

**CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 26, 2012**

**ACTION ITEMS**

1. MSA to change the wording on point 5 of the Coaches Hospitality policy at Nationals (as noted in the 9/17/2010 Championship Committee minutes) to the following: Any coach on the assigned list of on-deck coaches will receive a hospitality pass only on the day he/she is assigned and works.
2. MSA that (in reference to Nationals) USMS shall be responsible for the cost of vendor hospitality and social event tickets.

**AGENDA**

**I. INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL**

Chair Jeff Roddin called the meeting to order at 8 PM EST, 7 PM CST, 6 PM MST, 5 PM PST. The following Championship Committee members were in attendance: Jeff Roddin (Chair), Sandi Rousseau (Vice Chair) Tyler Blessing, Tom Boak, Mark Braun, Jim Clemmons (appointed), Kim Crouch, Barry Fasbender, Jack Groselle, Mike Heather (ex-officio), Kris Houchens, Jane Moore (ex-officio), Mark Moore, Michael Moore, Robin Segnitz, Erin Shields, and Lisa Watson.

**II. UPCOMING CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS**

**A. Greensboro (Liaison: Jeff Roddin/Lisa Watson)**

1)Site visit: Jeff and Lisa just returned from the Site Visit to Greensboro, which was held February 24&25. They reported that the venue is a wonderful facility and Greensboro has great volunteer support from throughout the state. The Greensboro Sports Commission and CVB are both very involved and supportive of this meet. The only concern is that they have not yet run both courses at this facility. However, the age group Y Nationals will be held 3 weeks prior to USMS Nationals with 1800 swimmers, so this will be a good test.

2)Hospitality: There will be separate Hospitality locations for Gold Medal Sponsors, timers, coaches, and officials. The PA system is audible throughout the facility, as well as in the adjacent Special Events Center and the parking lot. In addition, they have closed circuit TVs throughout the entire venue which will show the scoreboard, so swimmers can see what heat is going on. Kyle Deery (National Office) said that USMS may also set up stationary cameras and provide live streaming on both courses and the scoreboard.

Distance Events: Swimmers have the option of swimming both the 1000 and 1650 as long as they make the NQT in one of those events. There will be two 11 lane courses on the distance day, and then 10 lane courses will be used for the remainder of the meet.

Concessions: Jeff and Lisa reported very reasonable prices on the current menu. The menu is swimmer friendly, and they are also very open to

suggestions for additional menu items.

- 3) Seeding: Barry will do the seeding for Greensboro. Kim asked how many swimmers have already signed up for both distance events. Jeff will find out and report back to the committee.

**B. Omaha (Liaisons: Sandi Rousseau/Jeff Roddin)**

- 1) Meet Info in SWIMMER complete-will be published in the next issue.
- 2) Site Visit: Will be March 22-24. Tom Boak (meet director) said that he has been in frequent contact with Erin Sullivan, Nebraska LMSC Chair. The LMSC has been very supportive, and is donating the use of a pool for swimmers who come early for the meet. This is a 6 lane indoor Pool located about 10 minutes from downtown Omaha. It will be available from June 25-July 2. The competition pool will also be available for use from 4-7 PM on July 3. Tom will meet with the National Office in Sarasota on March 13-15 to go over meet details. There will be a test meet June 8-10. Tom has been invited to this. Construction is set to begin May 23 and to be completed in early June. Hospitality: Menus for breakfast and lunch. It was suggested that they bill per item instead of per person, which should be a big cost saver.
- 3) Seeding: Jeff Roddin will seed this meet.

**C. Indianapolis (Liaisons TBD)**

- 1) Contract: Jeff is doing this.
- 2) Meet Status Report:

Kris announced that, thanks to the Super Bowl being in Indianapolis this year, the downtown area has been upgraded. For example, there are now lighted sidewalks and another parking garage near the pool venue. Jeff reviewed the policy on the logo with the committee. Currently, the National Office creates the logo. However, the policy has now been amended to give the meet host the choice of creating their own logo (with approval from the National Office) or using the logo created by the National Office. If the meet host creates the logo, then they will pay for the cost of the design. If the National Office creates the logo, they also pay for the cost.

**D. Mission Viejo (Liaisons: Barry Fasbender/Erin Shields)**

- 1) Contract- Jeff is doing this.
- 2) Logo: Mission Viejo has chosen to create its own logo. Some concepts have already been submitted to the National Office.
- 3) Order of Events: This is a 5 day meet, so Mission Viejo will set up its own order of events. The order of events originally submitted needs to be modified. Mark Moore (meet director) will have a subcommittee set up the order of events. Mission Viejo has held its first local organizational meeting to set up key committee leaders.

**III. ACTIVE PROJECTS**

- A. Compile Committee Policies (Jeff , Barry, Sandi, Mark Moore)-The first version was sent to the Board of Directors in January and will be updated**

throughout the year.

