

**Montana Swimming Semi-Annual
HOD Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2015 - 9:00 am
Jorgenson Conference Center, Helena, MT
Big Sky. Big Dreams. Big Success!**

****These minutes have not been approved****

Present:

1. Roll Call - Sign in as you enter the room - Kirby
 - a. General Chair, Tony Popp, called to order @ 9:05am.

Business:

1. Welcome and instructions - Tony Popp, Brendan Campbell
 - a. Parliamentary procedure overview; to be implemented in today's meeting. Goal is to run our meetings smoothly and effectively. All phones are to be silenced.
 - b. Overview of new Core Values, Vision, and Mission statements accomplished at the April 2015 and September 2015 strategic planning sessions with Arlene McDonald.
 - c. Motion to approve all three new statements, seconded - passed.
2. Review, correction, adoption of minutes from Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 HOD meetings.
 - a. Small committee was formed to polish up the minutes from Fall 2014 and Spring 2015. Corrections will be posted to MT Swimming website by Oct 31, 2015. Any corrections to be made should be sent to Tami Peters by Nov 10, 2015: bteters94@gmail.com.
 - b. Minutes committee members: Darya Peters (athlete), Shelly Sobek (coach), Susan Hucceby, Tami Peters.
3. Short reports - Full reports will be posted to MT Swimming website.
 - a. Officers:
 - i. General Chair (Tony Popp) - Focused on learning his new position and aligning with USA Swimming.
 - ii. Admin Vice Chair (Curt Jacobson) - Focused on LEAP work for the LSC. Beginning to work towards LEAP III now that LEAP II is complete
 - iii. Program Development Vice Chair (Kyle Potter) - Focused on learning his role as Program Development Chair. Triple A and IMX awards.
 - iv. Membership Registration Coordinator (Lanni Jacobson) - Reports a decline in registrations (47). 2014 = 1250 athletes, 2015 = 1203 athletes
 - v. Finance Vice Chair (Richard Allen) - Has moved to Kansas. Election for this position will be held later today.
 - vi. Treasure (Craig Smith) - Records show MT Swimming finished last year with a profit because of the timing of financials (payable and receivable). See full report for details.
 - vii. Secretary (Tami) - All's good. Will be working on getting past minutes posted to the website for approval. Also working on a complete contact list for all Montana teams.
 - viii. Records Coordinator (John Heryla) - Records on website are all up to date.
 - ix. Program Operations Chair (Lisa Keyes) - Zones organizer is a big job for one person; recommends having two people in this position especially now that there are two Zones teams.

- x. Safe Sport Coordinator (Shelly Sobek) - Reminds new hire coaches to follow all necessary USA Swimming requirements. Athlete Protection Training now has a renewal course. Gave updates on Safe Sport Fellowship for athletes. Transgender information is posted on the website.
- xi. Coach Representative (Kirby Beierle) - Currently working to help coaches grow in the environment of a small LSC. Overview of the duties of technical planning chair.
- xii. Officials Chair (Merle Gunderson) - Fifteen officials attended the annual officials meeting yesterday. There are 79 registered Montana LSC officials to date. Lots of information and a full report posted on the website.
- xiii. Safety coordinator (Rosanne Flann)- Not present.
- xiv. Information Technology Chair-Webmaster (Susan Huckleby) - Currently working towards a new skin and organization for the LSC website. Please forward suggestions to Susan. Gave an update on Diversity and inclusion for Western Zone. Scholastic All American team now has 5 members: Brendan Campbell MYST, Hannah Leach MAC, Pierce Oja BAC, Andrea Schmidt MAC, and Adam Zimmer MAC.
- xv. Senior Athlete Rep (Patrick Brennan) - Reminder that 20% athlete participation is needed on all committees within USA Swimming.
- xvi. Senior Athlete Rep (Alyssa Boese) - Great time at convention with lots of athlete interaction and learning focused workshops!
- xvii. Junior Athlete Rep (Darya Peters) - Convention was a blast! Great being able to meet all the athletes from across the nation. Reiterated many of the same comments as the other athlete reps.
- xviii. Junior Athlete Rep (Brendan Campbell) - Also had a great time at convention. Big take-away was athlete representation and feels MT Swimming in general does a good job with this requirement. Also enjoyed learning about governance.

Old Business:

1. Strategic Planning Sessions - Tony Popp, et al

- a. Two sessions were held this past year with Arlene McDonald from USA Swimming: April 25 and September 19, 2015.
- b. Four critical areas of focus for MT Swimming coming out of the September 19, 2015 session:
 - i. Athlete performance:
 - 1. Jade Sobek - Continued education for coaches. We need consistency with AAA camps and finding steps between large gaps in qualifying times at various levels.
 - 2. Patrick Brennan- Focus on improving education and interaction between coaches.
 - ii. Facilities:
 - 1. Tony Popp - (Will cover in more detail in New Business) Prioritized an action plan and bring 'Build a Pool' to Montana.
 - iii. Growth and numbers:
 - 1. Shelly Sobek - Focus on retaining the 12&U category. Find, develop, and organize promotional materials for all teams to use. Work to draw in kids cut from other sports at junior high and high school levels.
 - 2. Jim Cherewatenko - Suggests the generation of a committee to generate approaches to these above listed thoughts for the whole LSC.
 - iv. Volunteers:

