

New Mexico Masters Swimming

Annual Meeting - 18 Mar 2017

New Mexico Masters Swimming website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/newmexicomastersswimming/home/administration>

The meeting opened with a welcome from Teddy Decker, the outgoing Chairman. Attendees introduced themselves, stating their club name, and included: Blane Armstrong, Kay Armstrong, Nick Decker, Teddy Decker, Barb Deshler, Cristina Kawamoto, Mimi Stern, Bob Wilson, and Tom Wilson (Charger Aquatics); Diane Mueller (Charger Aquatics and Highpoint); Pia VanHeyste (Duke City); Caryl Acuna (High Altitude Masters); Bobby Gold, Hank Miller, and Mitch Taylor (Lobo); and John Berry and John Witham (NM - Unaffiliated).

**Teddy Decker introduced the slate of officers; passed with verbal assent.**

-Chairman - Bob Wilson

-Treasurer - Barb Deshler

-Registrar - Cristina Kawamoto

-Secretary - Kay Armstrong

-- Teddy thanked everyone for their participation and support, and stated she is moving on work at the national level

**Bob Wilson presented several topics discussed at the Local Masters Swimming Committee (LMSC) / US Masters Swimming (USMS) meeting in Houston, Mar 10-12**

--The meeting focused on attracting members, and how to then add value to their participation

----In general, approximately 70% of Masters are fitness swimmers, the rest are athletic swimmers (swim meets, open water swims, and triathletes)

--Rules

---- By-laws need to be reviewed every 2 years (can be found under Administration on the above site)

---- Document the organization's financial overview and complete and audit

---- Develop an annual budget that includes ways to deliver value to the members

**Bob then presented a number of ideas for attracting members, keeping the interest of current members, and providing value to each member and the organization as a whole**

--1. Asked all to think of activities that would be attractive to the 70% of fitness swimmers

---- It was mentioned that members of the Los Alamos club tracked miles swum, and received a T-shirt upon reaching 100 miles

---- Teddy and Nick Decker recently updated the list of Master's swim sites in NM, which can be found at the NM Masters Swimming website (above)

-- 2. Clinics

---- Planning a 3-hour stroke clinic on 29 Jul at Albuquerque Academy, 9:00-12:00

----- 48 participants max (up to 6 people in each of 8 lanes)

-- 3. Social events

---- Clubs are encouraged to identify social activities that members would enjoy

---- Don't have to be outside of the pool / practice times (e.g. birthday swim, New Year's swim)

-- 4. Coaching Certification. USMS has certification specific to Masters (not the same as USA Swimming)

----One idea to support coaches is to pay half of their certification cost

- 5. We are encouraged to assist groups around the state as they start up swimming programs
- (no notes for ideas on how)
- 6. Is there an interest in a state meet?
- Many attendees felt meets tend to draw the same participants each time (maybe no benefit?)
- A state meet was held in 2006 in Santa Fe; short course, about 75 participants; USMS helped to sponsor the post-meet dinner
- A question was asked about including the El Paso area in NM Masters Swimming
- Teddy stated USMS is already discussing this option, which will provide a nice increase to the number of participants in our state
- Bobby Gold stated he finds: those under 30 tend to participate in meets, those 30-40 in open water events, and those over 40 are generally fitness swimmers
- It was also mentioned that adults tend to wait until the last minute to commit to a meet
- Albuquerque is hosting the 2019 Summer World Senior Olympics. Events will be held across the state. Participants must complete a qualifying swim the year before.

### **Additional Items / Topics**

- Travel for 2017 includes the National Convention and a Leadership Convention
- Barb provided the Treasurer's report: 2016 income / expenses, and the current status of 2017 funds
- Bobby Gold spoke a bit about his experience with hosting clinics
- He had good participation in a clinic / fundraiser he hosted last fall
- Charged \$10 per person, half for the coach, half to the Lady Lobos
- John Davis ('96 Olympic gold medalist) coached a breakout clinic last Dec (not sponsored by USMS)
- Total fee was \$2,500-3,000, charged \$45 per person
- Jeff Cummings ('92, '96, '12) does clinics, Bobby has asked about his fee
- Dorsey Tierney-Walker (Lady Lobos) is also willing to give a clinic
- Bobby feels we should make an effort to host clinics
- Help swimmers identify reference points during their swim, builds an intentional approach to the workout
- Teddy recommended building a "clinics" calendar
- John Berry is the NMMS Top Ten recorder
- Compiles and reports Top Ten times to USMS for each pool distance, responsible for pool measurement
- The idea behind the Top Ten is to encourage swimmers to check out the rankings, and use them to set goals for practice and meets
- John recommends clubs try some of the postal-type events (e.g. January's Hour Swim) as motivation
- See our NM Top Ten'ers at <http://www.usms.org/comp/tt/toptenlmsc.php?Year=2016&CourseID=3&LMSCID=42>
- Pool must be registered in the USMS database for the times to count; John will coordinate measuring of pools
- However, he needs a steel measuring tape
- Teddy stated we do not have a separate Top Ten ranking for NM swimmers, though could sort out the NM swimmers from the results of any USMS or USA Swimming sanctioned meet
- Cristina provided the Registrar's report and some additional thoughts
- NMMS had the highest re-registration rate for groups under 500 members and won a free clinic (no details)

---- Number of registered swimmers dropped from 389 in 2016 to 323 in 2017

----**NM has ?? clubs:** Aggie Outlaw Masters, Charger Aquatics, Duke City, High Altitude Masters, Los Alamos Aquatomics, Podium Masters (CO Springs), Southwest Multi Sport, Taos Masters, and Unaffiliated

-- Teddy proposed an adjustment to the NMMS registration structure, based on the small number of registered swimmers and that there is a core group of swimmers who like to compete in meets

---- Rather than separate clubs, NM would have one state club with workout sub-groups (workout group benefits would not change)

----- NM used to be structured this way, with NMMS as the registration "Team", and the club name as the workout group

----- All NM swimmers compete as one group rather than the current separate clubs

---- NM clubs have performed well at meets in the SW area, but all competing as one club may allow the state club to win a meet

---- Also facilitates putting together relays, as clubs often do not have enough meet participants

----- Can still compete by club in state meets

---- Would begin with 2018 registration

----- All clubs have to first register as workout groups under NMMS

**At the end of my notes I wrote "Teddy, Bob, 2 amendments didn't discuss? Need to vote on 1 club?"**

**Do we need to have a vote on becoming one club? Are there by-law amendments that need to be reviewed and voted on by the membership? Bob's notes from the National meeting indicated a need to review the by-laws every 2 years - who does that?**