

Pacific Northwest Association of Masters Swimmers

Minutes: April 6, 2013

I Warm Up

A. Call to Order & Introductions. The PNA Board held a meeting and mini-retreat at 9:00 AM on April 6, 2013, in a conference room at Timber Ridge at Issaquah (*Thanks, Sally, for the hospitality and snacks*). Present were Kathy Casey (by phone), Linda Chapman, Herb Cook, Lisa Dahl, Sally Dillon, Michael Grimm, Arni Litt, Hugh Moore, Jane Moore, Steve Peterson (by phone), Rich Seibert and Sarah Welch.

B. President's Report. Lisa Dahl reported that she had been approached by Bob Strand to sanction a clinic in the Seattle area and would refer Strand to the Bellevue Club as a possible clinic host.

Because the IGLA Games participation fee of \$200 is not affordable for many swimmers, Lisa plans to propose that IGLA's Meet Director create a separate entry category for Puget Sound area swimmers with a lower entry fee.

C. Minutes. Minutes of the February 26 Board meeting were approved as corrected.

D. Election Results. Secretary Herb Cook reported that all Board-nominated candidates had been elected by mail ballot without opposition: President: Lisa Dahl (98 votes); Vice President: Michael Grimm (99 votes); Secretary: Sally Dillon (99 votes); Treasurer: Jeanne Ensign (99 votes); At-large Board Member: Kathy Casey (96 votes); At-large Board Member: Herb Cook (96 votes).

E. Treasurer's Report. In the absence of Treasurer Jeanne Ensign, it was **MSA: To accept PNA Financial Statements through March 2013, as previously submitted to the Board.**

F. Membership. Arni Litt reported PNA's 2013 membership at 1,368—1,111 in Puget Sound Masters, 237 in Blue Wave Aquatics and 20 unattached, with 29 registered teams/workout groups.

II Sprint Set (Committee Reports)

A. Meets. See Retreat Agenda, IV (A), next page.

B. Open Water/Long Distance. Open Water Chair Sally Dillon noted PNA has sanctioned five Open Water events in 2013:

1. July 20: Fat Salmon (Lake Washington)
2. August 18: IGLA Champs (Mercer Island)
3. August 25: Aqua Run for a Child (Commencement Bay, Tacoma)
4. September 14: Whidbey Island Adventure Swim (Saratoga Passage, Langley)
5. September 21: Last Gasp of Summer (Angle Lake, SeaTac)

Sally reported she would be holding a workshop with all Open Water race directors, stressing recent changes in the USMS Open Water sanction process and the critical importance of adherence to all safety rules and procedures. Sally said she had received little reaction to the imposition of a \$5 per swimmer entry fee surcharge to help offset increased insurance premiums for Open Water events.

C. Coaches. The Board discussed the need to clarify the division of responsibility for working with coaches between PNA (the LMSC) and Puget Sound Masters (PSM) and Blue Wave Aquatics (the Clubs). Selection and compensation of coaches for Nationals is now the responsibility of the clubs.

III Main Set (Current Action Items)

A. Club Assistant Contract. The Board reviewed and slightly amended the proposed Online Meet Registration Service Agreement between PNA and Club Assistant, dated March 12, 2013. (Appended by reference to these Minutes). Sally volunteered to consult with Club Assistant to clarify procedures for international meet registrations. **MSA: To accept the PNA-Club Assistant Service Agreement as amended.**

B. Rulebook Distribution to Teams. As recommended by Registrar Arni Litt, it was **MSA: to adopt a Standing Policy limiting guaranteed distribution of USMS Rulebooks to Teams that register with PNA before PNA Champs. Teams that register after Champs will receive Rulebooks only as available.**

C. USMS Fees to Clubs and Workout Groups. No action or discussion.

D. Champs Committees. Hugh Moore reported that Kathy Casey agreed to chair the Protest Committee for PNA Champs, assisted by Steve Peterson, Sally Dillon and Lisa Dahl. Walt Reid and Linda Chapman agreed to serve on the Team Size Committee.

IV Retreat

A. Meets Standing Policies. Meets Chair Linda Chapman presented a proposed revision of the Meets Standing Policies into four sections. There was considerable discussion of Order of Events (OE) policies and how best to rotate the 6 possible orders of events at PNA Champs and Zone Championship meets to minimize the impact of having the same “back to back” events in sequential meets. Linda, Hugh Moore and Kathy Casey agreed to work on developing compatible rotations. After discussion of other issues it was **MSA: To approve the revised Meets Standing Policies (appended by reference to these Minutes) except for MOE (Order of Events) MS-7 & 8 (Criteria for sanctioning meets) and CH-4 (Number of places to be scored at PNA Champs), which are tabled for further discussion.** Board members commended Linda for the logic and clarity of her revisions.

B. PNA Governance. Hugh Moore presented a thorough analysis of PNA’s current Board structure, including comparisons between PNA and other LMSCs. Because PNA’s by-laws mandate a Board seat for each registered team with at least 8 members (but few team representatives attend Board meetings), PNA has difficulty in complying with a Revised Code of Washington (RCW) requirement that a meeting quorum for a nonprofit corporation may not be less than 1/3 of voting Board members. The current structure also overweights team representation, compared to representation from Clubs and elected officers. In short, Hugh concluded, “We need to come up with a new Board structure.”

After discussion, Hugh, Jane Moore, Herb Cook, Mike Grimm and Steve Peterson agreed to serve on a committee to propose changes in Board structure for consideration at the Board’s August meeting. Jane agreed to develop a list of other by-law changes that might be presented to the PNA membership in the fall.

C. Open Water High Point Awards. After discussion, the Board encouraged Sally Dillon to move ahead in developing an Awards program for swimmers who participate in multiple PNA-sanctioned Open Water events in 2013.

Board members applauded Rich Seibert and Herb Cook, whose terms as Vice President and Secretary of PNA were ending.

IV Warmdown: (Next Meetings)

May 21, 2013: 6:45—9:00 PM, Jan Kavadas’s (Edmonds)

The Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.