

Minutes of the October 20, 2015 SMS board conference call

Chris Frederic, chair, started the conference call with the following people at 8.08 PM: Pat Arnold,

Sanctions Chair, Doug Holmes, Secretary/Co-Editor, Rob Cambias, Treasurer, Vicki Buccino,

Top Ten Records Chair, Chris Frederic, 2014 Chair and Officials Chair. Ellen Hall, Vice Chair, Doug Kopp, Registrar, Ann Hill, recently appointed Newsletter Chair, & Mia Erickson Stevens, recently appointed Open Water and Long Distance Chair. Absent: Barbara Aguirre, Mississippi board member-at-large Nan Fontenot, Communications Chair and Coaches Chair, Doug Kopp, Registrar.

Chris welcomed everyone and introduced our two new Board members:

- Ann Hill is our Newsletter Committee Chair and Lane Lines Editor. Ann swam several years ago and achieved several Top Ten times. She is back in the water at Crawfish Masters. She brings such a great attitude to the pool everyday, and is so encouraging to all those who swim with her. She will work with Doug Holmes on the first couple of Lane Lines as part of the transition to Editor. It is great to have her on our Board.
- Mia Erickson Stevens is our Open Water and Long Distance Committee Chair. Mia is coach at Crossgates swim club, and swims when she can. Mia has increased membership in her club and is a great motivator. I am glad to have Mia's enthusiasm on our Board.

Please welcome both ladies to the Board, and give them your support as they take on their new assignments and bring fresh energy and enthusiasm to our Board. She stated that she has already notified the national office of these changes so they will be listed on the USMS national website. Chris gave a quick Chairman's report with mention of swim meets this year and some direction for the next year.

SMS Board Meeting Agenda

- 2015 Swim Clinic Summary
- 2015 USAS Convention Report
- SCM Meet Assignments (below)
- 2016 Budget (attached)
- Website status
- Coaches clinic scholarships (establish policy for LMSC)
- 2016 Annual Meeting date and notice requirements (this year includes BOD elections)
- New national pool and open water sanction fees
- Upcoming swim meets (below)

Chris reported that non-payment of fees to Club Assistant was addressed by Rob Cambias, and that our website is back up and running. Our agreement with Club Assistant is for approximately \$ 270 per year to maintain the website. handle USMS registrations and \$50 per hour for web services, provide for online vs paper registrations to SMS Championships at B.R. but not one day meets or clinics and provide email lists to contact SMS members, send them entry forms and Lane Lines, and provide us with address lists of swim club members, coaches. To access this data go through Doug Kopp, our Registrar triguy2221@gmail.com.

Her emphasis for 2016 will be to promote masters swimming in Mississippi, get more Mississippi masters and first time La. masters to SMS Championship meets. With the appointment of Mia Erickson Stevens as the Open Water and Long Distance Chair, we are hoping to increase participation in open water and long distance

events. We may not be ready to host an open water event in 2016, but we can increase interest and participation in advance of possibly hosting such an event in 2017.

SMS hopes to have more one day SMS swim meets in La. and Ms. and a third annual swim clinic. Doug Holmes, secretary, posted the Minutes of the 2015 Annual meeting on the web site under "Administration" where these conference call minutes will be posted after distribution to SMS BOD.

Chris reported that the swim clinic held on August 24 at Crawfish Aquatics was a huge success. Total out of pocket expenses for SMS were \$2338.34, just under the \$2500 budget. A total of 43 swimmers attended the swim clinic, with 12 attending the video clinic. Due to a last minute maintenance activity scheduled by Jimmy Swaggart Ministries, we had to post-poner the video clinic until Friday August 28. Several swimmers who were planning to come to Baton Rouge early, had to cancel from the video clinic, or our numbers would have been higher. The team of Tom & Carolyn Boak and Ross & Laura Davis did a fantastic job of teaching us strokes and kicking. If you didn't learn something from the clinic you weren't paying attention. The heater on the pool broke so the coaches made an adjustment in the teaching method, but it worked out in the end. The video clinic gave us a chance to test out how well we were able to use our new techniques.

