

GRIN Annual Meeting – GRIN State Championship

March 23, 2014

Boilermaker Aquatic Center, Purdue University

Officers in attendance: Jim Barber, GRIN Chairman
 Dick Sidner, Vice Chairman/long distance
 Randy Crutchfield, Treasurer
 Chris Sikich, Secretary, Communications
 Dave Oplinger, Webmaster
 Lisa Brown, Sanctions
 Cheryl Gettelfinger, Top Ten
 Robin Walker, Fitness
 Brian Cummings, Coaches

Not in attendance: Syd Latina, Registrar
 Bill Roach, Safety

GRIN Chairman Jim Barber opens the meeting at the break in the GRIN State meet.

Nadine Day – USMS president -- a meet participant -- spoke to the crowd and thanked all for coming and shared with everyone the demographics for who makes up USMS.

Jim introduces board members in attendance to the membership. This is not an election year. Jim announces the board is seeking candidates for the 2015 election year.

Registration is currently at 1162, well on our way to last year's 1411.

Jim announces a grant program for the Swimming Saves Lives initiative, a program being led in Indiana by Jim, Fitness Chair Robin Walker and Mel Goldstein. Clubs can apply for grants to host clinics in the program. Mel Goldstein speaks about the initiative and the importance of USMS members teaching adults to swim. The Swimming Saves Lives Foundation, USMS's charitable arm, is undertaking a national awareness campaign to help prevent adult drowning. Thirty-seven percent of American adults can't swim the length of a standard 25-yard pool.

Treasurer Randy Crutchfield says GRIN is in good financial standing, which he says has allowed GRIN to offer the State Meet free of charge to GRIN members. This year state meet was the second highest ever in attendance, following last year's event.

Jim announces the winners of the annual awards. Rachel Sitarz received the 2014 Irv Merritt award, awarded annually to a masters swimmer who exemplified the standards and values embodied in the life of Irv Merritt. Rachel helped found iSWIM masters in West Lafayette and helped to host the GRIN State Meet.

Linda Marvin of Indy Aquatics Masters was introduced as the Strong Swimmer Award winner. The award is given to the swimmer who scores the most points in the long-distance and difficult events that Doug Strong so enjoyed. She is a three-time award winner.

Jim also hands out bobble-head awards to several swimmers participating in their first State Meet. There are no comments from the membership. The meeting closes.