1. Tami Peters -Volunteer brainstorming report will be posted on the website. Currently there are 16 clubs in MT Swimming. The 3 points for focus will be highlighted yellow on the posted report.
2. Zones 2015:
 - a. Lisa Keyes - Highest athlete participation on record (25 athletes attended Age Group Zones, 29 athletes attended Senior Zones). Received good feedback and reports in general. Full report will be posted on MT Swimming website. Reminder that even though many parents attend age group zones, chaperones are still necessary to be on deck with swimmers at least 8 hours each day. Recommendations: Went over budget slightly due to more athletes attending and the high expense of being in Hawaii. Selection criteria for age group zones needs to be fine tuned. There is lots of feedback and performance numbers to be considered for selection criteria. Need to draft a contract covering prepaid expenses in case a selected swimmer/coach needs to back out of the meet.
 - b. Ben & Tami Peters (chaperones for Senior Zones) - Super great group of athletes! Budget worked well, especially money allotted for daily Costco runs. Atmosphere and commadore in this experience was outstanding!
 - c. Kyle Potter - Age group Zones was an incredibly valuable experience for the athletes, especially the BB time standard swimmers that were allowed to attend.
3. MixMeet 2015: Hosted in Bozeman April 18-19, 2015.
 - a. Jade & Shelly Sobek - Report was given at the May 2015 HOD. Hopefully LSC can get 2 of these MixMeets running each year. Shelly is willing to share all hosting materials. Please encourage the older swimmers to attend; they enjoyed last April's meet very much and set a great example for the younger swimmers.
4. AAA Camp/Montana All Stars awards:
 - a. Shelly Sobek- No AAA camp this year for the older swimmers; they received an embroidered vest instead. Please see Shelly to get these. Short Course IMX awards have been handed out.
 - b. Special note from Curt Jacobson: We need to focus on swimmers qualifying for IMX for LEAP III
 - c. Brendan Campbell - Recommends an IMX chart (Known on Coach Kirby Beierle's team as the 'Full Boat Chart') for swimmers to check off what events they have swum each season.
 - d. Jade Sobek - Highlighted that the 11-14 year old range is the focus for IMX.
 - e. Kirby Beierle - Reiterated the values of the 'Full Boat Chart' and the impact it has on the athletes' motivation and enthusiasm.
 - f. Jacob Butler (athlete present)- Also commented on the value of the 'Full Boat Chart'. This has been a great motivation on the MYST team!
5. LEAP II:
 - a. Tony Popp - Gave an overview of ALL that was invested into the accomplishment of LEAP II for MT Swimming. Also highlighted the various activities our LSC does that are credited in this program.
 - b. USA Swimming has 59 LSCs: Only 3 have reached LEAP III; 7 more have reached LEAP II (MT Swimming is one of these!).
 - c. Lisa Keyes - MT Swimming was awarded \$1000 from USA Swimming at convention for the LEAP II accomplishment.
6. USA National Swimming Convention (1-2 minutes from each of the attendees)
 - a. Tony Popp: Commented on the aquatic varieties within USA Swimming. Had many productive conversations with several other general chairs. Alaska in particular has doubled athlete numbers over about 3 years.
 - b. Lanni Jacobson: Convention is extremely valuable for Lanni's work with MT Swimming. Club Portals; has everyone's passwords; lots of information here. USA Swimming will be redesigning their website to be more mobile friendly. Coaches and officials please use your deck pass account; lots of information for you here.

- c. Lisa Keyes: Attended many of the same meetings as Jade Sobek. Highlighted some recommended books by David Bensil. Recommends that all coaches do whatever they can to go to national convention! Curt estimates the cost would be ~\$1500 for a coach to attend; a worthwhile request to take to your club board.
- d. Jade Sobek: Attended Age Group Developmental meetings and gave updates. Highlighted Frank Busch's (director of USA Swimming's nation team) presentation on creation of a culture for developing athletes in a positive light.
- e. Susan Huckeby: Time standards for Scholastic All American Team will be changing as well as many of the points criteria. Gave a Diversity and Inclusion committee update.
- f. Larry Johnson: Not present. (Jade Sobek on his behalf) Larry is part of a task force for evaluating our structure and governance. Surveys on this will be arriving shortly, so please answer them honestly and completely and return them quickly.
- g. Kyle Potter: Convention was a great opportunity as a young coach, both as a coach and as a member of our LSC's governing body! Learned a lot to bring back and begin to put to use.
- h. Kirby Beierle: Impressed with so many learning opportunities, especially as this was her first time. A highlight was going to the Women in Swimming breakfast. Honoree at this was Arlene McDonald who has run our strategic planning sessions. Attended a coaches' meeting covering a wide variety of topics. Very excited to go next year!
- i. Sarah Huckeby: Not present. (Susan on her behalf) Attended Board of Review meetings.
- j. Lydia Huckeby: Not present. (Susan on her behalf) Attended presentations on Deck Pass and registration.
- k. Brendan Campbell: Convention was a blast! Thank you to MT Swimming for giving us such incredible opportunities.
- l. Alyssa Boese & Darya Peters: Shared a great story, along with Tony Popp, on the opportunity to meet and get a picture with Colin Jones!
- m. Patrick Brennan: Same comments as Brendan.

New Business:

1. 'Build A Pool' Conference - Tony Popp
 - a. During convention Tony Popp worked on bringing a 'Build a Pool' convention to Montana. The best date for Mick Nelson (USA Swimming's Facilities Director) is June 4-5, 2016. Other possible dates are May 28-29, June 4-5, June 11-12. After much discussion on graduation and meet dates, June 4-5, 2016 will be our target date.
2. Other education opportunities - Jade Sobek
 - a. Idaho Falls is hosting a regional coaches' clinic on April 23-24, 2016.
 - b. During convention, Jade talked with neighboring LSC about joining to host an elite level camp.
3. USAS/LSC Surveys - Larry Johnson
 - n. Surveys regarding LSC structure and governance will be sent out shortly. Please answer them honestly and completely and return them quickly.
4. Reduced Registration Fees - Lanni Jacobson
 - a. Last year Lanni approved all outreach applications. This year she is asking for the first page of the applicant's 1040 tax return or their free and reduced lunch program paperwork.
5. Website - Susan Huckeby

