

Gulf LMSC Meeting
Wednesday, July 31, 2019
Brenda and John Duncan YMCA

Attendance:

Kevin Lunsford (Vice Chair & Sanctions), Mark Hahn (Treasurer), Karlene Denby (Secretary, Newsletter, Long Distance), Bruce Rollins (Coaches), Nicole Christensen (Webmaster), Bruce Williams (Registrar), Stacey Eicks (Top Ten Recorder), Linda Visser (COOG), Jimmy Durham (SWYM), Andreas Lorenz (DADS), Steve White (WMST)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:57 p.m. at Brenda and John Duncan YMCA.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

MSA for approval of the minutes as submitted from the Gulf LMSC meeting of May 15, 2019.

Officers' Reports

- Chairman (Kris Wingenroth, not present): no report
- Vice Chair (Kevin Lunsford): no report
- Secretary (Karlene Denby): no report.
- Treasurer (Mark Hahn): The ending cash balance as of June 30, 2019 is \$21,006.84 plus \$30,000 in certificates of deposit for a total of \$51,006.84. The one major expense incurred since the last meeting was the \$1,000 donation to the Duncan YMCA in appreciation for providing the Gulf meeting venue. Convention delegates are starting to submit expenses incurred for the upcoming convention.
- Registrar (Bruce Williams): As of July 31, 2019, 1,103 members have registered for 2019. A comparison of members from July 31, 2018 (1,192) vs. July 31, 2019 (1,103), shows a deficit of 89 members. There are currently 29 registered clubs for 2019 vs. 31 registered clubs in 2018. The number of self-identified coaches for 2019 is 101 vs. 111 self-identified coaches in 2018. The year-to-year decrease in registration is a trend that is occurring within USMS nationwide.

Committee Reports

- Sanction Chair (Kevin Lunsford): The Texas Senior Circuit Meet #2, held at Texas A&M, was dual sanctioned (USAS and USMS). The Summer Sizzler Meet was sanctioned.
- Top Ten (Stacey Eicks): Times for the Summer Head Start Meet, the Summer Sizzler Meet, and the South Central Zone Championship Meet

have been submitted to USMS. The Speedo Sectional Meet, held at UT-Austin, was recognized by the Gulf LMSC and the times were submitted to USMS by Stacey, as the South Texas LMSC Top Ten administrator was out of the country. Stacey has also submitted the times for the Senior Circuit #2 Meet but is still awaiting pool measurement verification from Texas A&M.

- Webmaster (Nicole Christensen): Nicole is hopeful that members will have bookmarked the new website prior to the termination of the old domain next spring. Multiple reminders of the change will be provided to the membership over the next several months, via the website, newsletters, and email blasts. Nicole is always looking for submission of new content for the website. She will be updating the Zone record pages on the website when she receives that information from Bruce Rollins.
- Communications (Karlene Denby): Karlene is currently working on the summer edition of the Gulf newsletter, which is scheduled for distribution in August. Items in the newsletter will include: Dad's Club as the featured team, the Jesse Coon Award winner, results from USMS Summer Nationals, the quarterly nutrition article, information about the upcoming Swim Across America pool event at Dad's Club, the 2019 USMS SCY Top Ten Gulf swimmers, a tribute to Graham Johnston, the announcement of the next Gulf meeting, a reminder about nominee submissions for the 2019 Emmett Hines Award, and a reminder about the website domain change.
- Coaches (Bruce Rollins): All of the all-time individual Zone records have been updated. This was a very time-consuming process to complete.
- Officials (Herb Schwab, not present): No report.
- Fitness (Robin Tompkins, not present): No report. Stacey distributed most of the Gulf Swim University t-shirts at the Texas A&M Zone Meet. Those that she was unable to distribute have been returned to Robin to mail out to the swimmers.
- Open Water (Karlene Denby): No report.

Unfinished Business

- Emmett Hines Award –The wording for the inaugural award has been revised slightly since it is being presented to Emmett. The revised wording has been run past and approved by Kris. *“USMS Logo/2018 Emmett Hines Award/Gulf Masters Swimming presents the inaugural award to: EMMETT HINES for setting the paradigm for enthusiasm, expertise, and advocacy of Masters Swimming in the Gulf swimming community”*. MSA to approve wording. Karlene will order the award and have it in time for the next Gulf LMSC meeting for presentation to Emmett's widow, Peggy. It was suggested that Peggy be invited to present the 2019 award at the annual meeting and at future award presentations.
- Laser for pool measurement – Nicole has purchased and has been reimbursed for the new laser measurement device. It is currently at her

home. A procedure for the check-out and return of the laser is needed. Nicole has offered to write an initial draft of the procedure, and will submit it to the leadership for revisions and/or approval. MSA to require a deposit check of \$280 to check out the laser. Upon return of the laser in good condition within a designated time frame, the uncashed check will be destroyed or voided and returned.

