

SPMA Annual Meeting Minutes  
November 18, 2010

Attending: Chair Errol Graham (West Hollywood Aquatics), Vice-Chair Mark Moore (Mission Viejo Nadadores), Treasurer Bill Sive (Long Beach Grunions), Registrar Dan Wegner (CAST), Connie Barrett (MVN), Lance O'Keefe (Santa Clarita), Chris Lundie (SCMC), Trisha Commons (Unattached), Jena Chomchualit (La Mirada Armada), Mike Miranda (Long Beach Grunions), Christine Maki (Covina), Mike Collins (NOVA), Kim Thornton (NOVA), Susan Shore (West Hollywood Aquatics), Lucy Johnson (LBSC), Tom Trapp (LBSC), Bob Eberwine (South Bay Swim Club), Mike Heather (MVN), Rebekah Olsen (MVN), Jessica Seaton (West Hollywood Aquatics), Robert Mitchell (Unattached), Jackie Cole (Long Beach Grunions)

Meeting called to order at 7:58 p.m.

The minutes from the October meeting were discussed. Mike Heather asked for them to be amended to say that Lucy Johnson told people who objected to her announcement that the meeting was being recorded that they should hang up if they don't like it. Minutes were approved as amended.

Officer Reports:

**Chair:**

Errol had nothing new to report.

**Vice Chair:**

Mark reported that we will continue to use the ribbons we have for awards at meets until we run out. Ribbons with the new logo design will be ordered for next year's awards.

The meet schedule for 2011 was passed around for discussion. Senior Games will not conflict with SPMA meets. The SCY Championship meet will be held at La Mirada which is a new and fast facility with a 50-meter and a 25-yard pool. There is ample parking and they can run ten lanes at a time. **MSP** to accept the 2011 meet schedule. [See schedule handout for 2011 meet schedule]

Mark proposed extending Trisha Commons' contract as Quartermaster. There was a discussion about putting this position out to bid in the future. **MSP** to extend Trisha's position for two years.

Relay-Only swimmer sign-up. There was a discussion regarding the policy of allowing on-deck entries for relay-only swimmers at meets. Mike Collins and Robert Mitchell talked about relay-only swimmers signing up for meets as there are conflicting opinions on the fairness of local clubs stacking up on relays to get extra points and win meets due to the advantage they have over clubs from out of town who don't have access to last minute swimmers to enter and swim on relays. Motion was withdrawn.

**Secretary:**

Members who are eligible (based on meeting attendance) for reimbursement of 2011 SPMA registration fees and reimbursement of entry fees to the three 2010 SPMA Championship meets and two 2010 USMS National Championship meets were announced: Errol Graham, Mark Moore, Bill Sive, Mary Hull, Rob Dumouchel, Christie Ciraulo, Mike Collins, Jessica Seaton, Susan Shore, Jacqueline Cole, Trisha Commons, Nancy Reno, Julie Heather, Michael Heather, Robert Mitchell, Chris Lundie.

**Treasurer:**

Cash flow analysis:

- Details on CD to be moved to checking in June
- Income/expenses of SPMA: There is an ongoing effort with the SPMA accountant Paul Shane to piece together the 2010 tax return
- SPMA Budget – the treasurer and the chair will be itemizing the cash flow in the fiscal year

**Member at Large:**

The SPMS logo contest winner was announced. Logo # 9 was chosen, and it was submitted by Tor Horvind from ZAP Masters.

**Registrar:**

There were 80 clubs registered for the 2010 season. Dan is asking that clubs register for 2011 early so that the swimmers can register in a timely fashion. Early individual registrations will receive USMS incentives and discounts. Dan is making an effort to have the registrar office be paperless.

Club transfers cannot be initiated online. There will be an effort to use social media to try and solicit new registrations for next year.

**Newsletter:**

The January/February issue of the newsletter is completed. Kim will provide a schedule of deadlines for submitting articles and information for future issues of the newsletter.

