5/1/2012

General Chair report

The last 6 or so months have been busy ones.

We negotiated a deal for our LSC with TeamUnify. We now have 9 team using TeamUnify. This should help them manage their clubs better and to implement collection practices.

I want to let everyone know that we got our Leap submitted on time with USA Swimming on 4/30/12. I want to thank all the people who help with this process; we all appreciate your work!

We have put together all the documents which will be on the website for everyone to look through. We put together our by-laws, policies and procedures and rules and regulations from the meeting minutes that we had. These are all the ones that people said they had so it should be complete. The Leap process was put in place to help create a roadmap to LSC effectiveness and success in four key areas, business and organizational success, volunteer development, club and coach development and athlete development. Leap level one helps LSC self-evaluate, be sure that LSCs are meeting all requirements outlined in rules, bylaws. It helps us put in place processes to help organize to do list requirements so important items don’t fall through the cracks with changes in leadership. Leap has two other levels which help LSC improve more which are voluntary. We may want to look at these in the future.

I have been working on a Tri-LSC concept with Dave Berkoff and the General Chairs of the two other LSC IES and Snake River. The three LSCs want to have an opportunity for our A times or better swimmers to give them more competition. This will also help each LSC focus more on the kids that don’t have A times and give these kids a better end of season meets.

I also attended a meeting for all the General Chairs in the Western Zone in Arizona in April. We all need to get all our clubs and kids to join Deck Pass. This will help get the younger kids more excited about swimming and will help with retention of our athletes.

We also talked about Make a Splash program. There are no programs in Montana or Wyoming that participle in it. There is grant money available to help with this. We need to start some of these programs with in our state. It will help all of our clubs.

We also need to get more pools built in the State of Montana. We need new facilities to grow our sport. One new pool is to be completed later this year in Polson. There is another potential pool project that may someday be built in Superior, Montana.

USA Swimming has started a new website to promote swimming. It is www.swimtoday.org. Please check it out when you have some time. There will be more and more stuff posted on that website in the future.
We talked about how the new Zones format may impact each of our LSCs. The 14 and under kids are the only ones that will be able to participate in the current Age Group Zones program and participate as a Team Montana. The 15-19 age year old kids will be going to Senior Zones and any younger kids that have qualifying times and participate as a club.

We are looking at a new format for meets. There will be three different groupings or tracks for athletes for end of session meets. The season ending meets are Nationals, Jr’s and Zones. This will most likely all start in 2014. Sr Zones and Age Group zones will most likely be first week of August 2014. Most LSC championships will be the last week of July.