

Michigan Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association

Winter Executive Meeting - 16 January 2005

The Michigan Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association Winter Executive Board meeting was called to order by President, Butch Briggs, at 1:18 p.m. in room 303 of the McCalmly Plaza Hotel, Battle Creek, Michigan.

Members Present: Butch Briggs, Mike Rado, Bob Crosby, Brian Bollone, Rick Edwards, Jim Lawrence, Dave Zulkiewski, Aaron Pollock, Chuck Olson, Dennis Hill, Mike O'Connor, Mike Venos, Liz Hill, Mike Torrey, Brent Pohlonski, and Damon Roberts.

Action Items Discussed:

1. Review and approve minutes of Annual Business Meeting

Butch Briggs opened the floor to all present to review and make corrections to the minutes of September 18, 2004. Motion by Mike Torrey, seconded by Mike O'Connor, to approve the minutes as corrected for September 18, 2004.

Discussion: None
All in favor: All
All opposed: None
Abstention: None

2. Proposals for 2005 swim committee meeting

Butch Briggs emphasized the importance of communication to all swim committee members for this spring's meeting. Any proposals going to the committee for a vote should be clearly articulated with a one page summary with supporting rationale. In addition, Butch suggested that M.I.S.C.A. mail out proposals to committee members prior to the meeting so swim committee members, not all of whom are knowledgeable in competitive swimming- can have ample opportunity to research the proposals.

3. Three-player rule

Butch Briggs led a lengthy discussion on the current M.H.S.A.A. three-player rule currently in place. Butch is also currently talking with other state association presidents (tennis, golf and gymnastics) whose members must seek a waiver from M.H.S.A.A. to coach in a club situation with three or more district student-athletes. No one could speculate how many waivers the M.H.S.A.A. has issued in swimming, and further research will need to be done this spring.

4. Diving qualification for regional meets

Aaron Pollock discussed the proposals which will be presented at the spring swim committee meeting. The proposals will address the issues of: earning regional qualifying point(s) against teams who do not have a diver; and, increasing the number of qualifiers at a conference meet by the number of returning State finalists from that league.

5. Three divisions

Butch Briggs discussed the issue of swimming and diving going to three divisions for M.H.S.A.A. tournament finals. Last year when the proposal was made, facility availability was a key issue. It was suggested that if a high school facility were used, the meet preliminaries may need to be held later in the day to accommodate the host school (parking and facility use).

How would the schools be split into three divisions? The board recommended splitting the state into three equal divisions based upon student count, with the option of a school to go up a division if desired

Butch will propose going to three divisions again this year at the swim committee meeting.

6. Swim qualification standards

Butch Briggs lead discussion on the swim qualification standards for 2005-2006. Again, M.I.S.C.A. will provide all swim committee members a list of suggested times based upon the last three years of State meet qualifiers and finalists. In addition, a second list of qualification standards will be provided in the event that the three divisions proposal is approved.

Butch Briggs, Mike Rado, and Mike Venos volunteered to make the suggested qualification standards for the swim committee meeting.

7. Newsletter

Mike Rado up-dated everyone on the current status of the webletter. Mike also extended his thanks to everyone for getting information to him in a timely manner.

Bob Crosby suggested that the webletter reports be more “local” in nature, and more numerous in the future. State meet results and N.I.S.C.A. ranking are already included on the website, and do not need to be repeated.

8. Web

Bob Crosby would like board members and zone vice-presidents to submit information whenever and as often as possible. He would like the website to be up-to-date as possible, and he will start archiving old information on the site.

9. Membership

Mike Rado will mail out a form letter to all high school principles who sponsor swimming, but do not have a coaching staff member registered to M.I.S.C.A. This letter will hopefully attract new members and inform schools/administration what benefits M.I.S.C.A. can offer student-athletes.

Brian Bollone noted that the membership list on the website is current; and, is up-dated about every two weeks depending on the number of applications he receives. Currently, M.I.S.C.A. has \$7,120.45 in checking and \$17.97 in savings. This is approximately \$2,300 less than one year ago.

10. MISCA middle school meet

The middle school meet is scheduled for Friday February 4, and Saturday February 5.

11. M.I.S.C.A. academic all-state

Information regarding academic all-state is posted on the website.

12. Awards

Dave Zulkiewski up-dated members present on how he and Lisa Manwell will conduct the voting for coach/swimmer/diver of the year at the finals- a postcard system.

Damon Roberts would like all zone vice-presidents to forward digital pictures and biographies of coaches, swimmers, and/or divers who earn awards from their respective zone as soon as possible.

13. Scholarship

Rick Edwards encouraged all members present to encourage student-athletes to apply for this years awards. If a coach and/or an athlete need information regarding the scholarship, they can download an application from the M.I.S.C.A. website.

14. Diving

Other than the proposals going to the swim committee meeting, Aaron Pollock had no other new business to discuss.

15. M.I.S.C.A. meet- high school

Chuck Olson up-dated the members on the success of this past falls meet. The new format allowed for 32 divers (on Friday) and 60 swimmers (on Saturday).

16. N.I.S.C.A.

Both Dennis Hill and Rick Edwards are attending the N.I.S.C.A. national meeting. Rick noted that Dennis will be receiving a Service Award.

17. Zone reports

All zone reports are posted on the website.

18. Clinic

Jim Lawrence highlighted some of the issues he and Greg Phill are currently finalizing. They include: lunch arrangements (there will not be a formal dinner), speaker arrangements with Speedo, and the program (it will be very similar).

2005 Clinic is September 16-17.

2006 Clinic is September 15-16.

Mike Torrey noted that the clinic costs are just slightly higher than the scholarship costs currently. However, the scholarship only affects six student-athletes while the clinic affects 120+ coaches. Mike suggested we ask the membership to reduce the scholarship number to four \$1,000.00 award winners and use the "extra" \$2,000.00 to bring in high school coaches from around the country to present at the fall clinic.

Rick Edwards noted that a bi-law change and rational would need to be written up and posted on the website at least four weeks in advance of the clinic, prior to a vote. Rational include: 1) free up \$2,000.00 for additional clinic speakers; 2) additional scholarship awards does not affect the number of applications; and 3) the current financial status of M.I.S.C.A. is lower now than it was three years ago when the scholarship was only four \$500.00 scholarships per year.

19. C.O.Y.

The Coach of the Year nominations have already been submitted.

20. State meet

Butch Briggs lead a discussion on improving aspects of the state meet

Entry Process. This needs to be spelled out in more detail. The letter with meet entry information was not worded clearly this past year. In addition, a confirmation e-mail would help schools/coaches know their entries were received.

State Records. The currently state records are not correct and Dennis Hill and Rich Edwards have discussed this with M.H.S.A.A. staff a number of times.

USS Officials. No one can understand why a U.S.S. official can disqualify a swimmer who is following M.H.S.A.A. and N.I.S.C.A. rules, but not U.S.S. rules. Dennis Hill will write a letter to the M.H.S.A.A. regarding this issue.

21. Executive Meeting Date

The executive board's next meeting will be April 17, 2005, at 12:45 p.m. at the McCamly Plaza Hotel.

22. Secretary/Treasurer appointment

Brian Bollone will be stepping down from the duties of secretary/treasurer this spring- prior to the clinic. He stated that he has enjoyed serving M.I.S.C.A.'s members for the last six years.

Butch Briggs appointed Scott Hedges of Cranbrook to take over the role of secretary/treasurer until the membership can vote on a replacement at the 2005 clinic.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Brian Bollone, Secretary/Treasurer