

**GSSA ANNUAL MEETING MAY 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 8:00AM**  
**Nashua Country Club**

**PRESIDENTS NOTES**

- State meet 7/31-8/2: Friday-Sunday

**NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS:**

- PRESIDENT: Brendan McLaughlin
- VICE PRESIDENT: Jim Rezzarday
- TREASURER: Greg Derderian
- SECRETARY: Margie Clark-Kevan

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Greg Derderian said we were solvent. Brendan shared the reports in written form.

**Review of membership fees:**

- Membership fees: \$17855.36 in the gssa account currently. We made \$9000 due to state fees.
- No team fees this year.

**State fees were discussed:**

- Jim asked if the meet fees be brought down to \$18/head instead of the \$25 in order to avoid making a profit.
- Jared said that the league may want some type of cushion in order to have funds for a catastrophe.
- Steve VdB mentioned that there are meet pressures that may cause an increase in state meet costs (dumpsters, police, etc.) he is suggesting raising the fee by \$1 from last year.
- Judie asked if there was a cap for nonprofits. It's \$150K so we are well under
- Jared suggested that we make it \$22 per swimmer- this was voted in.

**Mike Hirst spoke about the gssa website:**

- [webmaster@gssaswim.com](mailto:webmaster@gssaswim.com) can be used to communicate with Mike Hirst.
- The website is at <http://www.gssaswim.com/>
- Mike shared that job postings (coaches, lifeguards, contacts, etc.) can be found on gssaswim.com

**Coach background check:**

- Brendan notified us that he just found that all gssa coaches must have a background check done. Brendan and Jim will be coordinating it. They will have an access code that can check with each town. All volunteers that are coaches or assistants should have this background check done. The fee will be covered by gssa. If you are a municipality, the state will waive that fee. Brendan will put up a link. He wants this complete BEFORE the season begins. This needs to be done every year Brendan thinks. NH tends to take many weeks to process. Brendan will send out an email with a link to everyone once he has all the information.

**Rotary Meet:**

- Rotary meet information- July 18-19 - 1 day off from its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. She encourages all teams to participate

**Meet officials:**

- All teams need to have officials at all meets during the season. The rec teams need to have officials throughout the season so they know the correct swimming rules. Last year, it was stated that there would be a \$100 fee if they did not have a gssa or USSA official from their team at the state meet.
  - Monday, 6/8 training in Bedford for those interested.
  - Brendan will give out another date as well
  - Training at UNH on 6/1 and 6/4

#### **Divisional Alignment:**

- Brendan shared tentative divisional alignments- he said that if teams need to be changed based on state entry numbers, Steve will call Brendan and they will discuss it. He feels that the current alignment is the most fair based on last year's numbers, individual entries, and performances.
- Alignment was voted on and in with the understanding that this alignment is only for if we compete at one venue. If we are at two venues, the past alignment will occur.

#### **State meet venues for 2016-2017:**

- Brendan asked if anyone was interested in hosting next year's state meet- it would be 8/6-8/16.
  - Milford had an interest in hosting divisions 2 and 4.
  - Milford asked about notes from last year and running states for this year as well as the next two years. The minutes from last year were found and there was only a mention of options for the future.
  - It was stated that many of Milford's parents did not swim last year because of the parking situation.
  - Irene passed out a proposal for states this year. Someone mentioned that realignment would need to be adjusted if we went to two venues. There was a discussion about various pros and cons with 2 versus 1 venue: the legal fees with Milford, parking difficulties with four divisions, great competition with four teams. It was stated that we didn't have anything really on the table for this year. At the very least, we need to listen to the bid.
  - It was discussed that we need to vote on whether we want to be together or split first. There was a motion and second to keep all teams together for states. This passed.
  - It was suggested that some of the smaller teams might pay a small fee to have a larger, more competitive meet. Rotary is free however. Perhaps if Rayco could host a meet that did not require ussa sanctioning? Brendan brought the meeting back to next year's states.
  - Seacoast and Dover spoke about running the meet- he said that he does have parking (3-4 lots + on street), the pool is large enough to handle big meets on multi-days. 2016 states would link to the Olympics and perhaps an Olympic swimmer could be there to get some excitement with swimming. They want the whole gssa at the meet. They could run full days Friday-Sunday. Price/swimmer is an issue. They think that it might be around the same price but maybe \$1-3 more.
  - Dover is 6 lanes with all the same blocks, Raco can run 9 lanes with different blocks in some lanes. Dover can run under the lights if need be as well. GSSA