- a. Send information and updates to Susan to be posted. Remember the website layout will be changing soon.
6. Budget - Craig Smith
- a. Reviewed Balance sheet and Purposed Budget. (Please note changes between Purposed Budget and Revised Budget)
 - b. Finances are reviewed regularly by the executive committee of the LSC and annually by a financial advisor in Missoula.
 - c. All financial reports are posted on the website.
7. 2015 Proposals:
- a. Section A
 - i. Pulled: 2,5,6
 - ii. Proposals 7 & 8 - Approved by verbal vote.
 - iii. Discussion on Proposal 2
 - 1. Purposed amendments: Montana Head Coach of the year shall be voted on by other head coaches and include a point system: Each head coaches' vote is worth 2 points. Junior National qualified swimmers, currently eligible to compete, are with 1 point each. There will be one vote per team. Amendments withdrawn.
 - 2. Amendment to section 6: Withdrawn.
 - 3. Amendments to section 7: See attached document. Vote for amendments. Passed
 - 4. Call to question - Proposal 2 passes as amended.
 - iv. Discussion on Proposal 5
 - 1. Proposed amendment to section 1: Include "state qualifying" state championship swimmers rather than number of swimmers attending the state meet. Amendment withdrawn.
 - 2. Call to question - 13 votes in favor, 17 votes against. Proposal 5 fails.
 - v. Discussion on Proposal 6
 - 1. Amendments: All passed by verbal votes.
 - 2. Vote to pass Proposal 6 with noted amendments: Pass verbally.
 - b. Section B
 - i. Pulled: 11, 12
 - ii. Proposal 1,3,4,9,13,14,16 - Vote to reject all 7 listed proposals: All failed.
 - iii. Discussion on Proposal 11
 - 1. Reminder that the Outreach program is set by the LSC with recommendations provided by USA Swimming.
 - 2. Amendments to Proposal 11 as listed.
 - a. Call to question amendments - All amendments to proposal 11 pass.
 - 3. Call to question proposal 11 as amended.
 - a. Vote: Proposal 11 passes as amended, verbally.
 - iv. Discussion on Proposal 12
 - 1. Call to question:
 - a. Vote: Proposal 12 fails, verbally.
 - c. Section C
 - i. Proposal 10
 - 1. After much discussion, call to question:
 - a. Vote: Proposal 10 fails, verbally.

- ii. Proposal 15
 - 1. After much discussion, call to question:
 - a. Vote: Proposal 15 fails, verbally.
- iii. Proposal 17
 - 1. After much discussion, call to question:
 - a. Vote: Proposal 17 passes, verbally.

8. Present Long Course Meet Schedule:

- a. Bozeman May Classic: May 20-22, 2016
- b. Missoula Firecracker: June 23-26, 2016
- c. Helena Last Chance: July 8-10, 2016

9. CLBMS (Club Leadership & Business Management School):

- a. CLBMS training conference with Bill Krum is scheduled for April 30, 2016 in Bozeman. (Set on same weekend as MixMeet to reduce traveling weekends)

10. MixMeet:

- a. To be held April 30 & May 1, 2016.
- b. Bids for 2016 MixMeets due December 1, 2015.

11. Long Course State Bid and Date

- a. Options: July 22-24 or July 29-31, 2016
- b. Much discussion on dates involving Senior Sectional dates, Zones dates, Big Sky State Games date, and administration timelines.
- c. Vote: July 29-31, 2016 (32 of 32 votes for selected date, 0 votes against)
- d. Bid for Location of LC State Championship (Maximum bid \$4000.00)
 - i. Bozeman bids \$4,000; Bid awarded to Bozeman.

12. Elections

- a. Secretary
 - i. Nominations: Tami Peters
 - ii. By acclimation: Tami Peters
- b. Finance Vice Chair
 - i. Nominations: Matt Yovich
 - ii. By acclimation: Matt Yovich
- c. Programs Operations VC/Age Group Chair
 - i. Nominations: Mrs. Toni Popp
 - ii. By acclimation: Mrs. Toni Popp
- d. Membership/Registrations Coordinator
 - i. Nominations: Lanni Jacobson
 - ii. By acclimation: Lanni Jacobson
- e. Technical Planning Chair
 - i. Nominations: Jade Sobek
 - ii. By acclimation: Jade Sobek
- f. Safety Coordinator
 - i. Nominations: Pam Harder
 - ii. By acclimation: Pam Harder

13. Finalize Budget

- a. Noted changes made to budget based on business conducted today.
 - b. Vote to approve the budget as presented: Passes verbally.
14. Next MTS Conference Call:
- a. Tuesday, November 17, 2016 - 8pm
15. Spring HOD
- a. Friday, May 20th, 2016 - Bozeman
 - b. PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE A NEW LOCATION!
16. Adjournment
- a. General Chair Tony Popp adjourned the meeting at 3:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Tami Peters, Secretary

Long Course Season 2016

Meet	Date	Location
	May 7-8, 2016	
	May 14, 2016	Bozeman, MT
2016 BOZ May Classic	May 20-22, 2016	Bozeman, MT
2016 MT Swim HOD Meeting	May 20, 2016	Bozeman, MT
	May 28-29, 2016	
2016 MT Build a Pool Conference	4-Jun-16	Missoula, MT
	June 4-5, 2016	
	June 11-12, 2016	
	June 18-19, 2016	
2016 MAC Firecracker	June 23-26, 2016	Missoula, MT
	July 2-3, 2016	
Olympic Trials	June 26- July 3, 2016	Omaha, NE
	July 2-3, 2016	
2016 Last Chance Meet	July 8-10, 2016	Helena, MT
2016 Senior Sectionals	July 13-17, 2016	
2016 Big Sky State Games	July 16-17, 2016	Billings, Mt
	July 22-24, 2016	
2016 MT LC State Swimming Championships	July 29-31, 2016	Bozeman, MT
US Open	August 2-6, 2016	
2016 YMCA LC Nationals	August 3-7, 2016	Indianapolis, IN
2016 WZ Senior Championships	August 3-7, 2016	Clovis, CA
Junior Nationals	August 9-13, 2016	
2016 WZ Age Group Championships	August 10-13, 2016	Kearns, UT
	August 20-21, 2016	
	August 27-28, 2016	
	September 3-4, 2016	
	September 10-11, 2016	
	September 17-18, 2016	
	September 24-25, 2016	
	October 1-2, 2016	
	October 8-9, 2016	

**2015 Montana Swimming Fall HOD Meeting
House of Delegates Meeting - October 11th, 2015
Jorgenson Conference Center, Helena, Montana**

