

USMS Convention—Anaheim, California 2007

Committee Name: Championship	Session: 1	Report #: 16
Committee Chair: Mark Moore	Vice Chair: Jeff Roddin	
Minutes recorded by: Lisa Watson	Date/time of meeting: 9/27/07 1 PM	

Action Items: Proposed Expenditures

1. NONE

Action Items:

1. MSA to approve the logo and medal design for 2008 SC Nationals in Austin, Texas.
2. MSA to approve the start time for Austin at 8:35 AM, with warm-ups beginning at 7:30 AM.
3. MSA to approve the logo and medal design for 2008 LC Nationals in Mt Hood, Oregon.
4. MSA to approve the NQTs for 2008 SC and LC Nationals.
5. MSA to form a subcommittee to develop a new bid packet with various options included for the meet host to follow, with the proposed financial gain dependent on the degree of involvement from the Championship Committee.
6. MSA to submit a Rules proposal to have Team Scoring removed from the Rule Book and made into Championship policy.

Number of committee members present: 18

Absent: 3

Number of other delegates present: 45

Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Lisa Watson, Mark Moore (Chair), Diane Stowell, Sandi Rousseau, Robin Segnitz, Barry Fasbender, Kim Crouch, Heather Hagadorn, Debbie Cavanaugh, Leianne Crittenden, Jane Moore, Carolyn Boak, Jerry Clark, CJ Rushman, Errol Graham, Michael Moore, Jim Matysek, Mel Goldstein

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1 PM

1. **USMS and Championship Committee Strategic Plan.** Mark asked the committee members to look over the Strategic Plan and make suggestions. Carolyn Boak encouraged the committee to look at this plan in reference to the following: service to the membership, simplification, timelines for agenda items, and regular communication. This committee's job is to attract more bidders for Nationals, and to help potential meet hosts by simplifying the meet packet and making it inviting rather than intimidating.

2. **2007 Meet Reports**

Jane Moore, co-meet director for 2007 SC Nationals in Federal Way, gave a recap of the meet, and reported that everything ran very well. Sandi Rousseau was the meet liaison and she commended the efforts of Federal Way in putting on a top notch meet. Jane suggested that it would be helpful to future meet bidders to have a template for the information to be put in the USMS SWIMMER magazine. She also expressed disappointment in the magazine's recap of the meet, saying that it focused only on the elite swimmers rather than emphasizing other swimmers and how well the meet was run. She said the new database for entries was a huge help, with 86% online entries. Sandi complimented the online newsletters that were sent out periodically to meet entrants, and encouraged future meets to make this a standard practice.

Tom Boak, meet director for 2007 LC Nationals in The Woodlands, reported that this meet was a big

success and very well run. Mark Moore, liaison for the meet, agreed and complimented Tom on a fine meet. He also cited that out of 911 entries, only 100 were paper entries. Tom said that his main goal for running the meet was to highlight local Masters participation, and also help save this facility. Both goals were achieved. Local participation in the meet was 128 swimmers, as opposed to 37 swimmers the last time that The Woodlands hosted Nationals. Despite the very hot, humid weather, the meet was still very enjoyable for participants. Tom had some suggestions for improving Nationals meets. Improvements are still needed in the online system. He suggested that the Championship Committee should control the database file, and then give it to the meet host after it has been finalized. Tom expressed disappointment in low attendance at the meet, and suggested that the Championship Committee should prohibit large regional meets from taking place shortly before or after Nationals, as this can detract from attendance at Nationals. He also expressed concern with overbooking for hotel rooms, and suggested that meet hosts should tell hotels to release any unbooked rooms 30 days prior to Nationals. This could be added to the meet information. Jerry Clark pointed out that a housing company can be hired to deal specifically with hotel booking, and this can be put in the meet handbook. Carolyn Boak spoke to the success of the Woodlands meet, citing that a big factor was how well USMS and USA worked together in putting on the meet. Erroll Graham mentioned that safety rules should be rigidly enforced at Nationals, and the offenders penalized. Sandi Rousseau concurred, saying that enforcing safety rules at local meets would also help with the enforcement at National meets.

3. **Review of awards, logo, and plans for 2008 National Championships**

Anne Nellis, meet director, presented the proposed logo and medals for 2008 SC Nationals in Austin. Sandi Rousseau suggested that it would be preferable to have the word 'swimming' somewhere on the medal, if possible. **MSA to approve the logo and medal design for 2008 SC Nationals in Austin, Texas.** The motion was moved by Mel Goldstein and seconded by Lisa Watson. The meet hosts also wish to move the meet start to 8:35 AM, with warm-ups at 7:30 AM—this is to accommodate USA swimmers training for the Olympics. **MSA to approve moving the start time to 8:35 AM, with warm-ups starting at 7:30 AM.** The motion was made by Carolyn Boak and seconded by Sandi Rousseau. Brandon Drawz, meet director for LC Nationals in Mount Hood, announced that the pool renovations were now completed. He showed the proposed logo and medal design to the committee. **MSA to approve the logo and medal design for 2008 LC Nationals in Mount Hood, Oregon.** The motion was made by Mel Goldstein and seconded by Lisa Watson. Brandon also announced that swimmers would only be allowed to enter either the 800m or 1500m free, but not both. He also said that they might deck seed events 200m & up. There was some discussion on the cost of Gold Medal sponsorship. The committee felt that this decision should be left up to the meet host.

4. **2008 NQTs in SWIMMER** The proposed NQTs for 2008 SC Nationals were presented. **MSA to approve the NQTs for 2008 SC Nationals.** Sandi Rousseau made the motion, and it was seconded by Debbie Cavanaugh.

5. **Review of current Championship bid packet**

The Championship Committee is trying to improve the current bid packet by providing website access to all the various components. We want to make the packet more user friendly, showing the benefits to potential bidders of hosting a National championship meet. Help is needed with updating pool venues. Barry Fasbender was volunteered to coordinate this, and committee members were encouraged to let Barry know of possible venues that might be available in your area. Mark stated that to encourage bids, our committee should send zone reps to possible bidding sites to encourage these bids. This would require additional funding to finance these trips. Carolyn suggested that we first improve the bid packet itself. Carolyn made a proposal to form a subcommittee to come up with a bid packet that would give potential bidders various options to follow. The motion was seconded by Barry Fasbender. **MSA to form a subcommittee to develop a new bid packet with various options included for the meet host to follow, with the proposed financial gain dependent on the degree of involvement from the Championship Committee.** The subcommittee will be chaired by Debbie Cavanaugh, and also includes Mel Goldstein, Sandi Rousseau, Tom Boak, Jerry Clark, Mark Gill, and Todd Smith as ex-officio. It was suggested that the bid packet include a list of things that the meet host can do to generate additional

income. It was also suggested the pool rental fees be included, since they can certainly impact bidding decisions.

6. There was much discussion and no consensus among the Championship committee on the 2 Rules proposals being presented that concern team scoring methods. Therefore, the committee does not support these proposals. **MSA to submit a Rules proposal to have Team Scoring removed from the Rule book and made into Championship policy.**

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. The newly formed subcommittee will be working on modifying the bid packet to present various options to potential meet hosts.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM.
