

CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING  
2012 NATIONAL BIDS SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT (INDIANAPOLIS)  
August 11, 2010

4:15-6:30pm (discussed other committee business at first and started actual discussion with Indy close to 5pm)

Conference Call with representatives from Indianapolis bid for 2012 SC Nationals.

Sub-committee members present: Jeff Roddin (Chair), Sandi Rousseau (Vice Chair), Jim Clemmons, Barry Fasbender, Mike Heather (ex-officio), Ed Saltzman (ex-officio), Jody Smith, Jeff Strahota, Lisa Watson

Indianapolis representatives: Kris Houchens and Mel Goldstein

Jeff welcomed Kris and Mel to the call and complimented them on their bid, noting Indy's previous experience in putting on Nationals and their top rate facility. This is a proven venue, so we are familiar with its merits. Jeff briefly described the bidding procedure, and the changes that have been made since the last time Indianapolis made a bid.

Following are questions and answers regarding the bid:

QUESTION (Jeff): On your hotel list, some hotels are not available on both dates. Can you comment on this?

Indy: All hotels are now available on both proposed dates.

QUESTION (Barry): What is the Entry Processing fee noted in the proposed budget for?

Indy: That is for the credit card processing fee.

QUESTION (Sandi): You do not have a shuttle. I believe you had previously done a survey on shuttle use which led to this decision?

Indy: Yes, we previously had 5 hotels participating on the shuttle route. The survey showed very limited use of the shuttle, due to close proximity to the pool. Now, we will have rooms even closer to the pool, so we feel there is no need for the shuttle service.

QUESTION (Sandi): What about the potential Omaha impact? Would you be OK with having lower attendance than usual at this meet?

Indy: Yes, we want to promote and support Omaha and are fine with having lower attendance. (Sandi commented that even with support for Omaha, we still want to support SC 2012 as well).

QUESTION: Following up on the Omaha factor, since it's possible 2013 SC may have greater attendance, would you have a preference for 2012 or 2013?

Indy: We are bidding for 2012, but are OK with either. Indianapolis has a great volunteer base. We don't have to pay for timers. This meet is strictly for the benefit of Masters swimmers. Profit is not the driving factor. We have a new hotel (listed in the bid on p. 26), which will be on the baseball field, very close. Prices have now come down from surrounding hotels.

QUESTION (Jeff R): Do you have a preference on dates?

Indy: Either date is fine. We want to avoid a conflict with Y Nationals, but have found that will be held the middle weekend in between the 2 suggest dates. In 2004, Y nationals were held the week before we hosted Nationals. It did not detract from our ability to put on a successful Nationals. Most of the work preparations have been done by that time- if we should host Nationals on the latter April dates, it should not be a problem.

For closing comments, Mel stated that any profit from this meet would go not only to Masters swimming but also to promoting aquatic development throughout the area. One key focus of Indy Masters is to be able to give back to the community however possible.

Kris stated her full support for Mel, and noted that Indianapolis has great pride in its position in the swimming world.

Mel and Kris left the call.

#### SUB-COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Sub-committee members discussed the 2 bids, noting that they were both very well prepared and would provide excellent venues for our competition. Both were willing to go with either set of dates, depending on our recommendation. Each venue also responded well to the question regarding the 'Omaha factor' which of course is unknown. In each case, the bidder understands and accepts that there might be a lower turnout for 2012.

Both bids would also be willing to bid for 2013 if that is our recommendation, although they would prefer 2012.

Following is a summary of some Pros and Cons for each bid:

#### GREENSBORO

Pro:

New venue, state of the art facility

Depth of organizing committee and volunteer base

Experience running National meets

Good location- likely to draw swimmers throughout the East coast; further away from Omaha, which may be more appealing to swimmers

Would likely promote local Masters growth

Con:

Pool not yet completed-still under construction

INDIANAPOLIS

Pro:

Well known, recognized venue

Experience in running National meets

Great volunteer base

Con:

Nationals held there very recently (2009 LC)

Location- same area of the country as Omaha

The sub-committee also discussed the possibility of awarding bids for 2012 and 2013. Consensus was that we should only award for 2012 at this time.

**MSA: The sub-committee recommends Greensboro to the Championship Committee for Spring 2012 (SC) because of the excitement of a new venue, depth of the organizing committee and National Meet experience and favorable location. We also recommend that Legal Counsel suggest a generic exit clause to all future meet contracts which would allow the Championship Committee/USMS to rescind the bid if for some reason it appears the meet cannot be held.**