

Arkansas Masters LMSC Annual Meeting Minutes

Sunday, Feb. 6, 2022 via Zoom

Byron called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Those attending were Byron Shefchik, Bonnie Adams, Carie O'Banion, Scott Halliburton, Anita Parisi, and Megan Cameron.

Byron reviewed our accomplishments from 2021:

- Sponsorship and USMS member discount for Trifest Open Water Challenge.
- Zone SCY Championships in Little Rock in April
- Dual Sanctioned LCM Memorial Meet in Bentonville in June
- Sponsorship of DAM mile swim in Sept. at Beaver Lake
- BCC Masters Open practices
- Facebook and webpage maintenance
- Promo items given out at events: Caps, stickers, luggage tags...
- Virtual Convention was attended by Carie in Sept. Byron served on the Legislation Committee last year, but has stepped down from that role.
- ALTS took place at Joys of Swimming in Bentonville and the Millennium Pool in Joplin

Officer Reports:

Vice Chair: Bonnie reported that the 2021 Swimmer of the Year went to Megan Cameron after 5 individuals were nominated and we took the award to the membership for a vote.

Bonnie also mentioned that we tripled our Arkansas top 10 SCY rankings to 67 in total - highest total previously was 26. Some of this was a result of few SCY meets happening because of Covid.

Bonnie would like to see Swimmer Spotlight ramp up again. She will reach out to her swimmers and forward information to Carie to post on our Swimmer Spotlight page and in the newsletters,

Secretary/Communications Chair: Carie created and submitted the minutes from last year's annual meeting to USMS. She also wrote 4 newsletters during 2021 which were sent to all active members. Events and other information have been communicated throughout the year either via 1) direct emails to members, or 2) social media posts on various Facebook pages.

Carie has answered emails on a regular basis that are forwarded through the Club Finder software. These are mostly emails from swimmers who are new to or visiting the northwest Arkansas area.

Other tasks she completed last year included:

- Organized Labor Day Swim at Melvin Ford
- Contacted aquatics director at FAC to encourage USMS involvement

- Organized swim clinics at BCC for this spring
- Assisted with planning and running the Freestyle Frenzy Meet

Treasurer:

Anita reviewed the balance sheet and the actuals for 2021. We operated in the black this year, mostly because of the lingering pandemic (no convention costs, no grants to national meets, etc.)

Total revenue for 2021 was \$2895.42 and total expenses were \$1409.85. Gross income for 2021 was \$1486.

Anita stated that only 1 club (NWAM) has asked for club fee reimbursement. The biggest unbudgeted expense for 2021 was the grant for Swim Oz's Dam Mile swim.

Anita then reviewed the budget for 2021 and the board modified several items.

- Remove funding for convention (budget item 5500) since it will be virtual this fall
- Increase the Zones or Nationals swimmer grants (budget item 6350) from \$1000 to \$1500
- Remove the sponsorship for Swim Oz (under budget item 5000) due to a large sponsorship last year
- Increase the event support budget (item 5000) from \$400 to \$800, hoping to add benefits for swimmers in our LMSC when they attend events locally. Our thinking on this is that the Trifest Open Water event and the Swim Oz Dam Mile event will allow a discount to ARKM swimmers when they register – and then we will refund those groups that amount to their organization.

Motion was made to approve the budget as amended. Motion carried. Anita will resend the amended budget to the board members.

Membership Coordinator: Scott reported that as of today we have 120 members registered for 2022, which is higher than this time last year (109 last year).. The total membership for 2020 was 197, which was an all-time high. The five clubs for 2021 were: Little Rock Masters (LRM), Northwest Arkansas Masters (NWAM), The Joys of Swimming (TJOS), MC Soakers (SOAK). and Aquahogs (HAWG).

Coaches/Fitness Chair: Megan didn't have anything to report for Coaches or Fitness Chair. She did provide information regarding her program however. Right now her practices average about 7-12 swimmers in the mornings and about 2-4 swimmers on lunch and evening practices. She stated that attendance is higher in Spring/Summer averaging about 18 swimmers this past summer.

She finally got to do the Adult Learn to Swim clinics in Aug and Sept. Those went really well, and one lady who learned to swim freestyle said she would be interested in Masters. I sent her info and she hasn't come yet, but she works at the school so hopefully in May she will be able to come!

MSSU is allowing us to have Masters in their indoor pool currently, but has told us several times that it could change if they close the campus or implement more Covid restrictions, etc. I asked for permission to host clinics and meets there again, but have not been given permission yet. I plan to ask again for planning Fall events. We have been keeping off of social media and trying to keep it on the down low so that they continue to allow us to practice!

We switch our practices over to Millennium Mid May through September.

I have not measured Millennium pool. I forgot to do that and ask about getting blocks. There might be a few issues in the pool layout and depth, but it might be a possibility for competition.

I have not been able to do any lessons since September (lost my access to an indoor pool), so I'm counting the days until that part of my business can start again at my new home pool! Hopefully April!!

I also contacted Neosho Y to possibly do clinics for triathletes but I wasn't contacted back.

Top 10 Recorder:

Doug emailed his report and state that his duties each year include the following:

1. Upload meet results for meets in Arkansas to the USMS database. This usually includes ARKM sanctioned meets and certain USA meets where I am made aware of Masters participants.
2. Uploading is simple and easy when Meet Manager is used, as is usually the case for sanctioned meets. If MM is not used, I have to do it manually, which involves identifying swimmers and their registration and inputting stroke, distance, and time. Similarly manual for USA meets—I can't use the MM file or it will load the young swimmers too.
3. At the end of each of the three seasons (SCY, SCM, LCM), the national top ten person requests and I provide a LMSC Top Ten Report. The USMS tools make this fairly easy to do. But there are usually follow up details she requests, primarily pool length certifications and split request forms.
4. The pool length requirements are a pain, and too lengthy to describe here. The main one that is onerous is when a bulkhead is present in a masters meet (not a USA meet!) the pool has to be measured each day of the meet. Technically that's not a top ten

recorder's duty I don't think, but in order to make sure our times count, I bought and use a laser measuring device to take the measurement when necessary.

Officials Chair:

Kristen sent in the following report:

I suggest that in our upcoming newsletters we encourage USMS members and friends of members in our LSC to become USMS officials by going to this link:

<https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/guide-to-local-operations/event-management/officials/training-and-certification>

The link will outline videos and information that needs to be reviewed through USA Swimming and then an online test will be administered. An individual must pass with a minimum of 80% correct.

We can also continue to recruit through officials in the USA Swimming program; however, we run into scheduling conflicts with USA Swimming meets for club swimmers in our LSC.

My other news to report is that I am resigning from the AR USMS LMSC board effective immediately. I am still available to officiate if the meet(s) timing works with my family's calendar. I have loved being a part of the board and AR Masters' swimming. Thanks for the opportunity.

New Business:

The current slate of officers (minus Kristen) will remain in effect for 2022. Motion was made to approve this slate. Motion carried. There was some discussion about trying to bring in new members for the board also (for Sanctions and/or Officials Chair), especially members from other parts of our LMSC besides northwest Arkansas.

USAT Nationals in Milwaukee on August 5th will have a 750 Yard swim race.

Bonnie will be attending the USMS Relay in Denver soon.

We will meet again mid March to do more planning for events and initiatives for the remainder of the year. Anita mentioned that would like for us to possibly meet in person rather than virtually.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 pm.