

Approved May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009

## Summer Swimming Opening Presidents Meeting Minutes

Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 1:30-3:30pm

K.C. Irving Center, Acadia University

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**Attendance:** Bruce Phinney (Summer Swim Representative), Sue Jackson (President, Swim NS), Bette El-Hawary (ED, Swim NS), Tracy Lake (WB), Sharlene VanRoessel (KM), Patricia Grant (WW), Kelley Polley (WW), Kristy Galivan (WB), Mike Laffin (BWB), Daniele Dumais-Kerr (BSK), Andrew Kerr (BSK), Kirk Lycett (BSK), Todd Armitage (SMBB), Al Scott (BB), Tavia Raiche-Marsden (CHH), Michelle Raiche-Marsden (CHH), Laura Barrett (CHH), Lisa Boyle (CHH), MJ Laing (SMBB), Wanda Bolivar (SMBB)

**Conference Call:** Kerstin Hengar (WB), Kim Adams (WB), Wendy Leiper (CS), Dorothy Duke (CS)

**Regrets:** Katy Griegoschewski (DD), Jurgen Griegoschewski (DD), Jane Lordley (LM), Eric Balser (MM), Sandi Graham-Muise (MD)

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1. **Call to Order and Opening Remarks-** Bruce Phinney called the meeting to order at 1:35pm.
  - Bruce welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Additions & Approval of Agenda-**  
*Motion to approve the agenda: Moved by Kelley Polley/Al Scott Motion carried*
3. **Minutes of the May 4, 2008 Meeting-Motion to approve the minutes:**  
*Moved by Mike Laffin / Andy Kerr Motion carried*
4. **Business Arising from May 4, 2008 Meeting Minutes-**
  - **Action:** *Summer Swimming Governance Model to be brought forward to the Swim Nova Scotia Board of Director's for final approval- Done in June 2008*
  - **Action:** *Time Trial Policy to be updated and distributed- Done*
  - **Action:** *Confirmation of Lunenburg Meet date- Done*
5. **Summer Swimming Representative Report:**
  - **Governance Model-** Bruce thanked the committee for finalizing the governance model last spring, which was approved in June.
  - **Officials-** Congratulated all of the clubs for training officials throughout the season, there were over 100 people trained. Officials were turned away at Provincials. Special thanks to Wendy Hudson for her work with the Officials this season, there is a good rapport between the Presidents, Coaches and Officials.
  - **Provincials-** Thanked Sue Jackson for coming and officiating throughout the event and thanked Swim Nova Scotia for their assistance.

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6. **Swim Nova Scotia**- As submitted.
7. **Officials** – Written report submitted by Wendy Hudson. Bruce congratulated those that earned various levels and hopes that parents are still encouraged to participate in clinics. Many clinics were held throughout the summer. Al Scott congratulated Wendy Hudson on changing the officiating at the Invitational meets; this helped the kids get prepared for Provincials. It was a very positive initiative. Mike Laffin commented on the clinics and requested that clubs advertise one week in advance of hosting a clinic to encourage additional participants. Bette asked clubs to notify Swim Nova Scotia with any clinics as soon as possible, when they are received they will be distributed and posted online. Bruce also noted that there are clinics offered throughout the winter season and everyone is encouraged to attend and officiate throughout the winter. Sharlene VanRoessel noted that there were not a lot of disqualifications in the eight and under age group this season, and was pleased with this as they are still young and some may be new. Tavia Raiche-Marsden commented that warnings were very appreciated by all of the coaches. Mike Laffin did mention that everyone should be disqualified if they do make an infraction. Laura Barrett inquired on the experience of Officials at Provincials; some of the timers had not timed before. Recommendation that for Provincials experienced Officials are utilized. Bruce stated that all Officials that were working at Provincials did have the minimum clinics required and had a minimum two meet experience.
8. **Summer Provincials Report**-
  - Patricia Grant is finalizing the official report; once it is available it will be submitted to Swim Nova Scotia.
  - The Waeg Waves had a lot of fun, initially they had concerns about the venue but were very pleased with how it turned out. The fundraising side was very positive, the team came together. Some valuable lessons learned were to ensure sound was available throughout the venue. Thanks to Don Walsh and Jan Vosman, the sound system was provided by Music Stop. Michelle Raiche-Marsden thanked the marsheller's for giving the athletes the benefit of the doubt when they showed up late.
  - Very pleased with the opening ceremonies, parade of athletes and Dwight D'Eon.
  - Overall the Waeg was pleased with hosting the event and thanked all of the teams for keeping the property clean.
9. **Old Business**-
  - i. *Order of events at Provincials-*

