

SUMMER SWIMMING
OPENING PRESIDENTS MEETING MINUTES
Saturday May 7th, 2005
1:00-3:00pm
Beveridge Arts Center Rm 141- Acadia University
Wolfville, N.S.

Attendance:

Bette El-Hawary, Swim Nova Scotia	Wayne Schram, Summer Swim Rep.
Lynn Sitland, Swim Nova Scotia	Rob MacPherson, New Glasgow Waverunners
Tracy Lake, Windsor Bluefins	Cathy Lyons, St. Margaret's Bay Breakers
Jennifer Brian, Lunenburg Mariners	Debbie Emeneau, Lunenburg Mariners
Paula Dunn, Abenaki Green Gators	Donna MacKinnon, Banook Lakers
Michelle Raiche-Marsden, Cole Harbour Hurricanes	Laura Barrett, Cole Harbour Hurricanes
Patricia Grant, Waeg Waves	Ron Addison, New Glasgow Waverunners
Margie MacLean, Bedford Beavers	Andrew Corkum, Bedford Beavers
Cheryl Oxner, Middleton Missiles	Devrie Oxner, Middleton Missiles
Colin MacDonald, Colby Sailfish	Duane Flowers, Colby Sailfish
Jocelyn Nicholson, Kentville Marlins	Malcolm Pitman, Bridgewater Barracudas

Regrets: Jacqueline Woodworth, Middleton Missiles, Natlie Retfalvi, East Hants Stingrays, Tom Sancton, Swim Nova Scotia

1. 1:05pm meeting was called to order by Lynn Sitland; **Motion:** to approve the agenda by Paula Dunn, seconded by Rob MacPherson. **Motion carried.**
2. Additions to the agenda-
3. Minutes of the September 12th, 2004 meeting-

Action Items:

- i. All-Star Committee To Be Struck- Committee met two times over the winter, Brenda Perks joined the committee. Wayne will report under item 8.
- ii. Update Declaration Forms- Done, distributed at the end of February.
- iii. Winter Training Policy to be Updated & Circulated- Done in September 2004.
- iv. Laps for Lungs Club Participation- Done, CHH, EHS and BWB participated this year.
- v. Update Policy Manual- Done for 2005 Handbook
- vi. Add SNC Warm Up to Policy Manual- Done for 2005 Handbook
- vii. SNS to Circulate Large/Small Team List August 2nd- TO DO

- viii. Clubs Asked to Submit Names of Swimmers Attending Invitational Meets to Host Club- TO DO
- ix. Revise Results from 2004 Provincials Event 26- Done
- x. SNS to Distribute Summer Financials- Distributed hard copy today for discussion under new business.
- xi. Bette to send out Sanctioning Information- Done in September
- xii. Bette to Review Age Group Registration Statistics for last five years- Distributed summary today for discussion under Wayne's report

Motion: to approve the Sept 12th minutes by Cathy Lyons, seconded by Michelle Raiche-Marsden. **Motion carried.**

4. Opening Remarks- Lynn Sitland welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their attendance on this rainy day.
5. Swim Nova Scotia Update- Bette welcomed everyone and apologized for the relocation and date change; however this was the only available day in May. Swim N.S. is still waiting to hear back from the summer grant programs on hiring summer students. We are hoping to have two students working with us again this summer to begin later in May or early June. As most of you are aware, the Swim Nova Scotia web page was re-vamped early in March. Hopefully everyone finds it a little more organized. Clubs are reminded to submit their directory information as soon as possible so we can distribute it to the other clubs and update the web page. The Operating Handbook will be mailed out at the end of May. I also had the opportunity to review the time standards, they will be available for discussion under new business. Swim NS will be running two open water events this summer on July 14 and 23rd. Bette also thanked Wayne for his work over the winter.
6. Summer Swimming Representative Report- Wayne stated that he presented the motion that the summer clubs passed at the wrap up meeting at the October Board of Director's meeting, the NSSCA then met and discussed this issue. Virginia Smith on behalf of the NSSCA wrote a letter to the BOD and expressed concern on the athlete development for 6 & unders. As a result the Board of Directors for Swim Nova Scotia passed a motion at their April BOD meeting that the youngest age group would be 8 & under sanctioned competitions (both summer and winter). For the summer group this would mean that at Provincials the 6 & unders would have to swim with the 8 & under age group. Wayne recommended that if clubs wanted to have 6 & unders at their invitational meets that they would include them as exhibition and give each swimmer only have a few events available to them separate and they would each receive a participation ribbon. We could then track the numbers of 6 & unders and how competitive they are. In a few years this could be re-evaluated. Discussion on what sanctioning a meet means. Discussion on how we could accommodate the 6 & unders attending provincials within the 8 & under age group. Recommendation to run some skills events for 6 & unders, however Provincials is very tight on time. We need to look

at the registration numbers of this age group. Discussion on a skills event at Provincials during the lunch breaks i.e. doing a 25m choice and judging a streamlined start. **ACTION:** Review 8 & under statistics to see if we can increase the numbers of participation in this age group at Provincials.

