

SMS officer's meeting minutes

Meeting held 8/1/09 at GNOTRI restaurant after LCM Championship swim meet.

Present: Nan Fontenot, chair., Rob Cambias*, treasurer, Fay Lachney*, sanctions/competition chair, Doug Holmes*, secretary, Vickie Buccino*, Top Ten chair., Ellen Hall*, former secretary,

*high points for age group at LCM Championships

Not present: Doug Kopp, Registrar, Howard Hart, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster.

Rob Cambias reported about \$18,400 in SMS checking account before UNO meet expenses. Rob solved USMS Top Ten pool measurement requirements by purchasing a laser for about \$200 for SMS use. We have to measure all fixed length pools and where SMS meets will be held before and pools with bulkheads have to be measured after each day of meet. Rob talked about using college swimmers/Olympic hopefuls from the New Orleans area to teach at swim clinics. Rob suggested that the chairman or registrar write a letter to all clubs and coaches recommending that everyone swimming in master/adult swim programs be registered as USMS members including the on deck coach for insurance purposes. Fay suggested that any USMS coach could be reimbursed for annual USMS membership by the SMS treasurer upon receipt of proof of payment. Both passed by consensus.

Doug Holmes reported USMS has 628 clubs and 46,489 members, and SMS has 489 members so far in 2009. Note that SMS represents two states, but only one percent of the USMS membership. SMS received \$6000 from USMS following Katrina to help SMS to rebuild and grow. Doug proposed that first time competitors at a SMS swim meet for remainder of 2009 and 2010 receive a 50% discount on their entry fees if they indicate on the entry form this is their first masters meet. The host team or meet director can request reimbursement for the 50% from the SMS treasurer. Agreed to by consensus. Doug suggested that first time USMS members get a \$10 discount when they join USMS in conjunction with a swim meet entry for remainder of 2009 and 2010. This should be advertised by the sanctions chairman to the coaches, in the SMS Newsletter, and on the entry form for meets. Agreed by consensus.

Nan announced that Doug Kopp will take Randy Patton's job as Registrar and Fay Lachney had taken on the additional job of Sanctions Chair in addition to Competition chair. Nan will contact Howard Hart to see if we can get out a news letter (first one since Feb. '08) in September to advertise Halloween meet on Saturday October 31 in Mandeville, Pentathlon meet on November 14 in Baton Rouge, and SCM Championships at UNO pool. She will also talk to him about being our Webmaster. Nan proposed the 2009 SCM Championships be held December 4, 5 & 6, and in the afternoon on the weekend. Fay will check with Janice Roth.

Doug and Nan were elected and are registered as delegates to USMS convention in Chicago with Vickie Buccino as alternate. Nan and Doug will recommend to Dixie Zone Officers that the 2010 Dixie Zone/SMS Championship meet be held in N.O. at the UNO pool on the first weekend in Dec.2010. Vickie suggested that Nan organize an officer's conference call after the USMS convention in late September. Nan & Doug will learn how other USMS organizations handle their newsletters, advertising, and promotion of our SMS meets and activities, including possibly hiring consultants for web page design.

Fay as Sanctions and Competition chair will promote SMS participation at the National USMS SCY Championships in Atlanta in May, 2009. Rob suggested SMS pay for SMS member's entry fee plus event fees for USMS Championships. Agreed by consensus. Ellen Hall will check with USMS National office, newly located in Sarasota Florida, about placing extra copies of Swim Magazine in SMS area libraries and athletic clubs with pools.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Holmes, Secretary