Sign in of those present:

Officers:

	Print	Signed	Email address
General Chair:	Dr. Tony Popp	<i>Dr. Tony Popp</i>	DRTONYMONTANASWIMMING@GMAIL.COM
Administrative Vice Chair:	Curt Jacobson	<i>Curt Jacobson</i>	cjacobson@ctgmt.com
Program Development V.C.:	Kyle Potter	<i>Kyle Potter</i>	kpotter@ymcamissoula.org
Only one vote Co-Chair:	Dave Berkoff	<i>Dave Berkoff</i>	
Program Operations Chair:	Lisa Keyes	<i>Lisa Keyes</i>	lisamhkeyes@yahoo.com
Finance Vice Chair:		XXXXX	
Secretary:	Tami Peters	<i>Tami Peters</i>	bteters94@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Craig Smith	<i>Craig Smith</i>	CRAGSMITH427@LVG.COM
Coach Representative:	Kirby Beierle	<i>Kirby Beierle</i>	kbeierle@ymca.org
Safety Coordinator:	Rosanne Flann		
Tech Planning Chair:	Kirby Beierle	<i>Kirby Beierle</i>	
Membership/Reg Coord:	Lanni Jacobson	<i>Lanni Jacobson</i>	lanni@ctgmt.com
Officials Chair:	Merle Gunderson	<i>Merle Gunderson</i>	MRGUNDERSON@LOOK.COM
Safe Sport Coordinator:	Shelly Sobek	<i>Shelly Sobek</i>	COACHSOBEK@GMAIL.COM
Records Chair:	John Heryla	<i>John Heryla</i>	
Adaptive Chair(non-voting)	Kirby Beierle		
IT Chair / Webmaster:	Susan Huckleby	<i>Susan Huckleby</i>	shuckleby@msn.com
Diversity & Inclusion Chair:	Susan Huckleby	<i>Susan Huckleby</i>	" "
Athlete Representatives:			
Sr. Rep (Voting member)	Patrick Brennan	<i>Patrick Brennan</i>	PatchesFromMontana@gmail.com
Sr Rep (Voting Member)	Alyssa Boese	<i>Alyssa Boese</i>	
Jr. Rep (Voting member)	Brendan Campbell	<i>Brendan Campbell</i>	mystman9@gmail.com
Jr Rep (Voting Member)	Darya Peters	<i>Darya Peters</i>	daryapeters@gmail.com

**Fall HOD 2015 Montana Swimming HOD Meeting
October 11th, 2015**

Club Representatives:

	Print	Signed	Email address
Billings Aquatic Club	SEAN MARSHALL	[Signature]	BAC.Stingrays@gmail.com
Billings YMCA Swim Club			
Bozeman Swim Club	Jade Sobek	[Signature]	coachsobek@gmail.com
Bozeman MultiSport	April Spoerl	[Signature]	spoerla4@gmail.com
Butte Tarpons Swim Team	Susan Huckaby	[Signature]	shuckaby@msn.com
Deer Lodge Otter Aquatics			
Falls Aquatic Swim Team	Maria Hauser	mariahansen	mariahansen85@gmail.com
Hardin Otter Swim Team			
Havre Lions Swim Team			
Helena Lions Swim Team	KayCee Adams	KayCee Adams	kc_adamse@hotmail.com
Kalispell Aquatic Team	Major Robinson	[Signature]	mr.majorrobinson@gmail.com
Missoula Aquatic Team	Rob Baldry	Rob Baldry	trayfanson@kalis.com
Missoula YMCA Swim Team			
Peak Waves Swim Team	Patrick King	[Signature]	coachpatking@gmail.com
Polson Lake Monsters	RANDY FORT	[Signature]	coachrandy@lwaquatics.org
Wave Ryders Swim Club			

**Fall 2015 Montana Swimming HOD Meeting
October 11th, 2015 – Helena, MT**

Athletes At Large Voting:

	Print	Signed	Email address
Billings Aquatic Club	Erin Carroll	Erin Carroll	carrolle@live.com
Billings YMCA Swim Club			
Bozeman Swim Club	Nathan Peters	Nathan Peters	bt-peters94@gmail.com
Bozeman MultiSport	Darby Seth	Darby Seth	clks.7.29.99@gmail.com
Butte Tarpons Swim Team			
Deer Lodge Otter Aquatics			
Falls Aquatic Swim Team	Kathryn Hengla	Kathryn Hengla	K8tee98@gmail.com
Hardin Otter Swim Team			
Havre Lions Swim Team			
Helena Lions Swim Team	Nick Angeli	Nick Angeli	nicholasangeli@hotmail.com
Kalispell Aquatic Team	James Bouda	James Bouda	jbouda99@gmail.com
Missoula Aquatic Team			
Missoula YMCA Swim Team	Jacob Butler	Jacob Butler	Butler.patrick@gmail.com
Peak Waves Swim Team	Olivia Bowman	Olivia Bowman	liv.bauman03@gmail.com
Polson Lake Monsters			
Wave Ryders Swim Club			

Proposals (including edits) from Montana Swimming

Fall 2015 H.O.D. Meeting

Helena, Montana – October 11, 2015

Prior to the Fall HOD, MT Swimming executive committee reviewed the proposals via conference call and made the following recommendations:

Section A: Proposals recommended to adopt - 2, 5, 6, 7, 8

Section B: Proposals recommended to reject - 1, 3, 4, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16

Section C: Proposals to be considered separately 10, 15, 17

Proposal #2 - Pulled for discussion. Passed as amended.

Submitted by: Dave Berkoff

Recommendation: To approve with suggested amendments by Dave B.

I would like to propose the following legislation this fall.

Selection of Montana Head and Assistant Coaches of the Year.

1. Eligibility. Candidates for the Montana Head Coach or Assistant Coach of the Year must be: (a) the Head Coach or Assistant Coach of a USAS registered team located within Montana; (b) in good standing with USAS and Montana Swimming; and (c) employed by the same Montana team for the previous calendar year.

