

Gulf LMSC Meeting
Wednesday, October 5, 2022
Location: Fuzzy's Pizza

APPROVED 10/12/2022

Kris welcomed all attendees.

Attendance

Officers and Committee Chairs: Kris Wingenroth (Chair), Kevin Lunsford (Vice 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), Claire Parker (Social Media)

Other Attendees: Carolyn Boak (WMST), Tom Boak (WMST), Patrick Harrington (MACA), John Keen (COOG)

All meeting attendees are certified eligible to vote.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

Our newest committee chair, Claire Parker (Social Media), introduced herself to everyone.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

The August 10, 2022 meeting minutes were approved by an email vote on August 23, 2022, and they were posted to the Gulf LMSC website on August 24, 2022.

Officers' Reports

- Chair (Kris Wingenroth): FCST held the "First Time for Everything" meet after the team's USA-S intersquad meet. There were 13 registered Masters swimmers. Four swimmers requested "First Meet Free" registration reimbursement, and three of the requests were approved. Kris advised that we cannot utilize the "First Meet Free" program for open water events as there is no way to verify prior swims. Open water results are not published by USMS.
- Vice Chair (Kevin Lunsford): No report.
- Secretary (Karlene Denby): No report.
- Treasurer (Mark Hahn): The checking account balance was \$38,247.11 as of September 30, 2022. The current balance of the three CDs is \$30,505.71. There has been \$2,504.95 of revenue YTD. The only major expenditure since the previous meeting has been reimbursement of expenses submitted by the USMS annual meeting attendees. Two of the four LMSCs have already remitted their portion of reimbursement of Zone expenses paid by the Gulf LMSC.
- Membership Coordinator (Linda Visser): There were 954 Gulf registered members as of Monday, October 3, 2022. That is less than last year at the same point in time. Nationally, registration numbers are higher than 2021, while the Gulf LMSC numbers are down. So far, 11 Gulf clubs have completed their 2023 club registration with USMS.

Committee Reports

- Sanction Chair (Kevin Lunsford): There have been seven sanctioned events in 2022 (The Sweetheart SCY meet, the March Madness SCY meet, the Zone Championship SCY meet, the Lake Longhorn open water swim, the Graham Johnston Invitational LCM meet, the First Time for Everything SCY meet, and the Sabine Weiser November Classis SCM meet). Blue Tide Aquatics expressed interest in holding a meet just for their members, but they didn't follow through after being advised that they would be responsible for the sanction fee. Kevin encouraged them to open the meet up to all USMS swimmers so that the sanction fee would be covered by the Gulf LMSC.
- Top Ten Recorder (Kyra Wakefield): Not present. No report. Stacey reported that she is working with Kyra to finalize result submissions to the National Office.
- Communications (Karlene Denby): Karlene is already gathering items for the Fall newsletter. The newsletter will include articles about USMS award winners Nicole Christensen and Mark Hahn, a workout, a nutrition article, a recap of the open water swim series, information about 2023 USMS registration, the 2023 team rebate incentive, 2023 Gulf Swim University, upcoming events, the Gulf annual meeting, the Tanksgiving Day swim, and the membership fee rebate (if passed). She hopes to have the newsletter disseminated to the members by mid-November.
- Webmaster (Nicole Christensen): There have not been a lot of changes to the website since the last meeting. Both the "First Meet Free" program and the team membership rebate are prominently featured on the home page. As always, Nicole encourages suggestions to improve the website.
- Coaches (Stacey Eicks): No report.
- Fitness (Karlene Denby): Karlene will be sending an email out in December to last year's participants announcing the 2023 event. It will also be announced in the Fall newsletter. Tentatively, the participation award will be a high-quality towel, and Karlene hopes to have a post-event social again this year.
- Officials (Herb Schwab): Not present. No report.
- Open Water (Andreas Lorenz): Andreas had hoped to hold a second open water clinic before the end of the year, but he was not able to do so. The next Lake Longhorn swim will be held in April 2023.
- Diversity and Inclusion (Anna Bass): Not present. No report. Kris reported that Anna had five registered participants for this summer's ALTS program. Unfortunately, the pool broke down after the first session. Anna reported that all five registrants are still interested in continuing with the program once the pool is again available. Kris says that Anna is very committed to making the ALTS program successful.
- Social Media (Claire Parker): Claire advised that she tries to post at least weekly on our three social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) in order to keep the Gulf LMSC in the members' newsfeeds.

South Central Zone Report – Nicole Christensen (Zone Chair)

- Nominations for the 2023 Jesse Coon award are needed. The deadline to submit nominations is January 31, 2023. The award will be presented at the South Central Zone SCY Championship meet in Lewisville, TX.
- Guidelines for hosting the Zone Championship meets have been finalized and are posted on the Zone website. All meet directors must follow the guidelines beginning in 2024.
- 2022 Open Water Grand Prix report: The inaugural series was a big success with all three venues exceeding the projected registration numbers. Towels were made for the six overall

winners and a custom plaque was designed for those swimmers who participated in all three swims. The Arkansas swim landed Walmart and Oz Outdoors as event sponsors. In 2023, the Arkansas swim is partnering with an open water race in South Africa for the one-mile event. The overall male and female winners of the Arkansas swim will be provided entry and expenses to the South African race, and the same will be done for the winners of the South African swim. The 2023 Arkansas races already has a confirmed date of September 24, 2023. The Houston area race is looking at a mid-April date, and the San Antonio area event will be tentatively scheduled in early June. A major change for the 2023 series will be that overall winners must participate in a minimum number of events to be award eligible. That minimum number will be determined after the 2023 event schedule is finalized.

