Gulf LMSC Meeting
Wednesday, June 3, 2020
Virtual Meeting via Zoom Conference

Attendance:

Officers and Committee Chairs:
Kris Wingenroth (Chair), Mark Hahn (Treasurer), Karlene Denby (Secretary, Newsletter, Long Distance), Bruce Williams (Registrar), Stacey Eicks (Top Ten Recorder), Herb Schwab (Officials), Nicole Christensen (Webmaster, Zone Chair), Bruce Rollins (Coaches)

Team Representatives: Linda Visser (COOG)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The minutes from the Gulf LMSC meeting of May 6, 2020 were approved by an email vote and were posted to the Gulf LMSC website on May 12, 2020. Kris, Nicole, and Karlene talked about getting the future meeting minutes placed on the website in a timely manner. Kris suggested continuing the practice of approving the minutes via email. It was agreed that a response would be required within three business days from when the minutes are emailed and that the response deadline should be stated in said email.

Officers' Reports

- Chairwoman (Kris Wingenroth) – no report
- Vice Chair (Kevin Lunsford) – not present, no report
- Secretary (Karlene Denby) – no report
- Treasurer (Mark Hahn) – no report
- Membership Coordinator/Registrar (Bruce Williams) – Bruce provided a pdf document showing Gulf registration as of June 2, 2020. As expected, membership is down significantly when compared to 2019, most like due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Bruce noted that there have been about 50 new registrants in the past few months. Karlene reported that 22 of those registrants in May were for COOG, and were due to the program reopening as of June 1 and USMS registration being a requirement to participate in COOG workouts.

Committee Reports

- Sanction Chair (Kevin Lunsford) – not present, no report
- Top Ten Recorder (Stacey Eicks) – no report
- Communications (Karlene Denby) – no report
- Webmaster (Nicole Christensen) – no report
- Coaches (Bruce Rollins) – no report
- Fitness (Rebecca Tompkins) – not present, no report
- Officials (Herb Schwab) – no report
- Open Water (Karlene Denby) – Karlene reported that the SAA open water event has been canceled for 2020 and is being replaced with a virtual event. The virtual event is called the "Coast to Coast Challenge" and participants can track all of their fitness activities to log miles across the country. The entry fee is $25 and will include a custom t-shirt. There are no fundraising minimums. Swimmers who had already registered for the open water swim were automatically entered in the virtual event.
- South Central Zone (Nicole Christensen) – Nicole reported that the new South Central Zone webpage is now live (southcentralzone.org). Nicole plans to add a bid packet for Zone Championships to the website. The 2020 LC Zone Championships have been moved to July 31-August 2. The meet director,

Susan Ingraham, is still awaiting a decision from the Northeast ISD on whether she will be able to use their facility for the competition. That decision is expected in 2-3 weeks.

Old Business

- Delegates for the virtual USMS convention to be held Sept. 24-26: At the meeting of May 6, 2020, Stacey Eicks, Herb Schwab, and Kevin Lunsford were selected as delegates to the convention, with Mark Hahn as the alternate delegate. Kevin has advised that he will not be able to attend. Mark Hahn has agreed to be the Gulf LMSC's third delegate.

New Business

- Graham Johnston Invitational: The meet has been rescheduled for Sunday, July 12, 2020. Nicole provided detailed information (attached to the minutes) regarding COVID-19 safety procedures for the competition. Nicole said that she would need 35-40 participants to reach the break-even point for the meet. Registration will be capped at 100 entrants with the possibility of adding a second session if demand warrants it. Nicole has been in contact with the USMS National Office and she stated that Dawson Hughes, USMS CEO, is supportive of holding the meet. Herb Schwab will be the head referee for the meet and plans to run the competition with the minimum number of officials. There will be only one timer per lane. Disqualifications will not be communicated from officials to swimmers in order to minimize person-to-person contact. Disqualifications will be made available via SwimPhone and event results. Modified fly-over starts will be used. Entrants will receive a refund (minus Club Assistant processing fees) if the meet is canceled. The email sent out just prior to the meet will include a flyer with important COVID-19 safety measures. MSA to approve holding the Graham Johnston Invitational on July 12, 2020 with appropriate precautions in place.
- SMOG grant for Graham Johnston Invitational: MSA to approve a grant, if needed. Nicole would have to submit the request with appropriate documentation after the meet's conclusion.
- Brainstorm ways that the Gulf LMSC can assist our clubs and members during the COVID-19 pandemic: The consensus was formed that it would be difficult for the LMSC to determine how to assist its constituents until it knew the National Office's plan to provide financial assistance to clubs. In the meantime, it was determined that Kris, Karlene, Mark, and Nicole would work together to develop a survey to determine club and swimmer needs. Stacey said that at the present time there was no way to determine the status of WMST swimmers. Karlene will find out about the status of the COOG team and its members. Bruce Williams said that after mid-June RICE coach, Seth Huston, would have a better handle on RICE's status as that is the start of the next quarter for member registration. Some ideas that were bounced around included helping distressed members with payment of club dues and providing assistance in meet entries.
- Bruce Rollins suggested organizing a virtual fitness event for Gulf members. Kris assigned Bruce the task of developing said fitness event.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. (virtually)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karlene Denby, Secretary