2. ~~Term. The Coach of the Year designation shall have a term of January 1 to December 31 of the year selection occurred. (e.g. if selected in 2014, one is the coach of the year for 2014.)~~

Term will run September 1st of the year through August 31st of the following year. (edit per Dave B.)

3. Nominations. Candidates for the Montana Head Coach or Assistant Coach of the Year must be nominated by another Montana Swimming member in good standing. ~~Nominations must be delivered to the Montana Swimming Chairperson by September 30 each year prior to the annual fall meeting.~~

4. Submissions. All nominations shall include a written submission describing the nominee's coaching accomplishments during the prior season along with a short statement about the coach. Nominations will be due at the same time as Long Course State Meet Entries. (edit per Dave B.)

5. Criteria. Coach of the Year criteria include, but are not limited to: (1) the nominee coach's positive impact on the nominee's athletes and/or Montana Swimming; (2) overall and relative improvement by the nominee coach's athletes during the previous season; (3) overall and relative success at the LSC, Regional, and National level by the nominee coach's athletes during the previous season; (4) team scoring at the Montana LSC, Regional, and National Championships during the previous season; and (5) achievements by the nominee's athletes including USAS scholastic All-American, National Age Group Top 10 Rankings, State Records, and swimming volunteerism during the previous season.

6. Posting. The Montana Swimming Chairperson shall post the names of all nominees for Head Coach and Assistant Coach of the Year and any written submissions supporting the nomination on the Montana Swimming website after the close of nominations and prior to the ~~fall House of Delegates Meeting.~~ Montana State Long Course Championship.

7. Selection. ~~Montana Coaches of the Year shall be selected at the annual Fall House of Delegates Meeting.~~ **One vote per team among** all registered coaches in good standing with USAS and Montana Swimming are eligible to vote for one nominee for Head Coach of the Year and one nominee for Assistant Coach of the Year. ~~Voting will occur at the Montana Long Course State Meet. Coaches who are not present at the annual House of Delegates Meeting may forward their selection to the Montana Swimming Chairperson prior to selection in writing or via email. No proxies shall be permitted.~~ **Voting will be via email, due by August 15th, and administered by the coaches' rep.**

8. Zones Team. The Montana Swimming Head Coach of the Year and Assistant Coach of the Year will normally serve as the lead coaches for the Montana Age Group and Senior Zones Teams. The Head Coach of the Year will have the right of first refusal in selecting whether to serve as lead coach for the Age Group or Senior Zones meets. If one or both of the Montana Coaches of the Year cannot or choose not to participate in the Zones meets, the Montana Swimming Executive Committee shall select replacements for those positions.

Dave

Proposal #5 - Pulled for discussion. Failed (13 votes in favor, 17 votes against).

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends approval as follows per author's edit:

1) Create a Division II Championship Team Trophy for the Montana LC and SC State Meets. The existing Team Trophy would be awarded for Division I. Teams participating at State would be ranked by total number of athletes registered to each team. The top half of teams entered State, will be placed in Division I, the lower half will be placed in Division II.

Purpose: To bring more excitement, camaraderie and rivalry among Montana's smaller teams hailing from smaller communities by creating a second "Team Championship" division for teams with fewer athletes participating at LC and SC State Championships. Y Championship meets and some LSC's separate team awards into size divisions. Adding a second division would be fun and breathe freshness and excitement into teams who don't think about "Team" award categories because they are too far out of the running due to lower total athlete numbers.

~~K3) Create Two Team Trophy Divisions at the Montana LC and SC State Meets, adding a new Division 2 based upon 25 or fewer athlete team size participating. To bring more excitement, comradery and rivalry among Montana's smaller teams hailing from smaller communities by creating a second "Team Championship" division for teams with 25 or fewer athletes participating at the Montana LC and SC State Championships. Continue to award our existing team trophies to Division 1 Teams (with 26 or more athletes entered). Create a Division 2 Team category for teams with 25 or fewer athletes entered. Y Championship Meets and some LSC's separate Team Awards into size divisions. Adding a second division would be fun and breathe freshness and excitement into teams who don't think about "Team" award categories because they are too far out of the running due to low numbers.~~

Proposal #6 - Pulled for discussion. Passed as amended.

Submitted by: Jim Cherewatenko

MTS committee recommends approval per authors edit in red

Update proposal 1 to following

Entry Deadline: All Short Course, Long Course, and Senior Championship meet entries must be received no later than 11:59 PM (MDT or MST), Wednesday; 9 days prior to first day of meet, and must be made online beginning, date OME opens for entries, prior to the deadline date. ~~E-mail entries will be accepted for individual swimmers and not entire team entries.~~

Late Entry Deadline: Entries for first time qualifying swims must be received by 11:59 PM (MDT or MST), Saturday, 6 days prior to first day of meet, entered only by e-mail. These entries may not be used to improve the seed time of a previously submitted entry. Late entries for new qualifying swims will be accepted ~~but will pay double the entry fee~~ (again updating times after the late entry deadline is not permitted). ~~No addition of swimmers, added events, relays or changes will be allowed after the late entry date. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS.~~

~~Late entries 9 (?8) days prior to meet start, with double fee late entry charge. No changes or entries will be accepted after the late entry date for each championship meet.~~

Proposal # 7 - Passed without discussion.

Submitted by: Jim Cherewatenko

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends approval.

Officials shall not officiate and coach at the same meet on the same day regardless of session number.

Proposal # 8 - Passed without discussion.

Submitted by: Jim Cherewatenko

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends approval.

Montana Swimming LSC will financially support (fund) and award “years of service” pins to all active and current officials on an annual basis. “years of service” pin awards will be presented to Montana Swimming Officials at the Montana LSC annual fall officials meeting in October each year. If not in attendance at the annual meeting, pins will be distributed throughout the remainder of the short course season by the officials chair or his/her designee. A cumulative total of three years may be ordered at one time to realize a savings on individual pin costs at the officials chair discretion.

Proposal #1 - Failed without discussion.

Submitted by: Linda Priddy and Richard Allen
Proposal to MT LSC HOD Fall 2015

Purpose: To further clarify the scoring and penalty status for “exhibition” swimmers in the 15-16 and 17-21 Age Group finals.