New Business

- Coordinating meet dates with other LMSCs: In an attempt to improve meet attendance, a discussion ensued about coordinating meet dates with adjacent LMSCs in order to minimize conflicts. It was asked if this had been attempted in the past, and if it achieved the desired results. There was also discussion about trying different meet formats (pentathlon meet, relay meet, distance event meet) in order to spark interest among the membership. It was agreed that coaches need to promote meets and encourage swimmers to enter meets.
- Convention Topics:
 - Legislative Item 2 – reducing the unattached time for club transfers from 60 days to 30 days. There was a discussion about the pros and cons of this proposal. There was concern that it would encourage more “team hopping” and might create more work and problems for the LMSC registrars.
 - Budget Items: A very lively discussion was held regarding the USMS push for a nationwide registration fee of \$60, which would eliminate the differing LMSC fees. Concerns were expressed about (1) loss of local control in determining LMSC needs and fees, (2) future membership increases beyond \$60, (3) the loss of members if the dues continue to increase, and (4) what benefits are being provided to the members, especially the fitness swimmers, for the additional fees. USMS says a unified fee is necessary to allow 365-day registration vs. calendar-year registration. This assertion was met with skepticism by some, as it was felt that computer code could be written that would address this and still allow different LMSC fees. While this proposal is not being voted on at this year’s convention, it will be a major area of discussion.
- Discussion of Gulf LMSC fees for 2020 – this was tabled until the next meeting.
- Status report on Swim Across America (SAA) at DADS club pool: Bruce Rollins has secured a date for the event on Sunday, October 20th. The date has been conveyed to the SAA National Office. We are attempting to set up a conference call between SAA Pool Event Coordinator, Craig Beardsley, Bruce Rollins, and Karlene to get the event finalized and then promoted on the SAA website.
- Report on the Summer Head Start Meet: Stacey reported that the meet had 56 swimmers this year. This is not an annual event and attendance

has varied when it is held. There were 76 swimmers at the 2016 event, and 56 swimmers at the 2012 event.

- Report on the Summer Sizzler Meet: Nicole provided a written report. The meet attendance suffered because: (1) the meet was not held in 2018, and (2) meet information was publicized only one month in advance due to delays in receiving new pool measurements from the engineer. The meet had 46 swimmers entered in 178 individual events. There was one world record set. Limiting meet costs allowed the event to break even.
- Report on the South Central Zone Championship Meet: Nicole provided a very detailed written summary. The meet had 266 swimmers entered in 1,655 individual events and 122 relay events. Fourteen different LMSCs and two foreign countries were represented. There were eight world records, 11 national records, and 115 meet records. The Saturday night social at BJ's Brewery had over 80 attendees. Nicole is awaiting the invoice from the Texas A&M Natatorium. Once all the necessary information is received, she will submit a P&L report.
- The one-event registration fee amount needs to be recorded in the minutes: For the record, the one-event registration fee is \$30. Swimmers competing under a one-event registration are not eligible for Top Ten consideration or High Point Awards at meets. This information will also be posted on the Gulf website.
- **USMS National Convention – Sept. 11 – 15, 2019, St. Louis, Hyatt Regency at the Arch**
Automatic delegate status: Tom Boak, Carolyn Boak, Kris Wingenroth, Bruce Rollins
Gulf Delegates: Kevin Lunsford, Nicole Christensen, Stacey Eicks, and Steve White as an at-large delegate.
Attendees are reminded to register and make travel arrangements.

Updated 2019 Calendar of Events

- USMS Summer National Championship, Mission Viejo, CA – August 7-11
- FINA World Masters Championship, Gwangju, Korea – August 9-18
- USMS National Convention, Hyatt Regency at the Arch, St. Louis, MO – September 11-15
- FCST “First Time for Everything” Meet, Lamar Consolidated ISD Natatorium – September 27 or 28 (TBA)
- WMST November Classic SCM Meet, Conroe ISD Natatorium – Nov. 9-10

Next Meeting – The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at Fuzzy's Pizza & Café, 823 Antoine Drive, Houston, TX 77024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karlene Denby, Secretary