**Top 10/Recorder:**

Mary Beth is still waiting on the meet report from the Mission Viejo SCM meet on October 3rd. There was a discussion on how to make the procedures for submitting information to Mary Beth more efficient and also the difficulties with tapes and timing slips.

**Coaches:**

Christine talked about wanting to improve and increase visibility with swim clinics. Need to improve usage of social media and educate at LMSC coaches meetings.

**Officials:**

See handout

Robert submitted a request for reimbursement for training and recertification of officials. There was a move to accept officials chair request for funds as written in officials chair report.

**Open Water:**

Rebekah brought up the Distance Swim Challenge that occurred in October to reference that there were no awards available for Masters swimmers at the time of the swim. Awards were only made available to swimmers after the day of the event and had to be picked up by the swimmers – no effort was made to send awards to participants. Prior to the race there were several attempts made to inform DSC directors of rules and guidelines to follow that were either ignored or forgotten during the actual swim. For the cost of the race very little was given back or recognized to actual participants. Prizes and recognition promises were made and then rescinded to athletes. Volunteers had no direction or understanding of the rules and therefore could not enforce them. There was discussion that SPMA should not grant a sanction next year if the swim is organized again.

Christine Maki is running a Fearless Swimmer Clinic for open water swimmers. This is a first time event and support with promoting it was requested.

There was discussion regarding promoting safety in open water events in light of current open water tragedies.

**Sports Medicine:**

Jessica asked for suggestions of topics for her to write articles for future issues of the newsletter. Topics that were brought up included overheating in open water, hydration, and chlorine allergies.

**Awards:**

Rob reported that the Swimmer of the Year Awards and also Jim Marcus and Steve Schofield Awards will be presented awards at the SPMA SCM Championships in Long Beach.

Trisha mentioned that there will be a memorial service on November 25<sup>th</sup> for long-time SPMA member Woody Bowersock who died recently.

Meet awards are ready for the SCM Championships at Belmont. Lap counters and stop-watches are in need of tune-ups and/or repairs.

We will order new ribbons in December to be used at meets after we run out of the ones we currently use.

**Webmaster:**

There needs to be more interaction between swimmers and website/Facebook. We need to work on improving updates and information for social media. The goal for Facebook is to have 700+ followers.

**Old Business:**

Errol handed out a copy of the Policies and Procedures and asked everyone to review them and be ready for discussion with comments by the next meeting.

The matter of “one-event” registration was brought up and Jessica reported that Pacific LMSC had offered one-event registrations in the past but found that they did not work well for meets as few people who took advantage of the one-event registration converted that to a full membership. Although these registrations do benefit the meet host, they do not benefit the LMSC or the clubs. Pacific does still offer one-event registrations for clinics, workshops, or other non-competitive activities. However by offering a one-event rate for non competitive swimmers at clinics, there were minimal revenues raised.

There was a motion that SPMA allow one-event registrations for clinics and open water races with the ultimate decision to be at the discretion of the meet directors. The one-event registration fee would be set at \$15. The meet host would fill out the appropriate paperwork and send it to the Registrar who would then pass it on to the National Office.  
**MSA**

With regards to the name change from SPMA to SPMS, Jackie Cole indicated that there will be a \$70 charge. She will work with the Executive Committee to initiate the process.

An increase in SPMA’s portion of the registration fee of members was discussed. Although an increase of \$15 for 2012 was proposed, it was decided that the budget needs to be reviewed and we need to consider the fee increase by July once all information is available.

**New Business:**

Use of social media and marketing. There are certain guidelines to adhere to. Rob Butcher and Doug Church are working on these for USMS, and we need to follow the USMS guidelines as well as the USMS privacy policy.

Discussion of a better phone number to call in on for the next conference call meeting. We need a number that can handle a large number of participants calling in, doesn’t malfunction, is cost-effective, and doesn’t cost anything for people who aren’t local.

There was a need for an additional signer for checks and documents raised. Bill will follow up with Mary on getting this set up.

Next meeting date: January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 p.m.