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- The meet package is being reviewed by Swim Nova Scotia over the winter season by Michelle Raiche-Marsden, Chris Davy, and Bette El-Hawary. A draft of the meet package will be available in May 2009 for review by the group.
- Lunch hour on Sunday was long, if they had kept it to one hour the meet would have been finished a little earlier. Patricia Grant explained that they started the meet ahead of schedule therefore starting the lunch break sooner. Many people left and the organizers were concerned that they would not make it back for an earlier start.
- Bruce thanked Alanna Mason for her assistance with the awards throughout the weekend.
- Question on the younger swimmers not starting first on Sunday morning but then starting first after the lunch break- 6 events available to all age groups, only 4 available for 8 & under's, Friday there are no events for 8 & under so we start with them on Saturday, on Sunday we slip back to an older age group start for awards.

ii. ***Relay Entry times at Provincials-***

- Bette stated that hy-tek team manager will automatically calculate the entry time for your best relay team if you select that option. For relays where we do not offer those events we need ensure that times are accurate and fair. Bette recommended that Michelle, Chris and Bette review this over the winter and look at different scenarios available.

**Action:** Bring a few recommendations to the May 2009 meeting.

- iii. ***Ensuring "B" relays are seeded after all "A" relays-*** Second relays were allowed this year at Provincials, there was some confusion among the teams with this. Clubs don't necessarily know which team is there "A" or "B" team; if the slower team was seeded after all of the first teams this decreases their competitive opportunity. Smaller teams are at a disadvantage with only being able to enter one relay. Large teams did state that their second relay teams were not comprised mainly of strong swimmers but those that did not get to swim any individual events. We will leave them as they are.

10. **New Business-**

i. ***Cardless Meets-***

- Bette submitted a sheet with pros/cons of running a cardless meet. Major concern in the future with

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not being able to purchase time cards from distributors.

*Discussion:*

- Registration follows first meet of the season- coaches can still submit names of swimmers attending meets, they don't need to have their official registration list.
- Entry times for the first meet of each template- can use times from previous season; unfortunately those athletes that age up may have no time. Seeding times are not affected with or without the use of time cards.
- Big advantage to coaches to not have to utilize cards.
- Officials were very happy to have session reports and heat sheets so they knew which swimmers were in which lanes.
- Clubs that do not have hy-tek team manager can still submit their entries to Swim Nova Scotia in any format (excel, word). Al recommended that they include their registration identification number with their entries if they are not using hy-tek. Swim Nova Scotia will send each club their registration numbers.
- Kim Adams from Windsor explained the process that they used at their meet.
- Recommendation to move the registration deadline earlier in July or end of June. Most clubs are still receiving registrations until the middle of July and do not want to change the deadline. We need to find out when everyone has their club registration.
- Database accuracy has been of great concern with the use of time cards. Swim Nova Scotia will maintain the official database and send host clubs the back-up file from meet manager the day before the meet.

***Motion to “Implement cardless meets with the support of Swim Nova Scotia.” Andy Kerr/Kelly Polley Motion carried.***

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*Protocol/guidelines will be discussed again at the May 2009 meeting.*

ii. ***Warm Up Proposal-***

- Stephanie Donnelly (CHH Coach) submitted the proposal to Swim Nova Scotia. Bette stated that a longer warm up would benefit the swimmers with their starts/turns for the meet; warm ups are often split in winter meets.
- The coaches looked at various options.
- Physiologically a ten minute warm-up is not sufficient.
- Concerns with pool loading regulations.
- Concerns with younger swimmers being overwhelmed with too many people at once.
- Tavia Raiche-Marsden stated that the coaches did not specify the split, it could be done by age-group or geographic location, etc. The coaches are simply recommending that the host clubs try this at a couple of meets throughout the season and see if it works.

***Recommendation that meet hosts try to do a split warm-up.***

iii. ***Pre-assigned bleachers or space-***

- Al Scott submitted an email requesting that all clubs assign seating allocations at Invitational Meets.

*Discussion:*

- Concerns with seating being assigned fairly.
- What system would be utilized? It is not fair to use registration numbers; it should be allotted by attendance at meets.

***Recommendation that clubs should consider doing re-assigned seating at invitational meets.***

*Al Scott will bring this up in May.*

iv. ***Election of Summer Swimming Representative-***

- Laura Barrett nominated Eric Balsler, seconded by Mike Laffin.

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➤ Eric Balsler will be the new Summer Swimming Representative.

11. Next Meeting- Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 1:30pm in Wolfville with conference call capabilities.
12. Closing Remarks- Bruce thanked everyone for his service as Chair. Al Scott noted that we should encourage the Waeg to host Provincials more frequently; metro clubs could co-host if the Waeg needed assistance.
13. Adjournment- Motion to adjourn by Mike Laffin.