive two issues, as does the swimmer who registers in September. The August swimmers pay more, but receive less. This would also alleviate the tendency of the LMSCs to hold registrations through the month of August for submission in September, while at the same time encouraging timely submission for July registrations.

The meeting was closed to spectators at 9:47 a.m. in order to review bids for the position of National Registrar. After interviews with the bidders, the Committee voted to recommend the bid of Beyond Words, Inc. (Diane & Bill Black) to the House of Delegates. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Larsen
Chairman

BHL:dwb