Recommendation: MTS Committee recommends to reject due to MTS direction is to run the higher level meets consistent with what swimmers will encounter within USAS higher level meets.

Proposal: “MT Swimming defined “Exhibition” athletes will be renamed “non-scoring” athletes and be included under the USA Swimming definitions of “non-scoring” and “alternates” for the purposes of assessing penalties during finals for an event during all MT LSC championship meets.”

For the duration of this proposal the term “exhibition” has been replaced by “non-scoring” except where “exhibition” has been quoted from a policy or procedure or other document or in the case to preserve historical context.

Procedure: Immediately following the passing of the scratch deadline for all finalists and alternates in an event, the Meet Administrative Official shall identify those athletes who will be placed into the finals heats as “non-scoring” athletes in the 15-16 and 17-21 Age Groups which, due to scratch vacancies, are to be moved into empty lanes for that event. Further, the Administrative Official shall notify the Meet Referee who shall be responsible for ensuring these identified athletes are notified through the following means: the athletes’ name shall be announced over the same system used for the initial finalists and alternates, the athletes shall be listed on the finalist score sheet and an “X” shall be placed next to their name on the finalists score sheet, the finalists score sheet shall be posted at the swim venue not later than 1 hour prior to the beginning of warm-ups for finals, and the identified “non-scoring” athletes shall be afforded the same penalty protections as the first and second alternate athletes for said finals (i.e. “...shall not be penalized if unavailable to compete in the finals.” USA Swimming 2015 Rule book Section 207.11.6.D(2)).

Rationale:

Current MT Swimming Policy: “Combine the 15-16 and 17-21 Age-groups at the Long Course and Short Course State Meets at Finals. Offer A and B finals for this Age-group and score to 16 places. Guaranteed at least 8 places for 15-16 and 17-21 Age-groups. Empty lanes will be filled with the next fastest 15 and over swimmers as **exhibition swimmers**. Athletes will be scored as 15-16 and 17-21.” [emphasis added] received from Dr. Tony Popp MT Swimming Chair.

MT Swimming currently generally follows the Administrative Conduct of USA Swimming Championships as described in Article 207.11 of the USA Swimming Rulebook for its championship meets. The scratch procedures outlined in Article 207.11.6C explain that athletes who fail to participate in a preliminary event once seeded “will be barred from all further individual and relay events of that day.” Article 207.11.6D(1) further states that “Any swimmer qualifying for a C, B, or A (bonus and consolation final or) final race in an individual event who fails to compete in said final shall be barred from further competition for the remainder of the meet,

except as noted in paragraph E.” In Article 207.11.6D(2) the Rulebook clearly states that “In the event of withdrawal or barring of a swimmer from competition the Referee shall fill the C, B, or A (bonus and consolation final or) final, when possible, with the next qualified swimmer(s). First and second alternates shall be announced along with the final qualifiers. These alternates shall not be penalized if unavailable to compete in the finals.” Furthermore, MT Swimming applies Article 102.5.6B: “Finals – The order of heats during the finals of a preliminaries and finals meet may be reversed, with the B and C (consolation and bonus) heats, if any, swum following the A (final) heat. In the event of scratches, the empty lanes may be filled by moving the swimmers up in order from the slower heats and by using the available alternates in the slowest heat without reseeding the heats. For heats other than team selection finals where athletes are not provided any recognition other than the opportunity to swim (e.g., scoring points, earning prize money, etc.) **alternates** may be inserted into empty lanes in any heat regardless of order swum.” to its Championship meet format for the 15-16 and 17-21 Age Group events.

Article 207.11.6D(2) does not specifically identify the “next qualified swimmer(s)” as “alternates” and MT Swimming has interpreted the term “alternates” in the final sentence to only pertain to the specifically identified “First and second alternates” in the second to last sentence in this rule. This proposal expands the narrow definition of “alternates” used by MT Swimming to include all “next qualified swimmer(s)” and further extends the penalty protections afforded the identified alternates to all “alternates” under the expanded definition while maintaining the reward of points for accomplishment to only the initial finalists, first and second alternates.

During the 2015 MT Swimming Short Course State Championships held in Butte, MT, an athlete initially identified as an “exhibition” athlete was placed into the finals following the scratch period for the qualified swimmers and then failed to swim in the finals for that event. The interpretation of the MT Swimming rules and procedures resulted in that “exhibition” athlete being penalized as though she were a finalist for that event (initially barred from competing for the rest of the meet and points being taken from her team). Through the process afforded that athlete to challenge the disqualification and penalty, a protest review committee was convened and the athlete was allowed to swim in the rest of her events during preliminary heats only but was barred from further finals, relays, and scoring points for her team during the remainder of the meet.

Under MT Swimming procedures, “exhibition” swimmers are not allowed to achieve points for themselves or their team during a final in which they swim as an “exhibition” swimmer (USA Swimming defines this athlete as a non-scoring swimmer). It is unfair, then, to penalize these same non-scoring swimmers as though they were qualified finalists when they are assigned and fail to swim in the finals for that event. Alternatively, when an identified alternate (first or second alternate) swims in a final, they are allowed to achieve points both for themselves and their team, yet they are not penalized if they fail to swim in that same finals event (Article 207.11.6D(2)). Clearly, the intent of the term “alternates” in the final sentence of Article 207.11.6D(2) was to include all swimmers who did not initially qualify as finalists for that event but who subsequently were placed into empty lanes by the Referee.

Proposal #3 - Failed without discussion.

Submitted by: Kris Hall

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends to reject due to USAS will not recognize mixed age relays and our championship meets need to be consistent with USAS rules.