Doug reported that he and Chris were SMS delegates the 2015 USMS National Convention in

Kansas City, Mo. He attended committee meetings on competitions, rules, insurance, and both attended the

Dixie Zone meeting and six Delegate's meeting where the proposals, budget, reports, and general business was voted on. Chris attended meetings on LMSC Development (2 sessions), Coaches, and Officials. One of the suggestions from the LMSC Development committee was to have contracts or agreements in place for volunteers. This is a very good idea, especially for volunteers who provide critical services, such as safety personnel and life guards in open water events. This agreement can set expectations and can also identify a back-up plan in case the volunteers don't show up. It makes even more sense to have these if we pay for any of these services. The recommendation is a simple contract/agreement. In addition, we learned that all swim meets must have at least 2 officials. Only one – the referee – has to be certified, but a second person must serve as a starter and stroke & turn judge. It is recommended that all officials be certified, but allowances are made in those cases where certified officials are not available. Chris reported that she has made contact with Jimmie Jones, the Louisiana Swimming Officials Rep to get masters meets put onto the Officials calendar in the hopes of recruiting more officials. Our SCM meet at UNO in December will have the required officials present (Orlene Rykoski and Chris Frederic). Due to the higher cost for insuring open water events, the House of Delegates voted in a new pool sanction fee of \$50 per sanctioned pool event. This covers all swim meets and long-distance events in a pool. The National meets surcharge will go up \$5 per person as well. There is also a new open water sanction fee of \$300 per event plus \$5 per participant up to a maximum of \$1000. Sanction fees are to be collected by LMSCs and forwarded to the National office. The Board discussed how Southern Masters will get these fees. We can either pass part or all of the sanction fee onto the team sponsoring a meet, or the Board can cover the cost of the fees. There is a \$3000 fund in USMS for reimbursement of fees, but I wasn't able to check on the criteria.

Ellen moved that the SMS Board cover the cost of SMS pool sanction fees. Seconded by Pat. Motion approved.

Doug Kopp was unavailable but submitted his 2014 Registration Report at the annual meeting in March, 2015. SMS BODs voted by email to keep the same SMS share of \$11 for 2016 and accept Option 1 of reduced SMS share of \$7 for Sept-Dec. 2015.

USMS annual dues for Nov.2015 to Dec 31, 2016

USMS Portion = \$ 39

SMS Portion = \$11

Total 2015 dues = \$50

Option 1 Sept-Dec. 2015

USMS Portion = \$25

SMS Portion = \$ 7

Total Fee = \$32

Chris included another SMS Swim Clinic in 2016 with about \$2500 being supplemented from SMS funds. Chris will organize clinic for a possible August date at the Crawfish Aquatic facilities, using another outstanding instructor.

Rob Cambias reported SMS remained financially sound with about \$31,700 in the checking account. Checking balance is up \$700 since the first of the year due to SMS's \$11

share of the \$48 USMS dues. The reduction of SMS spending was due to the fact that

Crawfish Aquatics at the SCY Championships and the SMS LCM Championships in

Thibodeaux handled the income and expenses with only Top Ten Awards, ribbons, lunch and special awards charged to SMS.

Budget for SMS in 20016		Budget
SMS 2016 Income		
Annual Dues	800 members X \$11	\$8,800
UNO SCM Entry Fees	\$40 X40 swimmers	\$1,600
Total Income		\$10,400
SMS 2016 Expenses		
SCY Meet 2016- B.R.	Lunch, Awards, etc. [Top Ten awards below]	\$500
LCM Meet 2016 (location TBD)	Lunch	\$500

SCM Meet 2016	UNO Arena Rental	\$800
	Timer / Director	\$400
	Referee / Starter / S & T	\$350
	Catered Lunch	\$300
	Extra Food and Drink [Ellen/Janice]	\$150
Swim Clinic		\$2,500
USAS Convention Delegates	3 Delegates if SMS membership > 800	\$3000
Coach/National Meet Incentive and coaches certification		\$1,000
Club Assistant & Ad Expense		\$1,000
Top Ten Awards etc	Given at SCY meet - BR	\$500
Timers & counters		\$300
Sanction Fees	4 meets X \$50/meet	\$200
Total Expenses		\$11500
Net Income (Loss)		(\$1100)

Doug Holmes asked if there were any other meets to put on the **SMS/Dixie Zone/USMS calendar**. Chris stated that she and Nan Fontenot received the invitation to the Texas South Central Zones LCM Champtionships next summer at Texas A&M University. This is a very fast pool and a great alternative to summer nationals if you want to stay close to home. Chris heard a rumor at Convention that Bruce from Texas might be attending our SCM meet at UNO to promote this meet. Chris responded by sending our SCM meet invitation to Texas.

9/15-11/15 USMS 3000/6000 YD Postal National Championships

Nov 7-8 / SCM: 2015 November Classic, CISD Natatorium, Shenandoah, TX (hosted by The Woodlands Masters Swim Team)

Dec 5-6/ SCM: SMS Championships, UNO Arena, NOLA

Dec 13-14/ SCM: Dixie Zone Championships, Atlanta, Ga.