Unfinished Business

- USMS Annual Meeting report (Kris Wingenroth)
 - It was voted to give the USMS Board of Directors the ability to fix the time, place, and method of the annual meeting.
 - It was voted to allow an extension of the Top Ten Times season if the National Championship is held after the traditional season end date, rather than have those times put in the following year's rankings.
 - Update of fee increases for 2023: Club registration is \$65 October 1-31, 2022 and \$70 beginning November 1, 2022. Individual member registration is \$65 November 1 – December 31, 2022 and \$70 beginning January 1, 2023. One-event registration is \$20. Fees are set by USMS, so they do not require Gulf approval.
 - 2023 is an election for USMS officers.

New Business

- Emmett Hines Award nominees: Historically, we receive very few nominations. Kris retains the nominations from previous years to increase the nomination pool. The LMSC needs to be more active in encouraging nominations for the award via email blasts, social media, and the newsletter. Award criteria are available on the Gulf website.
- Tanksgiving Day Swim: In future years, the LMSC would like to hold this event at multiple locations. The major challenge in doing this is that most pools are unavailable on Thanksgiving Day. For this year, it is proposed that the event again be held at the Dad's Club. Costs will include \$60/hour for guards, a donation to the Dad's Club for providing the pool free of charge, and refreshments. **MSA that the Gulf provide \$500 to fund the 2023 Tanksgiving Day Swim at Dad's Club.**
- Need-based \$10 rebate on individual membership registration: With the increase in USMS registration fees, Nicole has proposed that the Gulf provide a \$10 rebate to those members experiencing financial hardship. Nicole will make an application for the process. This is on the honor system, and it not anticipated that there will be abuse of the program. **MSA to fund a \$10 rebate to each member demonstrating financial hardship with a maximum number of 70 applicants (\$700 total).**
- Pay Clubs' 2023 Registration Fees: As over half our clubs have already registered for 2023, this is put on hold until 2024.

- Nominating Committee/Officer Nominations: This slate will be sent out to the membership prior to the annual meeting on December 3, 2022. Nominations for all positions can also be submitted from the floor during the annual meeting.
 - Chair: Nicole Christensen
 - Vice Chair: Stacey Eicks
 - Secretary: Kris Wingenroth
 - Treasurer: Karlene Denby
 - Membership: Linda Visser
- Should we change our by-laws to move the position of Membership Coordinator from an elected position to an appointed position? **Motion and second to move the membership coordinator from an elected position to an appointed position. As this is a by-law change, it will be voted on at the November 2, 2022 meeting.**
- Policy “housekeeping” change needed: the term USMS “Convention” needs to be changed to USMS “Annual Meeting” in the LMSC’s policy document. **MSA to make the change.**
- Review and/or update the sanction fee policy for open water swim events: We previously voted for a one-time payment of the sanction fee and \$5/swimmer for the 2022 Lake Longhorn event. This is proposal to make this a standing policy so that we will no longer need to approve this on an event-by-event basis. **MSA for the LMSC to institute a policy that it will pay the \$100 open water sanction fee plus \$5/swimmer up to a maximum of 100 swimmers (\$600 total) for each open water event.**
- USMS Team Code of Conduct policy template: Stacey and Carolyn will review and revise the document to bring back to the board for review at the November 2, 2022 meeting.
- Hold a Gulf Coaching Clinic: After discussions with Bill Brenner, Nicole has proposed that Bill conduct a two-day clinic for coaches on how to run a stroke clinic. Day one would cover the mechanics of teaching all four competitive strokes in both a classroom and pool setting. Day two would be an actual clinic open to Gulf registered swimmers during which the coaches would put their learned skills into practice. Costs would include pool and meeting room rental, Bill’s expenses (airfare, hotel, local transportation), and snacks and lunch for the coaches on the first day. Prior to committing to this large expenditure, it is important to know if there is sufficient interest on the part the LMSC’s coaches. Stacey will send a document to the coaches to determine interest in attending the clinic.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

The annual meeting is scheduled on Saturday December 3, 2022, 2:20-4:30 p.m., at Dad’s Club.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karlene Denby, Secretary



2023 Registration
Fee Rebate Proposa



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Fees 2023.xlsx



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Membership Coordi

Upcoming Swims and Events

Events

October 1, 2022	2023 USMS club registration began.
November 1, 2022	2023 USMS member registration begins.
February 18, 2023	USMS Coaching Certification Classes, Dallas, TX

Pool Meets

November 12-13, 2022	Sabine Weiser November Classic SCM Meet, Conroe ISD Natatorium, Shenandoah, TX
February 11, 2023	Sweetheart Swim SCY Meet, WW Emmons Natatorium, Houston, TX
March 5, 2023	Rice March Madness SCY Meet, Rice University, Houston, TX
March 31-April 2, 2023	South Central Zone SCY Championships, Lewisville ISD Westside Natatorium, Lewisville, TX
April 27-30, 2023	USMS Spring Nationals (SCY), Irvine, CA
June 4, 2023 (tentative)	Graham Johnston Invitational LCM Meet, Dad's Club, Houston, TX
July 22-23, 2023	South Central Zone LCM Championships, Walker Pool at Blossom Aquatic Center, San Antonio, TX
August 2-6, 2023	USMS Summer Nationals (LCM), Sarasota, FL
August 2-11, 2023	FINA World Masters Championships, Kyushu, Japan

Open Water Swims

Mid-April 2023	Lake Longhorn Open Water Swim, League City, TX
Early June 2023	Gatormania Open Water Swims, Bourne, TX
September 24, 2023	OZ Open Water Swims, Beaver Lake Dam, Arkansas