

Metropolitan Swimming House of Delegates Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2024 via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

General Chair, David Rodriguez called the May 9, 2024 House of Delegates meeting to order.

MINUTES

MOTION: *To approve the September 30, 2023 House of Delegates meeting minutes.*
Seconded. APPROVED.

Mr. Rodriguez began the meeting with a recitation of the Mission and Vision of Metropolitan Swimming.

INTRODUCTION TO ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER AND ELECTION BUDDY

Mr. Chu gave a brief review of Robert's Rules of Order and the use of Election Buddy for voting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Rodriguez read through the proposals.

MOTION: *To approve the consent agenda. Seconded. APPROVED*

- a. **APPROVED** Block A - Recommended for Approval by the Board of Directors

(Considered as a block EXCEPT for any items pulled)

- Bylaws 1 [Consecutive Term Limits](#)
- Bylaws 2 [Governance Committee Membership](#)
- Policy 1 [Document Retention and Destruction Policy](#)
- Policy 2 [Technical Planning Policy](#)
- Policy 3 [Open Water Reimbursement](#)
- Times 1 [Junior Mets LC Time Standards](#)
- Times 2 [Senior Mets Distance Time Standards](#)

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

John Yearwood was announced as the recipient of the 2024 Outstanding Service Award.

OFFICE REPORT

Ms. Ferraris reported an increase in athletes from 2023 to 2024 of 7.6%, but a decrease in flex athletes, an increase in outreach athletes. Coaches decreased and officials increased during the same time period. Ms. Ferraris asked that meet hosts copy the office on emails related to recons, and



These minutes were approved by the Metropolitan Swimming HOD Meeting at its Spring 2024 meeting. to contact her about any jotform errors, rather than resubmitting payments. She also recognized various board members and her daughter for their assistance in packing up the office.

GENERAL CHAIR

Mr. Rodriguez expressed gratitude to the Board and House for their support. Mr. Rodriguez also submitted a written report. He indicated having worked on the Strategic Plan, and emphasizing work being done at the committee level. He encouraged everyone to join committees, and reported significant savings from closing the Metro Office. He discussed recent improvements at Senior Mets. Surveys are expected to be sent regarding the Championship meets. Still in agreement with ASCA, access to free membership for the year. Wished best of luck to those going to Olympic Trials

ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHAIR

Ms. Hallex submitted a written report. She reminded members that the deadline for the Club Achievement program is May 17th, and to email the administrative vice chair with applications..

FINANCE VICE CHAIR

Mr. Arena submitted a written report and thanked committee members for their work over the last 2 years.

COACHES REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Yearwood thanked everyone for the Outstanding Service Award. He also recognized Iliana Bitis for being selected for the USA Swimming Zone Select Camp. He also reminded coaches to maintain their requirements.

ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Smith thanked the Board for their support, encouraged athletes to get involved in governance and to vote. Mr. Gallub had nothing to report.

SECRETARY

Mr. Chu reported working to keep the website up to date, and thanked Ms. Grayson for maintaining and sending information on Metro records. Ms. Mackrel reminded members that information is regularly posted to the Metro website..

SENIOR VICE CHAIR

Mr. Hojnacki congratulated all the Olympic Trials qualifiers. He indicated the Senior Committee had worked on softening Senior Mets time standards in women's distance events to increase participation. The Senior Committee looked at Open Water reimbursements, and worked on clarifying policies. StrategiesThe committee also considered strategies to improve energy at Senior Mets, some to be applied at the upcoming Long Course Championships. Mr. Hojnacki thanked everyone for letting



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him serve, and Mr. Alaimo and Mr. Green for serving on the committee for four years. He encouraged others to join the Senior Committee.

AGE GROUP CHAIRS

Mr. Green discussed the new Zone Coordinator position, which is planned to receive a \$2500 stipend. Applicants should email the Age Group Chairs. The Eastern Zone LC Champs originally planned for Richmond have been moved to Hampton VA. The chairs reported listening to feedback to provide the best experience to our athletes including travel. Mr. Green thanked the Age Group committee members. Mr. Fregus thanked the Board of Directors for their support, reported that the IMX had been held at Hampton Aquaplex, but is expected to go back to the University of Maryland for the next 2 years.

SAFE SPORT CHAIRS

Mr. Paspalas reported that templates were available on USA Swimming website for the Safe Sport Recognition Program. Less than 10% of Metro teams have pursued the SSRP. He also reported responding to a few incidents during his term.