Feb 2016 One Hour SCY National Postal Swim

Feb 13-14 2016/ SCY: Auburn Masters Invitational, Auburn, Ala.

Sun. Feb 2/28 2016 G. N.O. Senior SCY Olympics 50+ USMS Recognized, UNO Arena

March 12-13 2016/ SCY: Crawfish SCY Championships, Baton Rouge, La

Apr 28-May1/ SCY: USMS Spring Championships, Greensboro, NC

May 15-Aug 15 2016/ LCM/ 5K/10K Postal National Championships

May 2016 Ospery Open Water Swim Ocean Springs, Ms

Poss. May ??/ 5K: Pensacola Fl. Bridge Open Water (also 1 mi., 10K & 25K)

June 2016/ LCM: SMS LCM Championships in Thibadeaux, La.

Jul 21-24/ SCM: USA Masters Games Swim Meet, Greensboro, NC

Jul 29-31/LCM: Texas South Zone Championships, College Station, Tx

Sept 2016/SCY Louisiana Senior Olympic Games Swim 50+ USMS recognized, TBA

Sat. Sept 2016/ SCY: Pelican Athletic Club Masters Meet, Mandeville, La

Sun Oct ?/ SCY: October Splash, Fairhope, Ala

Dec 4-5 2016/ SCM: SMS SCM Championship, UNO Arena, NOLA

Chris asked for the following help from SMS board members, and gave out assignments for the 2015 SCM Meet at UNO Dec 5-6.

- Meet Director – John Roth
- Calendar in *Lane Lines* - Doug Holmes
- Article in *Lane Lines* promoting SCM meet- Doug Holmes
- E-mails to Coaches, SMS Members - Doug Kopp
- Fruits/Drinks - Ellen/Janice
- Lunch - Ellen w/ board members bringing dessert
- Referee and Starter – Chris and Orlene
- Timers & Lap Counters – Rob will try to get some Mt. Carmel timers and Ellen some Tulane timers.
- Ribbons - Chris
- Pool Measurements & Payments – Rob, but Ellen will bring tape
- Greeting: SMS board Sat and Sun 10 minutes before warm ups
- Welcome, Announcements - Chris
- Warm-up Music, national anthem – Rob/Janice

Jackson, MS is hosting a coaching clinic on Nov 14. Cost is \$180 for Level 1 & 2 certification, and \$100 for Level 1 or Level 2 certification. Questions have come up about SMS offering scholarships to our coaches to increase certification, and two coaches have asked specifically about scholarships

for this class. As a certified coach, Chris Frederic stated that the classes are well-run and were a great help in her coaching skills. Mia Erickson was a scholarship recipient for Level 1 & 2 last Spring. Mia said she and 30 from her team swam last May in Osprey O. W. Swim and she will be working to promote an O. W. Swim during a nearby triathlon. Chris asked for any thoughts on requirements for scholarships.

Doug Holmes moved that SMS offer to cover the \$180 registration cost of Level 1 & 2 certification classes for SMS master swim coaches who have had recent USMS on-deck experience, are willing to promote SMS/USMS events, and submit a request stating their experience and team/personal goals to Nan Fonenot who will approve those who qualify and notify Treasurer to send checks. Pat seconded the motion. Motion passed. Chris will pass these new requirements on to the two coaches who have requested scholarships for Jackson.

Chris noted that the during the 2016 annual meeting will be held on the Saturday, March 12 at the Crawfish SCY championship meet. It is time to hold elections for Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and convention delegates. All existing members are willing to continue in their same roles for the next 2-year period. We also need to elect Convention delegates. Doug Holmes has attended Convention for the last few years, and stresses this as a great opportunity for other Board members to become more knowledgeable and active in SMS leadership. Convention is usually the last weekend in September. It is a great opportunity to participate in the running of USMS, to meet other volunteers, and to learn more about how this organization operates. Chris opened the call up for nominations. Vicky moved to submit the people listed below for election by the membership. Motion passed. Elections will be held at the annual meeting in March 2016.

Chairman – Chris Frederic

Secretary – Doug Holmes

Treasurer – Rob Cambias

Registrar – Doug Kopp

Convention Delegates – Chris Frederic, Mia Ericson, and Ann Hill with Rob and Doug as alternates.

This ballot will be presented to the general membership during our annual meeting on March 12, 2016.

Conference call adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Holmes, SMS Secretary

