

GSSA Annual Meeting Minutes Draft

5/10/14 at Nashua Country Club

President's Notes:

Brendan opened the meeting with an introduction and welcome.

Nomination of Officers:

Brendan McLaughlin, Jim Rezzarday, Greg Derderian, and Margie Clark-Kevan were nominated and voted in as a slate.

Treasurer's report:

Brendan reported that last year no fees were charged to teams. This year, there is a \$13K excess, so again, **there will be no team league fees unless you are a new team (<3 years), or are a team on probation.**

It was asked if there was a treasurer's report. Brendan will have Mike post it to the website.

Brendan introduced Mike and said that all contact information should go through Mike Hirst. You can get to the website via gssaswim.com. The minutes should be up on the website as well. Mike will check for glitches in the link for last year's minutes.

It was stated that all teams need to provide at least one official for at least one session of states. If a team does not provide an official, then there could be a fee assigned. Jim R made a motion that \$79 be the fee that would go to an official's fun so that Paul can go out and do training. Al Rossi seconded it. Karen Jenovese shared her concern that small summer teams may not have the numbers of parents and time available to meet this ruling. The motion was amended to read that for the fee to be applied, a team roster of 25 swimmers, was a minimum number.

Jim mentioned that having a stroke and turn judge at all home meets throughout the season was important and that the concern is not just for the state meet. Swimmers should be watched and educated on the deck throughout the season. Preparing for this needs to be part of the budget and commitment for the following year. The question came up on who would be monitoring that there are officials on every team. The motion was amended to be that teams who did not provide an official at states would be charged \$100 the following year.

It was also stated that gssa official training, which earns the participant a patch and book for the course, costs \$20 per official. You can find courses with Paul on the gssa website. Al Rossi is interested in becoming a trainer. Steve Van der Beeken asked to move the motion. **The motion was that teams without an official there will be a \$100 fee the following year.** This is the motion that carried.

NE website under officials- MaryAnn Lustgraf will be hosting a US official's course.

Petition for membership:

UVAC petitioned for membership moving from the VSA to GSSA. Along with giving information about his team, the coach stated that “we are running an early meet that runs in a dual meet format that gssa teams are welcome to.” Jim asked if it was required that swimmers are US. He said no.

Divisional lineup:

Brendan gave a history of where divisions 1 & 3 versus 2 & 4 swim. Divisions 2&4 have recently swum at Milford, while divisions 1&3 swim at Rayco. In the recent past, it was divided based on numbers of swimmers and coaches have made the choice on which venue their teams will go to for states. (Rayco traditionally hosts the year-round teams.) **Next year is an alignment year.** There was a discussion on how the divisional alignments are determined and that team size, amount of yearly team practice, and athlete talent (scoring at states) are all factors that could be calculated.

We can discuss update needs for next year.

States 2014:

Venues for gssa states 2014: divisions 1 and 3 will be at Rayco. Steve vderB said it would run as a Sat-Sun meet as it has the last few years: Sat am 10U, then the rest Sat pm and Sun. Entry fees will be bumped up a few dollars this year. Steve feels that Rayco will be available for next year.

UVAC stated that they may not make states this year, but they are interested in running a 3 day meet for all of the league in future years.

Brendan said that he would love to get the whole league back together again for states. He thanked Rayco and Milford for all they have been doing over the past few years. Steve said that he could look at a restructuring for the future but he does not know if Rayco can handle the whole gssa. Seacoast and UVAC are not options this year. 487 + >700 total swimmers total participated in the league at states last year.

Brendan then gave a report on divisions 2 and 4 regarding billing from last summer. He stated that every year the cost breakdown has been requested up front and that it has never been an issue in the past but this past year it has been an issue. There were calls for 3 months requesting a breakdown. This did not occur, but over the winter, Milford hired a lawyer and has requested that the league pays the legal fees (\$741) before proceeding with being able to have the meet next year. This year's Milford coach said that she just became aware of this and that the town has a new rec director (Irene) who was also present today. The question asked about who was contacted. Irene read a letter from last January. She also asked to see a record of the emails that had been sent. Irene said that a date of payment was given to the gssa with the provision that a lawyer would be hired if it was not paid, and that this news was not a surprise. It was stated that over the last two years, a breakdown was not given. Jim had asked for this and it did not occur. Irene responded that the request was not made until after the meet. Jim stated that he wanted to know what we were paying for and that there was an oral agreement made after the meeting last year. Brendan said that in the future, the gssa board will sign a contract that states that a cost breakdown sheet will have to be signed in the future. PEA mentioned that they had a similar situation. Additional maintenance fees kept being added on every year. It became a very

sensitive situation – they wanted the venue but we didn't want the fees to keep increasing. They were charged for 8 clean-up people and saw 2 only. He said that gssa has a right to ask to ask what they are being charged for. Irene said that she was okayed to pay half of the legal fees. The league voted to do this. Irene has the authority to offer a contract that specifically discusses a per swimmer fee but would NOT include a fee breakdown. She would need to go back to the town to get a change in this. Irene asked about the accounting. She asked for Steve's breakdown from last year. She would also like a copy of the new paperwork. She needs this information emailed before her meeting on Wednesday.

Steve will look to see if Rayco could run the whole league meet this year. Fees will be around \$21 per swimmer at Rayco. Irene said that there is a town meeting on Wednesday night and that she will see if the necessary changes can be made.

Two options are on the table right now for states 2014: Rayco could handle all of the league, or Milford will have divisions 2 & 4. This decision will be made by the end of next week to be voted on by the board members and the divisional reps.

UVAC said that if they host a league meet next year, then they will not provide a breakdown- just a rental fee based on numbers of swimmers or the rental of the facility.

Division 1 and 3 medals will be the same for states: 1-8 individuals, 1-4 relays.

Nominations for division reps for 2014:

Division 1- Ed Faszewski

Division 2 – Gretchen Dunn

Division 3- Tim Thompson

Division 4 –Ed Mc Laughlin

GSSA Meet Sanctioning:

Janet from Milford Rotary invited all teams to the fun Rotary Invitational meet on July 19-20. Meet files and email information will be sent out soon. No entry fees!

Exeter has a US sanctioned meet on 6/22. It's a full meet but if someone needs to get in, time trials will be run.

UVAC will have a meet (\$25 for 2 ind + 2 relays) on 6/22. They may put on another meet as well that is open to both US and non-US swimmers.

Raco will have 2 meets: on 7/4-6 and 7/18-20

Rays will host a meet on 6/5-7 at WPI.

Peterborough will have a gssa sanctioned pentathlon on 7/26.

All of these meets have been sanctioned. Any other meets would have to go through the board for sanctioning.

Teams not here: SYT, Claremont, MSY (typo), SYT (change of name), Seacoast. **Seacoast and Claremont were the teams not here.**

Job assignments will have to wait until the venue for states is determined. Emails will be sent as far as jobs once more is known.

Next year's annual GSSA meeting will be on 5/2/15 or 5/9/15 at NCC- not to conflict with the NE meeting. This will not be known for sure until September. It was asked if the meeting start time could be clarified for next year.

This year's gssa meeting ended at 10:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Clark-Kevan