

**NC LMSC Meeting  
March 2, 2009 – 8:00 PM  
Phone Conference  
Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Jerry Clark - Chairman, Ruth Battle – Vice Chair, Greta van Meeteren – Secretary, George Simon – Registrar, Joe Gosha – Previous Chairman and Newsletter Editor, Andrea Stevens - team rep. for DAMA, Kate Hawley – team rep. for RAM, Mark Doyle – team rep. for TRYM.

**1. Opening statement**

Jerry welcomes everyone and provides meeting attendants with some information on the reasons for this particular board meeting.

**2. Roll call**

Greta took names of the attendees.

**3. Registrar's Report**

As of the end of February 2009, the LMSC has 851 registered swimmers; this is an increase of 22% compared to 696 registered swimmers at the end of February 2008. October 31, 2008, saw our highest number of members at 961 swimmers. George compared these numbers with past years, and if the trend holds, the LMSC should have 1000 members by the end of June.

This year, 87% of our members registered online. The Officers chose this year to mail cards to only those registering online who requested paper cards, and all paper registrations. 45.9% of swimmers registering online requested cards. A total of 53.2% of our members received cards by mail.

Members have the choice to request their newsletter to be printed and mailed to them, 184 members have requested hard copies, or 21.6% - the default for anyone not indicating their choice is to receive notice of the newsletter's availability online via email.

Mailing the newsletter is one of the major expenses of the LMCS. It has turned out that using bulk mail is as expensive for this amount of newsletters as is first class mailing. The added advantage of mailing the letters first class is that George would receive non-deliverable newsletters back, so that he is aware that an address has changed. Not everyone remembers to inform the LMSC if they are moving.

There are 28 workout groups in the North Carolina Masters Swimming Club with at least 1 member; the largest is SwimMac in Charlotte, with 140 swimmers. 10 of the workout groups have fewer than 4 members. A current list of members can be found on the website by viewing the members link.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

Since our treasurer was unable to attend the call, Jerry gave the treasurer's report:

The LMSC currently has \$11,640.51 in the checking account, and \$ 6,591.97 in a money market account (CD). The total amount of money currently in the accounts is: \$19,232.48.

Registration is normally at its highest from November through January. This is why we have these monies at this time. The budget shows \$35.00 per registration. \$25.00 of this will go to USMS, \$10.00 is for NCMS.

Our biggest expenses are the convention costs and the newsletter.

The projected income for 2009 is \$18,610 and the projected expenses: \$16,325. The year-end surplus would be \$2,285.

Jerry requests ideas for small gifts to our members – the previous idea of buying training DVDs is not feasible because of the cost of these DVDs.

## **5. Bylaw Changes**

All attendees had received a copy of the proposed bylaw changes. Jerry explained the reasoning behind these proposed changes:

- Over the past dozen or so years, team representatives have done little or no work and/or shown no interest in participating in the LMSC's business.
- Telephone calls, Emails, proxies, etc., have largely been ignored.
- The LMSC would be best served if a smaller group of interested people would manage it. It is vital to have board members who are genuinely interested in seeing more activities for our NC swimmers and who want to see the membership grow. This group should be as geographically diverse as possible.
- The continuous change of team representatives makes it very difficult to keep track of them.

There was discussion about the danger of excluding interested people from having a vote in matters of importance. This is very clearly not the intention of the board. Also, the bylaw changes are not just done as a matter of convenience.

The board will still announce its meetings to the entire LMSC well in advance, and anyone interested would be welcome to join the meeting.

It is, however, important to have the board be active and grow the LMSC's program and membership, and the thinking at this point is that the LMSC would be better served if it is not too cumbersome for the board members to meet either in person or via phone conferences.

After some more discussion Greta made a motion to accept the proposed bylaws, and Joe seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously.

A separate meeting will be held soon (within several weeks) to appoint the three at-large members. Everyone attending was requested to think about candidates and we will try to get as large a diversity as possible.

Jerry will work more on the rotation schedule for board members, and he and Greta will work on the final version of the bylaws, so all of this can be sent out to the board members as soon as possible.

The board would like to have a large person-to-person meeting in the fall, perhaps in Greensboro, to discuss important matters for the LMSC. Membership would be invited.

## **6. Other Business**

Jerry discussed the problems we are having getting the top 10 times and records sent to the appropriate person at USMS. Since a RAM member previously did this work, George and Kate will look into this matter.

Jerry encourages everyone to attend the Long Course Nationals in Indianapolis.

Discussion took place about the possibility of in-state long course and short course meters meets. Finding suitable and available locations for these events and willing organizers will be one of the jobs this board will take on soon.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Greta van Meeteren  
Secretary.*