K1) **Create an “18 and Under” Relay category for Boys and Girls for the (200 & 400 Freestyle and the 200 Medley Relays) to be swum during Finals at the Montana SC and LC State Championship Meets:** Adding an “18 and Under” Relay category to the existing age group relays at Long Course and Short Course State where teams could field a relay with athletes of multiple 18 and under age groups. This proposal would allow teams that are unable to field relays by the existing age categories to benefit from the team spirit and comradery of relay participation. This proposal could benefit every team but would bring smaller teams into the forum of relay participation. At 2015 SC State, several relay events (boys in particular) had only two or three relay teams participating, meaning 14 of 16 teams had kids whom might be able to participate in a relay if we added this additional age category.

Proposal #4 - Failed without discussion.

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends to reject. There is already provision in USAS regs which provide for mixed gender relays and MTS should follow these rules during championship meets.

~~K2) — Add “Mixed Gender” Relay category for every age group, including the new 18 and Under category, for the (200 & 400 Freestyle & 200 Medley Relays) for Montana SC and LC State Championship Meets: Adding the mixed relays allows boys and girls to team up to compete together, encouraging cross-sex comradery and team spirit. It also allows smaller teams with fewer members a greater possibility of being able to offer relay opportunities to their athletes, given that only two athletes per sex, per age group are needed. Adding this event could afford boys, whom historically comprise just a little more than a third of all athletes participating in state, a better opportunity to participate in a relay at State. At 2015 SC State, several relay events (boys in particular) had only two or three relay teams participating, meaning 14 of 16 teams had kids whom might be able to participate in a relay if we added this additional age category. Let’s give all athletes a greater chance to benefit from the comradery, team spirit and team-mate support that relays offer.~~

The following is the edit and info from the author. Which may be used by host teams:

2) Add “Mixed Gender” 200 & 400 Freestyle & 200 & 400 Medley Relay events for each age group (as allowed for under USAS 102.1.2) for Montana SC and LC State Championship Meets.

Purpose: Adding the mixed relays allows boys and girls to team up and compete together, encouraging cross-sex comradery and team spirit. Mixed Relays allow smaller teams with fewer members a greater possibility of being able to field relays, given that only two athletes per sex, per age group are needed. Adding this event could afford boys, whom historically comprise just a little more than a third of all athletes participating in state, better odds of participating in a relay at State. At 2015 SC State, several relay events (boys in particular) had only two or three relay teams participating, meaning 14 of 16 teams had kids whom might be able to participate in a relay if the LSC adopted this mixed category. Let’s give all athletes a greater chance to benefit from the comradery, team spirit and team-mate support offered by relay participation. If there are concerns over timeline impact, consider that many events could likely be combined, subject to Referee discretion, so the impact might be minimal when contrasted with the benefits offered to athletes of smaller teams.

USAS Rule References

205.8..3 Age group championship meet events shall be selected from the recognized events in 102.1.2.

102.1.2 AGE GROUP EVENTS — Competitions may be composed of events selected from the following recognized list of events or other such events/meet types as may be sanctioned by the LSC.

10 Years and Younger 11, 12 Years

50, 100, 200, 400m/500y freestyle 50, 100, 200, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y, 1500m/1650y freestyle

50, 100 backstroke 50, 100, 200 backstroke

50, 100 breaststroke 50, 100, 200 breaststroke

50, 100 butterfly 50, 100, 200 butterfly

100, 200 individual medley 100, 200, 400 individual medley

200 freestyle relay 200, 400 freestyle relay

200 medley relay 200, 400 medley relay

200 mixed gender freestyle relay 200, 400 mixed gender freestyle relay

200 mixed gender medley relay 200, 400 mixed gender medley relay

13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 Years

50, 100, 200, 400m/500y, 800m/1000y, 1500m/1650y freestyle

100, 200 backstroke

100, 200 breaststroke

100, 200 butterfly

200, 400 individual medley

200, 400, 800 freestyle relay

200, 400 medley relay

200, 400, 800 mixed gender freestyle relay

200, 400 mixed gender medley relay

Proposal # 9 - Failed without discussion.

Submitted by Jim Cherewatenko

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends to reject based on leaving such details up to the host team. The MTS official's chair may make such suggestions to teams hosting championship meets.

Montana Swimming will recognize all officials present at both the short course state meet and the long course state meet as a group, on deck, before the national anthem and prior to prelims on one of the three days of each meet.

Proposal # 11 - Pulled for discussion. Passed as amended.

Submitted by: Kristen Mark

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends to reject due to the criteria already in place for this purpose.

~~Outreach Membership proposal~~

~~Montana Swimming will offer a year round reduced rate athlete outreach membership to provide opportunities in swimming for economically disadvantaged swimmers in the LSC. The outreach fee will not exceed \$7.00.~~

~~Each club should identify swimmers who may qualify for the outreach membership when the swimmer registers with the club. Each club shall be responsible to inform athletes of the availability of this membership. It is the responsibility of the club registrar to keep the necessary documentation or information that shows the athlete qualifies for the membership.~~

~~Families may qualify for a year round athlete outreach membership in several ways including, but not limited to, qualifying for the To qualify for outreach membership you must provide one of the following documents: Federal free or reduced hot lunch program, 1040 tax form, Food Stamps (SNAP) program, Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), TANF, WIC, foster children, participation in Head Start, Medicaid, Medicare, Healthy Montana Kids Plus, Healthy Montana Kids, homeless, runaway, migrant, is a member of the club on a reduced or free scholarship, or their income is within the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Cases not falling under these circumstances may be appealed to the general chair. Families who have a person receiving unemployment benefits may also qualify for an outreach membership.~~

~~If a family's financial status changes during the year due to a loss of a job or other financial circumstances, a swimmer may apply to change his/her registration from a regular membership to an outreach membership and the difference in cost will be refunded by Montana Swimming to the swimmer's club to be refunded to the swimmer.~~

Rationale:

Many Montana families struggle financially. We would like to encourage swimmers to join our teams and one way we can do that is by offering an outreach membership that encourages low income families to be involved in swimming. Expanding the outreach definition allows qualified swimmers who are home schooled and those who attend religious schools to participate in the program.

Many families are ashamed of their financial status and are reluctant to come forward asking for assistance. Families are much more likely to do so if the proof of outreach membership is handled by the club. The club will keep the information confidential.

