

Gulf LMSC Meeting
Wednesday August 10, 2022
Via Zoom Conference Call

Kris welcomed all attendees.

Attendance

Officers and Committee Chairs: Kris Wingenroth (Chair), Karlene Denby (Secretary, Communications Chair, Fitness Chair), Mark Hahn (Treasurer), Linda Visser (Membership Coordinator), Stacey Eicks (Coaches Chair), Andreas Lorenz (Long Distance Chair), Nicole Christensen (Gulf Webmaster, South Central Zone Chair), Kyra Wakefield (Top Ten)

Other Attendees: Patrick Harrington (MACA)

All meeting attendees are eligible to vote.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The May 25, 2022 meeting minutes were approved by an email vote on June 2, 2022, and they were posted to the Gulf LMSC website shortly after being approved.

Officers' Reports

- Chairwoman (Kris Wingenroth): No report.
- Vice Chair (Kevin Lunsford): Not present. No report.
- Secretary (Karlene Denby): No report.
- Treasurer (Mark Hahn): Current financial status: There is \$38,425.61 in the bank account plus an additional \$30,000+ in CDs. The only significant financial activity since the last meeting was a \$3,500 payment for the Josh Davis clinic. Nicole reported that members paid approximately \$700 for clinic attendance, which will reduce the total Gulf clinic expenditure to about \$2,800.
- Membership Coordinator (Linda Visser): No report.

Committee Reports

- Sanction Chair (Kevin Lunsford): Not present. No report.
- Top Ten Recorder (Kyra Wakefield): No report.
- Communications (Karlene Denby): The summer newsletter has been completed, and Nicole has posted it on the Gulf website.
- Webmaster (Nicole Christensen): No report.
- Coaches (Stacey Eicks): No report.
- Fitness (Karlene Denby): No report.
- Officials (Herb Schwab): Not present. No report.

- Open Water (Andreas Lorenz): The open water swim clinic had three participants and two mentors. The very low swimmer to mentor ratio enabled the initially anxious swimmers to feel very comfortable in the open water environment, and they left excited to try other open water experiences and to tell their friends about the clinic.
- Diversity and Inclusion (Anna Bass): Not present. Kris reported that five swimmers are participating in the ALTS classes.

South Central Zone Report – Nicole Christensen (Zone Chair)

Two of the three events in the Zone Open Water Swim Series have occurred, and both events exceeded their registration goals. The last event in the series is scheduled on September 25, 2022 in Eureka Springs, AR. Plans are already in place to continue the series in 2023. Houston will move its event earlier, and it will occur in late April. North Texas LMSC is working on adding a swim to the 2023 series schedule.

The annual South Central Zone meeting will occur via Zoom on September 1, 2022 at 6 p.m. CDT. Nicole will advise all Zone members about the meeting in an email blast. The meeting will include discussion about holding both SCY and LCM Zone Championship meets in 2023. The deadline for Zone Championship Meet bids is August 21, 2022.

Unfinished Business

- Team Dividend Proposal for the 2023 Registration Year: The meeting attendees voted to remove the team dividend proposal from the table, discuss it, and ultimately vote on the proposal. Andreas stated that the goal of the program is to increase membership. Once the proposal is approved, there will be an announcement of the proposal to all clubs and coaches in August 2022. Written details of the proposal were provided to all meeting attendees and are attached to the meeting minutes. The proposal will pay USMS registered clubs \$4 per USMS registered swimmer during the 2023 registration period of November 1, 2022 – October 31, 2023. Clubs will receive two checks, the first check for swimmers registered as of March 31, 2023 (mailed in April 2023) and the second check for swimmers registered as of October 31, 2023 (mailed in November 2023). Giving two payouts will keep coaches and teams engaged to continue to increase their membership. The checks will go directly to the teams, and the guidelines suggest that 50% of the funds be used for USMS team benefits and 50% go directly to the coaches. This is a pilot program, and the results will be analyzed at the end of the program to see if it will be continued for the 2024 registration year. Stacey and Andreas ultimately decided to have a single-tier payment level as opposed to paying more per swimmer to smaller teams. The larger teams are the ones that deliver more members and will ultimately generate more of a positive impact on total membership. There was also concern about incentivizing a team to stay small, as increased membership could put them in a lower pay per swimmer category. **There was a motion and second to approve the proposal as presented.** Further discussion ensued, and **there was a motion and second on an amendment to increase the payment to \$5 per swimmer. The amendment to increase to \$5 failed on a 6-2 vote. There then was a vote to approve the original motion of \$4 per swimmer, which passed unanimously, 8-0.** Karlene has volunteered to write up the final proposal for an email blast to the coaches and membership.
- Report on the Josh Davis Clinic: Nicole reported that 26 members registered for the clinic. Nicole was not at the clinic but has received feedback that the clinic was a great experience. Nicole had hoped for higher member turnout. Patrick Harrington participated, and he said that Josh was easy to be

around, that he provided some good coaching and drill tips, and that the Rice pool was a great facility. Patrick also said the number of participants was very manageable for Josh to provide adequate feedback to each swimmer, and it was a morning well spent.

New Business

- The USMS National Coaches Clinic will be held October 7-9, 2022 in Las Vegas, NV. Discussion ensued on whether the LMSC wanted to fund or partially fund participants to this clinic. Approximate costs: \$275 registration, \$534 hotel (2 nights, 2 people per room), \$700 round-trip airfare Houston-Las Vegas, \$100 parking and ground transportation for a total expense of approximately \$1,600.00 per person. Most meals are included in the registration fee. Rather than make a decision now on funding participants, Stacey will send out an email blast to all Gulf coaches about the clinic and possible partial reimbursement to see if there is any interest in attending. Stacey will report back if any coaches want to attend.
- There will be a USA Swimming Strength Training Workshop. It is open to USA swim coaches and Masters swimmers. The workshop is on September 17, 2022, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Lifetime City Centre, 815 Town and Country Blvd. (Memorial area). The cost is \$99 until Sept. 6, \$129 until Sept. 11. The workshop is limited to 20 participants.
- An updated USMS Liability Release and Waiver has been published. Please make sure your clubs and meet directors are using the updated version.
- Annual meeting update: Kris has reviewed the upcoming legislation and there is only one controversial item. Who has the power to determine the format of the annual meeting? Is it the House of Delegates or the Board of Directors? The BOD argues that they should be the ones to determine this because they are the ones that are knowledgeable about the budget and what the organization can afford. The current USMS President has proposed that over the next three years that the format be hybrid (year 1), virtual (year 2), and hybrid (year 3).

Upcoming Events

September 16-18, 2022: USMS Annual Meeting, Westin Denver International Airport, Denver, CO

September 17, 2022: ASCA Strength Training Workshop, Lifetime Fitness City Centre

September 25, 2022: Walmart OZ Open Water Swims (1 mi./2 mi./3 mi.), Beaver Lake Dam, Bentonville, AR

October 7 – 9, 2022: USMS National Masters Coaches Clinic, Las Vegas, NV

October 1, 2022: 2023 USMS club registration begins

November 1, 2022: 2023 USMS member registration begins

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at Fuzzy's Pizza.

A November meeting is tentatively scheduled on Wednesday, November 2, 2022 via Zoom.

The annual meeting is tentatively scheduled on Saturday December 3rd at Dad's Club. Kris asked Nicole to reserve space at Dad's Club for this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karlene Denby, Secretary