profits with Raco with anything that goes above Raco's meet costs. All the fee money would go into Dover, none to GSSA. 1150 swimmers showed up last year. Steve gives an itemized bill. His parents run the meet. Raco committed to keeping the price the same next year as this year. Dover pays the city quite a bit of money in order to run the meet. They pay the city per hour ~\$1500/day + parking, police, dumpsters, water, food for officials, etc. It was mentioned that running meets are fundraisers for the teams that host meets. Seacoast and Dover are nonprofit as well. This is a way for them to lower the fees for their families and it must be somewhat profitable in order to make it worth running. Brendan asked about 2016 and 2017 Raco. It was voted in that Raco has it from 2015-2017.

**State Awards:**

- 1-8 medals, 9-16 ribbons individual
- 1-3 medals, 4-8 ribbons relays

**Swimmer Waivers:**

- Waiver forms must be submitted to the meet referee BEFORE the meet takes place if a gssa swimmer enters an approved USSA swim meet in order for it to be counted as an ussa sanctioned swim. The waiver form will also be posted on the website.

**2016 GSSA annual meeting:**

- The meeting date for next year's gssa meeting will be 5/7 or 5/14 so as not to be in conflict with the NE meeting. Check the gssa website for confirmation.
- Division 1- Ed F, Division II- Mary Mitchell (Portsmouth), Division III- Judie Fischer, Division IV- Ed McLaughlin (Salem)

*Motion to accept nominations- all were in favor*

New business-

Steve mentioned that gssa swimmers need to swim 2 sanctioned meets. He proposed that **he would like to have swimmers represent their gssa team** but be able to swim any gssa sanctioned meet. It was passed. It was mentioned that this is a by-law change and that it would have to wait a year. As long as teams put a meet onto the gssa list, it can be considered sanctioned. There was a long discussion about swimming out of the gssa vs within the gssa meets. It was said that this is a way for teams to be more efficient. The question was made about how this would impact the state meet. It was stated that there may not be much impact and others agreed. This would alleviate the need to find a last minute meet that is on the gssa schedule when swimmers are swimming multiple meets already. Meets would have to be by June 1. The team still has to do 3 gssa meets to be able to go to states. The ruling on individual swimmers will go into effect for next year. The motion was amended so that us and y meets can now count as sanctioned meets for gssa to be approved this year. The bylaws will be changed for next year. It was asked if the bylaws could be changed to May 1 instead of June 1. It was stated that the gssa calendar starts June 1 and goes to the first weekend of August. This will take place next year. There was a revote on the sanctioning. It was voted in.

There was a concern about the warmup lane going in the opposite direction. It was suggested that the lane next to the outer lane has a buffer. The proposal is to use lanes 1-8, have lane 9 as a buffer, and have lane 10 as a warmup lane. Steve said that he would watch for that this year.

Jared proposed that all minutes are sent out by email as well as being posted. He thinks that a reminder email about this meeting would also be appreciated. He would also like those coaches who attended the meeting posted.

Jared also asked how it swimmers are policed on gssa attendance. It was suggested to include a proof of time out of team manager. Each time needs to have a date, place and time made with the state entries.

Jim recommends that all coaches read through the bylaws so that everyone knows the gssa rules before they begin coaching.

Brendan mentioned that the entries should go to both Brendan and the state meet entry person. Brendan will look through the times.

Brendan ended the meeting at 10:03 and encouraged people to use the gssa site because all documents.

Respectfully submitted by Margie Clark-Kevan, 5/9/15