

SPMS Monthly Conference Call Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday, February 9, 2019

Meeting Called to Order: 2:10 PM PDT

Facilitator: Mare Moore (Chair)

Recorder: Becky Cleavenger for Deborah Hefter (Secretary)

Attendees:

Chair – Mark Moore (Mission Viejo Masters); Vice Chair & Meet Operations Chair – Ken Brisbin (Long Beach Grunions); Member at Large & Awards – Becky Cleavenger (Conejo Valley Masters); Registrar & Webmaster – Dan Wegner (Las Vegas Masters); Top Ten Recorder – David Johannsen (Santa Barbara Masters); Coaches Chair – Jeff Taylor (Mission Viejo Masters); History & Archives Chair – Robert Mitchell (Las Vegas Masters); Open Water Chair – Robin Smith (Novaquatics Masters); Program Development Chair – Anita Cole (Long Beach Grunions); Diana Dolan LaMar (Las Vegas Masters)
Nancy Kirkpatrick Reno (Conejo Valley Masters); Karin Wegner (Las Vegas Masters); Chad Durieux (Rose Bowl Masters)

Agenda:

Chair's Topic Discussion (Mark Moore)

- Mark welcomed all attendees to the meeting.
- Mark discussed his vision for future meetings, specifically annual meetings. Would like to see more recognition of long-time members, outstanding achievements by swimmers, etc. Need to figure out logistics and budget for additional attendees.
- Kenny Brisbin and Mark going to Phoenix early March. Will report back.
- 2019 Budget: Plan to start earlier, will have Bob Eberwine send out the template and we'll start working on the budget in June and aim to approve it in September.
- Rules/Legislation Proposals are due in June. Need to start working on our proposals in March. Dan Wegner and David Johannsen both will help.
- USAS Convention is in St. Louis. Reserve rooms now – Hyatt Regency St. Louis Arch. USMS rate code is on the USMS website.
- Awards Committee Review/Projects
- Ransom J. Arthur Award (deadline March 15)
- Dorothy Donnelly Award (deadline July 1)
- COY Award (deadline July 1)
- Robin Smith raised establishing the Lynn Kubasek Memorial Open Water Award to honor swimmers with exceptional open water achievements. The current award will remain a service award. The attendees agreed this is a good idea; Robin and Becky Cleavenger to work on wording to align with all our other awards.

Coaches Committee Review/Projects - Fall Clinic (Jeff Taylor)

- Jeff asked the attendees what they'd like to see in a clinic. Jeff said he'd like to see a clinic on how to best use the available workout time for those who have a very limited amount of time to practice and attend meets.
- Attendees discussed about who the audience is: coaches, or coaches and swimmers.
- Robin Smith said USRPT designed for masters swimmers was a past topic and well received. Glen Gruber was a presenter and did a great job.

- Also discussed was holding a technique clinic as is used with elite swimmers and presented by high performance instructors who work with USAS.
- Vic from Las Vegas Masters also gives a good presentation on training techniques.
- Jeff to work with Dan Wegner and Kenny Brisbin to develop a survey which will go coaches to determine what they're most interested in.

Meet Operations Committee Review and Discussion (Kenny Brisbin)

- Kenny is doing a full revamp of what is listed on SPMS website, eg, meet host guidelines.
- Kenny is working on developing admin training for meet hosts, which would be beneficial so that Top 10 can be submitted in a consistent format.
- David Johannsen said there are a lot of SPMS records that are not credited as USMS records. For example, 3 relays swum at the 2017 SPMS SCM championships are not recorded as USMS records. Requirements for age verification have changed at the national level, but we don't know when; proof of age is required, cannot use a driver license anymore.
- David raised the USMS rule allowing changing relay age groups after entry (substitutions are allowed up to moment of swim and it does not say "unless the age group changes"); apparently it is allowed except at national meets. Need to decide whether we will allow age group changes at SPMS meets. Robert Mitchell said in order for it to be a DQ, the meet referee needs to DQ it at the meet. Non-judgement calls (eg rule violations) can be corrected by the meet committee after the meet if we have a rule in place prior.