- B. Update Liaison Guidelines and Site Visit Checklist (Jeff, Debbie Cavanaugh, Lisa, Mark Moore, Sandi). This document is nearly complete.
- C. 2013 Contracts & Liaison Assignments (Jeff, Sandi)-in process
- D. Update Sample Budget in Bid Packet to reflect recent meets (Mark Braun, Michael Moore)- in process
- E. Update Hospitality Section in Meet Director's Guide (Erin, Kris, Ed Saltzman)- in process

#### **IV. FUTURE PROJECTS**

- A. Splits-This committee needs to decide if we want to adopt automatic splits submission or continue to treat each Nationals on a case to case basis. This decision involves whether or not to submit the splits for inclusion in the Event rankings as well as for Top Ten consideration. Sandi reported that the Records & Tabulation Committee expressed concern that some people may not want their splits to be in there, and they recommended that automatic splits not be done except for the lead-off swimmer. Sandi said that she thinks that automatic splits would ease the job of the admin referee and meet director, and thinks it is a good idea. Our job is to do whatever is best for the meet, and let Records & Tabulation implement the policy.
- B. Mission Viejo Event Order (Robin, Mark M, Kim)-due by May 1. Barry commented that he ran the timeline on the original proposal and the last day was 11 hours 33 minutes. Barry asked the subcommittee to send him the proposed order and he can calculate the timeline.
- C. Rules Proposals (Jack). This is due to Rules by July 1<sup>st</sup>, but Jeff will start a list of potential proposals soon on the Discussion Forum.
- D. NQTs (Tyler): have been completed for 2012 meets.  
One thing to consider is possibly finding an alternative method to the current 'clunky' Excel spreadsheet. Is there something that would be easier? Tyler questioned who would maintain it. Sandi said we should also use the "bus theory"- meaning that if something should happen to the person in charge (such as being run over by a bus!), is there someone else who can take over and figure out how to operate it. We need a documented 'how to do it' list.
- E. National Championship Meet Award Nomination Committee-consists of former award recipients (Sandi, Tom, Jane, Michael Moore, Barry, Mark Moore). Nomination is due July 1.
- F. Investigate Seed Time Updating (Tyler, Kim)- which would allow swimmers to make changes to their seed times prior to the specific entry deadline but after they originally entered. This is ongoing.
- G. Update Meet Director's Guide-as required. There was a major rewrite last Year. Jeff would like former meet directors to review to keep this current.
- H. Distance Event Subcommittee-from convention (Jack, Michael Moore, Jeff Strahota, Jim, Debbie, Lisa, Jim Matysek)- charged with investigating ways to allow distance swimmers to swim both of the long distance events

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Update & publish 2012 local vs regional clubs-Jeff has done this.**
- B. FAQs on NQTs- Michael Moore has done this, with input from Sandi and Barry. This will continue to be updated as needed.**

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Consider Removing Entry Form from SWIMMER: This would require a Rules Change. Laura Hamel has again requested this, arguing that online entries are now consistently over 90% for national meets. Sandi stated that due to this fact, she was now more amenable to allowing this, but that it must be stipulated that the Order of Events should remain in there as well as explicit directions on how to obtain a paper entry form. Lisa likes having the entry form available in SWIMMER. Robin agreed, but also said she would be OK with having just the Order of Events listed there. Barry thinks part of the reason is that it's difficult to set up the entry page. Mike stated that Executive Committee is not trying to usurp anyone's power-this is definitely a decision for the Championship Committee. He also said that the difficulty in creating the entry form in the magazine should not be considered as a factor-if our committee wants it in the magazine, it will remain there. Kim said she would be OK with having the entry removed. Sandi will put this up on the Discussion Forum for further feedback.**
- B. 2014 Bids- Jeff wants to actively target 'in area' hosts for soliciting 2014 bids. In looking at recent Nationals locations, it would be better to have 2014 Spring Nationals on the west coast, and have Summer Nationals either in the east or central area.**
- C. Coaches Hospitality: Jeff first stated that the requirement for ASCA certification applies only to team coaches, but not to on-deck coaches. He will update the policy as such. Kim suggested the Host give out 4 (or whatever) free passes each day which can then be distributed to whichever on-deck coaches are working on that particular day. Sandi proposed that we restrict hospitality passes to include on-deck ~~deck~~ coaches only on the day that they are working, rather than during the entire meet. MSA TO CHANGE THE WORDING ON POINT 5 OF THE COACHES HOSPITALITY POLICY AT NATIONALS (AS NOTED IN THE 9/17/2010 CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES) TO THE FOLLOWING: ANY COACH ON THE ASSIGNED LIST OF ON-DECK COACHES WILL RECEIVE A HOSPITALITY PASS ONLY ON THE DAY HE/SHE IS ASSIGNED AND WORKS.**
- D. Vendor Hospitality: Jeff noted that at the last convention, our committee voted that USMS should pay for hospitality for the vendors, since the host no longer gets money from the vendors. We omitted having USMS pay for social functions as well. MSA THAT (IN REFERENCE TO NATIONALS) USMS SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COST OF VENDOR HOSPITALITY AND SOCIAL EVENT TICKETS.**

**VII. MEETING SCHEDULE/ADJOURNMENT**

**We will have a face to face meeting in Greensboro on April 26 (time TBD, but likely in the afternoon). If warranted, another conference call will be scheduled sometime before Nationals as well.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM EST, 8:30 CST, 7:30 MST, 6:30 PST.**

**Respectfully submitted by: Lisa Watson**