

Inland NW Masters Swimming – Annual Meeting

20 July 2024, 10:40 am

McEuen Park

Robert Heath, Chair, called the meeting to order. Others in attendance, whether in person or on zoom, included Dave Cabrey, Paige Buehler, Brian Johnson, Gloria Waggoner, Bill Waggoner, Debbie Whitely, Wes Bratton, Sarah Bradley, John Cook, Brian McCoy, Matt Bronson, Carole Nelson, and Jody Penn. The meeting was open to all membership, with roughly another 10 people in attendance.

Season review: Rob Heath noted a strong uptick in LMSC membership over the past year, with 376 registered year to date. Several events were held this year, including meets in Moses Lake (January), Cd'A (Feb), Spokane (Mar), Moscow (April), Wenatchee (June), and an open water event in Cd'A (Jul). There was generally strong turn out at each of these events, and many new records and top ten swims were achieved, including 4 All-Americans.

Wes Bratton is stepping down from his treasurer role, having served decades in this capacity. We need new volunteers to step up and assist. Those interested should contact Robert and/or Wes soon.

National review: Paige Buehler is soon to complete her term as an At-Large member on the USMS National Board. A key focus for the Board has been how to conserve funding in the face of membership declines during the covid era. Membership is now rebounding with programs like College Club Swimming (now with nearly 10,000 members) and "Grown-up swimming," which is sort of a summer league program for adults.

Rob Heath will be running for a position on the National Board.

Financials:

Both the Zone and IWMSC have good financial reserves....please share ideas on how best to spend these reserves to encourage growth and longevity of local programs. IWMSC reserve funds are now approaching \$25,000. The Board is seeking input from the membership on how best to spend reserve funds in support of several key goals:

- support clubs and increase membership
- improve availability of and attendance at LMSC meets and events
- support Adult Learn-to-swim programs
- engaging membership and expanding volunteer rosters

National Events coming up:

USMS Annual Meeting (Virtual), Sept. 13-15.....Mike and Robert have typically attended, serving on committees. Anyone can listen in on the meeting via youtube. This even is a great opportunity to meeting others, share ideas, and learn about operations at the national level. Members are encouraged to contact IWMSC leadership if you want to be an in-person delegate to this meeting.

USMS Relay, Community Development (Houston, TX), Oct 18-20.....this is an in-person event, with two delegates from IWMSC attending. Community development is the focus of the meeting, with workshops on how to grow your community. The Board is seeking input within next couple days from members interested in attending.

Award winners

The Board recognizes several members each year in the following categories:

High Point swimmers: Carrie Franchi (SCM) and Galen Denio (KROC)

Model Master: Lessly Field

Volunteer of year: Wes Bratton

Congratulations to all of you!

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.