Club Development Review/Projects (Anita Cole)

- Anita said her primary goal is to get everyone to renew their USMS membership, not lose members, and find out why people are not renewing. She strongly encourages each club to name a membership contact so that swimmers without current memberships can register right there on deck.
- Benefits for members – doing a survey to find out what new members want.
- Would like to see a highly visible "donate" button on the USMS website. If it's there, Anita cannot find it. Anita working with Bob to explore. The only way to donate currently is to Swimming Saves Lives.
- We have fitness events coming up. Anita encouraged everyone to get involved in the April Adults Learn to Swim (ALTS) program. Christine Maki and SilverPeak Masters have received ALTS grants. SCCPOA meeting – Mark recommended that we send out an ALTS instructor (Kenny or Chad) to give a presentation.

Officials Committee Review/Projects

- Diana Dolan LaMar said there are 24 applications so far for Nationals in Mesa. USMS would like to have masters swimmers officiate masters meets. Mesa needs lots of officials. Anything helps – even officiating ½ day.
- FINA sent an official application to USMS asking for officials to go to Korea.

Open Water Review/Projects (Robin Smith)

- Officials project – Robin and Alina DeArmas are working to get more certified USMS open water officials. Recommending to meet directors to get USAS certified officials to also get USAM certified.

- Open Water Clinics: Mike Collins and Nancy Kirkpatrick Reno have agreed to be head coaches for their geographies. A 2-day clinic likely in Seal Beach is planned. Day 1: 2 hours in pool; Day 2 2 hours in open water. Evaluating permitting and cost.
- Hosts – planning and sanctioning. Working on host handbook. Working with Dan Wegner to revamp the website open water pages.
- Trying to drum up more interest via sharing training tips monthly.

Other Business

- Deadline for newsletter is February 15th. Get your articles in ASAP.
- Robert Mitchell indicated subcommittees should be taking minutes and recording them on the website. Conference calls for subcommittee meetings should also be posted on the website in advance. Awards and Coaches subcommittee meetings should be posted in advance, but are closed meetings, and minutes should be simple, eg, discussed the Dorothy Donnelley Award.
- Nancy Kirkpatrick Reno said she feels coaches who pay the additional \$30 upon USMS registration should be reimbursed for that. The attendees discussed whether this would be limited to the head coach, or all club coaches who meet the meeting attendance requirement. This will be raised at a future meeting where we can vote.
- Jeff Taylor recommended pulling together a subcommittee to discuss the reimbursement policy for meeting attendance. Should the annual meeting and face to face meetings count towards the 50%+1 meeting attendance requirement? Chair will convene a subcommittee to discuss this and the issue raised by Nancy.
- Dan Wegner is working on programming an app for push notifications about various topics that members could sign up for, eg, SPMS meeting reminders, updates regarding a specific meet, a team's pool is closed, etc. There was significant interest in such an app and its capabilities.
- Dan Wegner produced an app called SwimShare currently available to gmail email addresses allowing users to record, modify, store, and share workouts. Dan encouraged us to use the app and provide feedback on desired features and how they could benefit SPMS and even USMS.
- Kenny Brisbin said swimmers are complaining about the current process whereby registration for all meets close Wednesday prior to the meet to allow admin time to verify USMS information prior to meet day. Diana Dolan LaMar mentioned that in San Diego, one can register online until very shortly before the meet begins. Robert Mitchell said with the current process, there is a blackout from 6 pm Wednesday until 12:01 on meet day. He doesn't see a benefit to this blackout period. Kenny said less experienced meet directors may need that blackout period.
- Mark Moore asked the committees to review website and identify areas for improvement.

July Face to Face Meeting

- Sunday, July 7 – Mission Viejo