Every day families struggle to make ends meet due to the harsh economic time in which we currently live. According to the Bureau of Labor statistics, the number of unemployed persons was 9.3 million. Many people don't have the discretionary income that they once had for extracurricular activities due to an unforeseen job loss that has adversely impacted income in a negative way. Outreach membership plays a vital role in bridging the gap. A Montana Swimming outreach membership offers qualified individuals the opportunity to become a Montana Swimming year-round athlete member at a reduced fee. Many families in Montana live at or below the poverty levels. This is one way Montana Swimming can make a positive difference in a swimmer's life. We encourage clubs to offer scholarships to assist low income families to participate in swimming.

Proposal #12 - Pulled for discussion. Failed.

Submitted by: Kristen Mark

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends to reject due to criteria already in place for this purpose.

I propose that Montana Swimming designate the Hardin Otters Swim Team as an outreach team, effective September 1, 2015. The Hardin Otters Swim Team was established in 1991 in cooperation with the Hardin School District, and occupies the Hardin Community Activity Center which was funded by the coal board. Hardin is the county seat of Big Horn County, over 70% of which is designated to Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indian reservations. 54% of families in the county have income at or below the federal poverty level. The entire school district qualifies for federal free hot lunch program and breakfast in the classroom.

In the past, up until last year, the Hardin Otters Swim Team was designated as an outreach team. This designation allows many families to participate who could not otherwise afford the fee. Because our fees must remain low in order to provide an opportunity for the youth of our community to participate in aquatics, our expenses are paid through meets. Parental involvement is vital to allowing our team to host meets and to remain part of the Montana Swimming community. During the last year when we did not have the outreach designation our parental involvement was not sufficient to maintain a team for the long term.

It is the wish of the Hardin Otter Swim Team that, with the support offered by outreach designation, our club can remain an active participant in Montana Swimming and continue to provide access to the Hardin Community Activity Center as a location for sanctioned swimming competition.

Sincerely,

Kristen Mark,

Hardin Otter Swim Team, Board President

Proposal # 13 - Failed without discussion.

Proposals 13 – 17 Submitted by: Susan Huckleby

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends to reject due to current criteria and rules already set and functioning well.

All time trials and dual meets involving 50 swimmers or less will not be required to pay the per swimmer surcharge to Montana Swimming. Unattached swimmers should not be considered a team at any meet because they represent no team/club in competition per USA Swimming rules and therefore should be allowed to complete in dual and single team meets without affecting the team count.

Rationale: Small time trials are needed and often in cities with two teams, the teams will combine to hold a time trial. This past year few of these time trials were held simply because of the requirement to pay the per swimmer fee. Most are held during practice time and involve few swimmers. Similarly small dual meets especially those held during practice time benefit our swimmers but few have been held this past year because of the requirement to pay the per swimmer fee. The income lost is minimal compared to the benefit to our swimmers and teams. Include unattached swimmers to give them the opportunity to compete at these small meets.

Proposal # 14 - Failed without discussion.

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends to reject as the meet director and referee can include this detail in the meet contract.

Montana Swimming will host an open time trial for any Montana Swimming registered athlete to be held in conjunction with the Junior BC Championships.

Rationale: There should be a time trial held by the LSC during the Junior BC meet that's open to any Montana Swimming athlete. For the host team to hold the time trial has proven to be more costly than necessary.

Proposal # 16 - Failed without discussion.

Recommendation: MTS Executive committee recommends to reject due to MTS direction to be consistent with USAS in running championship meets.

At any Montana Swimming championship meet when prelim-finals events are contested, all qualifying alternates and all non-scoring non-qualified swimmers ages 15-21 who may be moved into finals to fill the empty lanes in a heat shall **not** be penalized if the swimmer fails to appear at the blocks to swim the event in finals.

Rationale: Non-qualifying non scoring 15-21 year olds moved into finals to fill empty lanes in a heat may not realize they are in finals and may fail to appear for finals. Alternates may not realize there has been a scratch in finals and therefore e may not appear at finals. Let's not penalize these swimmers.

Proposal # 10 - Considered and discussed separately. Failed.

Submitted by Jim Cherewatenko (hold over or table for spring meeting?)

Recommendation: MTS committee recommends to table for Spring HOD meeting agenda.

Move Montana Age Group Short Course State Championship Meet to April of each year.

Proposal # 15 - Considered and discussed separately. Failed.

Recommendation: MTS committee makes no recommendation. We want to be consistent in following USAS rules in our championship meets, however, we want to make the best opportunities for swimmers with the pool lane structure within our LSC.

Scoring and awarding at all Montana Swimming championship meets (including SC State, Senior Championships, Junior BC Championships, and LC State) shall follow USA Swimming rules for scoring. Specifically for meets held:

In a six lane pool, scoring to six places and awards to twelve places.

In a seven lane pool, scoring to seven places and awards to fourteen places.

In an eight lane pool, scoring to eight place and awards to sixteen places.

In a nine lane pool, scoring to nine places and awards to eighteen places.

In a ten lane pool, scoring to ten places and awards to twenty places.

Rationale: To score and award at all our championship meets in accordance with the USA Swimming rules.

Proposal # 17 - Considered and discussed separately. Passed.

Recommendation: To be discussed as a budget item. However, there is some funding already available and we question the validity of \$3500 spent on just two swimmers.

Allocate funds to send at least two swimmers and two adults to the 2016 Western Zone Diversity and Inclusion Camp in Salt Lake City. Costs include \$240 per person registration fee and transportation costs to and from Salt Lake City.

Rational: I'm unsure how much to allocate for transportation at this time. As a suggestion perhaps allocate \$3500 with the budget to be adjusted for actual costs incurred. This camp is held every other year. The camp coaches are national recognized coaches and there will also be at least one national athlete at the camp. It is a terrific experience for our athletes to attend. Each LSC may send two athletes (with up to four alternates - depending upon the number of athletes actually attending the camp it is possible for another of our Montana athletes to also attend at the LSC cost) plus the diversity chair and a coach. Camp information will be available in October. The camp will be held in July. Susan Huckleby