



SPMS Face-to-Face Planning Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday February 10, 2018

Location: Rose Bowl Aquatic Center, 360 N Arroyo Blvd, Pasadena, CA 91103

Meeting Called to Order: 1:30 PM PST

Facilitator: Mark Moore (Chair)

Recorder: Deborah Hefter (Secretary)

Attendees:

Chair – Mark Moore (Mission Viejo Masters); Vice Chair & Meet Operations Chair – Ken Brisbin (Long Beach Grunions); Treasurer – Bob Eberwine (South Bay Swim Team); Secretary – Deborah Hefter (Southwest Aquatic Masters); Member at Large – Becky Cleavenger (Conejo Valley Masters); Registrar & Webmaster – Dan Wegner (Las Vegas Masters); Coaches Chair – Jeffrey Taylor (Mission Viejo Masters); Open Water Chair – Robin Smith (Novaquatics Masters); Officials Chair – Alina Perez de Armas (Official); Sports Medicine Chair – Arlette Godges (Conejo Valley Masters); Virgil Chancy (Official); Chad Durieux (Rose Bowl Masters); Michael Heather (Mission Viejo Masters); Robert Mitchell (Las Vegas Masters); Nancy Kirkpatrick-Reno (Conejo Valley Masters); Karin Wegner (Las Vegas Masters);

AGENDA:

Chair's Topics and Discussion

- The Financial Operating Guidelines (FOG) Subcommittee (Robin Smith, Kim Thornton and Mark Moore) will work to finalize the current draft FOG document for policies and procedures.
- 2019 budget planning will begin in June/July and will be finalized in November. Committee chairs should think about what programs they would like to fund and how they will utilize money. Committee chairs should ask volunteers to help with projects, include a note in the newsletter.
- Recent proposed changes to USMS rules and legislation will be sent 2 weeks before March conference call; all proposals contain detailed rationale.
- Current SPMS members serving on USMS committees: Robin Smith – Long Distance; Kenny Brisbon – Coaches; Mark Moore – Championships; Virgil Chancy – Officials & Diversity; Arlette Godges – Sports Medicine; Dan Wegner – Legislation & Elections; Karin Wegner- Fitness; Alina Perez de Armas – Officials; Michael Heather – Governance. Additional SPMS members also on USMS committees include: Sherry Brooks – Open Water; Anita Cole – Fitness; Omar de Armas – Officials; Brandon Franklin – Swimming Saves Lives; Mary Hull – LMSC Development; Jessica Seaton – Rules & Sports Medicine; Kim Thornton – Registration & Records & Tabulations.
- Mark has put together a taskforce for History and Achieves (Robert Mitchell, Michael Heather and Lucy Johnson) to create a history of SPMS. They will work with Awards Committee to recognize achievements of SPMS members.
- Mark handed out USMS position descriptions to Officers and Committee Chairs. They should provide feedback to Mark by March 10th. We currently do not have a Safety Chair (this is the responsibility of Sanctions), a Communications Chair (role completed by President, Secretary and Newsletter) or a Fitness Chair (Vacant Seat - Robin will review description).

Awards Committee Review/Projects

- Mark Moore and Becky Cleavenger working on SPMS nominations for USMS awards. These include the Ransom J. Arthur Award (awarded at SCY Nationals) and the Dorothy Donnelly Award (awarded at Convention). Nominations for the USMS Coach of the Year (COY) Award (awarded at Convention) come from the SPMS Coaches Chair.



Coaches Committee Review/Projects

- Mark introduced new Coaches Chair, Jeffrey Taylor. Jeffrey has coached High School, Age Group and Masters teams since the 1980's. He is a contributor to the newsletter, Where's the Fun with Jeff.
- Jeffrey will work with Christine Maki on the SPMS nominations for the USMS COY Award.
- Jeffrey would like clinics to focus on running meets & teams and help coaches develop a business mindset.

Meet Operations Committee Review & Discussion

- Automatic Splits at Regional/Zone meets can be set up ahead of time through Meet Manager.
- Swimmers are asking for preliminary meet forms that include events. Kenny will accept meet forms by last quarter and sanctioning information can be submitted later.
- Every relay and individual event should be offered before championships, so swimmers are given an opportunity to swim all events before Regionals/Nationals. Dan can create a form for Kenny to see what events have not been offered.
- Voting for Regionals at November face-to-face meeting.
- Ideas for Regionals: Alternate days for the 200 free relay and 200 medley relay each year; Offer both the 1650 & 1000 on Friday and swimmers can pick one, if they would like to do both they will have to wait until everyone has completed one event, or offer alternative date and locations to do distance events to shorten Regionals.

Club Development Review/Projects

- Membership down in our LMSC by 8% and nationwide by 7%.
- USMS should consider working with insurance companies to offer deals (similar to Fit Bit or gym programs).
- Pilot test Webinar Virtual Clinics.

Officials Committee Review/Projects

- Committee is developing training materials for officials, working on recruiting more Officials and engagement with swimmers.
- SPMS will survey members thru Survey Monkey to understand opinions towards Officials.
- Introduce Officials at meets to make them more approachable.

Open Water Review/Projects

- There are currently only 5 races on the calendar. There was discussion regarding the challenges of sanctioning open water events with USMS due to competing organizations (USA Triathlon and World Open Water Swimming Association).
- Create open water guidelines for hosts (similar to current meet guidelines) to encourage more sanctioned open water events.
- USMS offers rebates to LMSCs for open water sanctions.

**Next conference call meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 15 2018 at 7:30 PM PST.
Next meeting is face-to-face at Mission Viejo on Sunday, July 15 (Time - TBD).**

Meeting Adjourned: 2:58 PM PST