OPERATIONAL RISK CHAIR

Mr. Vializ reported not receiving data from USA Swimming, but would report when it becomes available.

SWIMS TIMES

Ms. Grayson submitted a written report.

TECHNICAL PLANNING CHAIR

Mr. Montgomery discussed the proposal approved in the consent agenda. LC Junior Mets will be feature single-year age groups. SCY time standards will remain same as in the Spring. He indicated that each location of the Silver Championships had different issues this year. Bonus swims and nonqualifiers may be allowed. Event fees were increased for the 8&U Championships, athlete surcharge were increased across all champs meets. Thorough discussion on championships ensued.

DEI CHAIR

Mr. Oyola reported he and the DEI Committee are working to help teams with limited resources to help grow the sport.

GOVERNANCE CHAIR

Mr. Chu reported that the Governance Committee had worked on proposal that were approved including consecutive term limits, composition of the Governance Committee, document retention policy, and board orientation.



HALL OF FAME CHAIR

Ms. Graham plans to set up committee meetings, to discuss criteria for the Hall of Fame, will outline ideas to be submitted at the next Board of Directors meeting.

OFFICIALS CHAIRS

Mr. Graham reported that a new committee structure was implemented, and they have monthly meetings posted on Metro website. The committee has focused on implementing R9, roll out of the Starter and Deck Referee clinics and Junior officials. They also reportedly discussed the committee budget and officials reimbursement. Mr. Graham recognized 4 Metro officials were selected for Olympic Trials. The committee is focusing on retention, championship meet participation, and additional OQMs.

OPEN WATER CHAIRS

Mr. Fleckenstein reported the Open Water Championships will move to Glen Island park. He indicated we need volunteers, kayakers and boaters, etc. He also noted the Eastern Zone Open Water Championships will be held June 22-23.

STRATEGIC PLANNING CHAIR

Ms. Chen reported the Strategic Planning Committee has been working on the 2024-2026 strategic plan based on materials received from USA Swimming, and will submit for approval to the Board of Directors.

ELECTIONS

Mr. Chu reported nominations received from the Governance Committee and asked if there were any nominations from the floor.

Mr. Mclung nominated Jennifer Bancroft and Darryl Strabuk for Safe Sport Chairs.

Mr. Graham nominated Phil Paspalas for Administrative Vice Chair.

Mr. Rodriguez nominated Kate Hallex and Diana Ross for Senior Vice Chair.

Mr. Wagner nominated Phil Paspalas and Sandy Graham for Safe Sport Chairs.

Mr. Chu nominated Julie Chen for the Governance Committee.

MOTION: Mr. Chu motioned to close nominations. Seconded. **APPROVED**

MOTION: Mr. Chu motioned to elect Phil Paspalas for Administrative Vice Chair, Christopher Arena for Finance Vice Chair, Zac Hojnacki for Coaches Representative, Jeff Chu and Annette Mackrel for Secretary, Kate Hallex and Diana Ross for Senior Vice Chair, Eddie Oyola for DEI Chair, and Julie Chen for the Governance Committee. Seconded. **APPROVED**

Mr. Paspalas withdrew from consideration for Safe Sport Chair. Ms. Graham withdrew from consideration for Safe Sport Chair.



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MOTION: *Mr. Chu motioned to elect Jennifer Bancroft and Darryl Strabuk for Safe Sport Chairs.*
Seconded. APPROVED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Awards and Scoring for Junior Mets

Mr. Montgomery made a proposal to “now have Junior Met Long Course Meter awards be first through tenth for ages 9 and under, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15-18. It’d be medals for first through third, ribbons for fourth through tenth. Its just mimicking the short course yards one, and then scoring aswell. First through tenth by that single age 9 and under 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15-18 going 11-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 and then relays as should be noted with that format. He asked, and Mr. Rodriguez seconded. Mr. Montgomery stated “So the full proposal is to add the single age scoring the single awards, with that the athlete surcharge increase to be implemented starting with the the next championship meet which is Junior Mets this summer.” Ms. Nussbaum seconded. Mr. Montgomery stated “that is passed”.

ADJOURN

Mr. Rodriguez adjourned the meeting after one hour and nine minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jeff Chu

Secretary

/s/ Annette Mackrel

Secretary



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Metropolitan Swimming House of Delegates Meeting Minutes Attachments
May 9, 2024 / Zoom

Attachment 1

Page 1 – [Agenda](#)

Attachment 2

Page 2 – [DRAFT Meeting Minutes September 30, 2023](#)