This discussion brought us into the action item from the wrap-up meeting to review the 13-14 registration statistics. Wayne reviewed the number of splashes at Provincials; numbers are steady in the 9-10 age group. He noticed that we lose 22% of female swimmers in the 13-14 age group- is this because of the limit on events at Provincials? The other item to consider is if we increased the number of spots for 13-14 girls, this will increase the number of splashes by at least one heat in a six-lane pool and two more heats in a four-lane pool. This is a hard decision to make when we don't really know why we have the loss in swimmers in this age group. Discussion on the issue of retention. Discussion on the when the event limitations are reviewed. Three years ago we increased the number of events for the girls 11-12 age group. Should we review the event limitations each season based on where provincials will be held and the registration numbers? Would be difficult to maintain annually and may disadvantage smaller teams. Consider having the 8 & unders compete in a separate fun meet to complete their season. This season provincials will be taking place at a four-lane pool, Wayne suggested leaving this as is.

Motion: to increase the 13-14 girls event limits to 4 at Provincials by Laura Barrett, seconded by Patricia Grant. **Motion carried.**

Note: We should review the attrition levels in this age group.

Wayne added that the Swim NS starting system is available for rent for \$25/weekend. There is a complete list of officials available on the web page. Lynn thanked Wayne as the summer rep on the Board and he does a great job representing the group.

7. Registration-

- Fees will be \$15 for swimmers, club fee of \$50 due on Friday July 15. Final date for new swimmers to register and be eligible for Provincials is August 1.
- Coaches must be registered with the Canadian Swim Coaches Association prior to the first meet of the season. To register visit www.casca.org.

Summer Committee Report- Wayne stated that the committee members consisted of Andy Corkum, Michelle Raiche-Marsden, Brenda Perks and Bette El-Hawary. The committee met two times over the winter season. Brenda did a lot of work behind the scenes on presenting a new option for the All Star Team. Some ideas were generated on how to improve the all-star team. Following Provincials (early in September in conjunction with the wrap up meeting) a banquet would be held to honor the members. Allow the all-star team members to join a winter team for

an additional month (until the end of October); they could also attend one meet with winter clubs. If they decide not to join winter they can go back to summer swimming and follow the winter training policy effective on November 1st. A draft would be held at the banquet with the winter clubs. The number one concern is the potential of summer swimming losing a star swimmer. Discussion on the pros and cons of allowing. We are not trying to push them into winter swimming but recognize their achievements and allow them a better chance at winter swimming. **Motion:** to amend the winter training rules until November 1st for all-star team members only by Patricia Grant, seconded by Cathy Lyons. **Question:** Would they have to pay winter membership dues- it would depend on the winter clubs, the fee may only be for the training times (one or two months). Concern that some swimmers may not get picked on a draft- the draft still needs to be worked out. The concept is to make the swimmers feel special, not all kids may be interested. Perhaps have the draft at another time and present the swimmers their t-shirts at the banquet. **Motion carried** (one opposed)

8. **2004 All Star Team Update-** To date no information has been received on the Island Outdoor Invitational in P.E.I. The meet information should be available in the next week or two and will be posted on our web page. Application forms and training opportunities were recently mailed to the All Star Team Members. Two training sessions have been booked at Centennial Pool in Halifax. Coach applications will be circulated shortly. P.E.I. has expressed an interest in holding the meet on Saturday and Sunday only and eliminating the Friday pm session.
9. **2005 Meet Schedule-** Discussion on summer schedule, Colby, Bedford and Lunenburg all wanted to have their meet on the same weekend- Bedford offered to switch weekends, Colby asked that they receive their priority meet because they could not host one last year and the year before they had a Sunday meet. Lunenburg offered to switch to Sunday on the provision that they get their priority meet next season- this was accepted by the group. Bette/Wayne will touch base with Digby and Bridgetown. Templates were approved in September.

Action: Swim Nova Scotia to circulate meet schedule after speaking with Digby and Bridgetown and post online.

10. **2005 Summer Provincials Kentville:** Packages will be distributed shortly. Committees have been meeting over the winter; only five parents have been involved to date. The only snag is the dance location, it may be held at a camp just outside the town limits.
11. **2006/07 Summer Provincials Host Clubs-** Bridgewater will be hosting in 2006, discussion on the weekend of August 18-20 or 25-27th. The majority agreed that we would have it on August 25-27th 2006. 2007 is tentatively going to be held in Windsor, but this will depend on their facility- we will leave this as tentative until the September wrap up meeting.

12. New Business-

- Upcoming NCCP Courses: A Skills Coach Course is scheduled for June 24-26, 2005 at Dalplex Pool in Halifax. Virginia Smith will be the course conductor. Registration information is available on the Swim NS web page. Lynn stated
- 2005 Summer Swimming Standards: Bette reviewed the time standards based on the results from Provincials over the last 5 years, distributed and discussed.
- Review Summer Financials: Circulated and discussed. Bette apologized for not having them at the last meeting- the financials are often not wrapped up for a month or two following the season. We will review financials over this summer and make a recommendation at the wrap up meeting to increase fees for next summer. Discussion on the number of students and wages/grants for the summer. Bette will be away just before provincials but will be arriving at the meet on Friday evening.

13. Next meeting- September 10th, Wolfville.

14. Adjournment- ***Motion*** to adjourn by Andy Corkum at 2:55pm.