

YMCA Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee Meeting Summary – April 11, 2010

Attendees

Committee Members: Joel Black, Steve Corrie, Jim Everett, Karen Ferrara, Mike Gobrecht, Mike Leonard, Bob McDowell, John Richards, Judy Sharkey, Susan Smith, Bob Turner: *Unable to attend Greg Eggert*

Adjunct Members: Gary Cox, Meredith Griffin, John Mendell, Ed Miller, Claudia Multer, Glenda Pae, Jim Ryan, Tom Warrick, Bettie Williams

YMCA of the USA Staff: Noel Brendefur, Julie Brown, Jim Weaton

Guest: Pat Lunsford (USA Swimming)

Athlete Input Task Group Report

The committee approved a proposal from the task group to select a current or recent athlete to serve on the National Advisory Committee in order to gain input from the athlete's perspective. This person would have another Advisory Committee member as a mentor, would host a web forum on the national swimming and diving website for other athletes, would create and publicize a Facebook group for athletes and would be involved with the Athlete Welcome Party. He/she would serve a one-year term and would also sit on the Championship Meet Committee.

Meet Announcement/Meet Handbook Task Group Report

Work is continuing toward creating a template for sanctioned championship meet announcements that includes the requisite information and rules for sanctioned meets. A separate task group will create a standard YMCA meet director's handbook.

Short Course National Championship Meet Report

Immediate reaction was very positive from swimmers, coaches, parents and volunteers. A meet evaluation is posted on swimming and diving website. Ticket sales were steady from previous years. There was a discussion and suggestion to explore an athlete dance after the meet, hosted by the Gate Guys.

Masters Meet Report

This year's meet has over 600 swimmers, 55 teams, 27 of which have 1 swimmer. This is the first year with the meet eligibility change (YMCA membership status) that was adopted at the Fall Advisory Committee Meeting. Ft. Lauderdale will be the site of the Masters Championship Meet in 2011 and 2012.

Long Course National Championship Meet

2010 meet will be in College Park, MD. All trainings or meetings will be held off-site because of cost. The meet director will investigate having a backup timing system to have available at the University of Maryland. Entries for new qualifiers who achieve times at sanctioned or approved USA Swimming meets on the weekend following the entry deadline will once again be accepted, following the same procedures and rules as in 2009.

The meet will be held at Georgia Tech in 2011-2013 with the Marriott Marquis as the host hotel and on-campus housing available to teams; information packets will be prepared for teams
There was discussion of possible unique spirit features (like Gate Guys at Short Course) that could be added to make the Long Course Meet special for athletes and spectators

Diving National Championship Meet Report

This year's meet coincides with Masters Meet

Registrations expected to be around 50 competitors and are permitted up to April 13

Coaches Association Report

Two members of the executive committee were elected this year – Jack Caucino (re-elected) and Dave Prutow

There were problems with use of chairs and deck/seating territory for teams so Coaches Association Executive Committee suggests that those chairs not be permitted on the upper deck or underneath the upper deck

There was a suggestion to explore adding relay take-off pads on starting blocks

Coaches Association has started a coaches mentoring program and took sign ups for mentors and coaches to be mentored at the meeting before Short Course Nationals

Coaches Association is working to have Coaches Association minutes and information for coaches posted on the swimming and diving website and accessible for coaches

High Altitude Camp Report

The 2009 camp was a great success despite being off-site from the Olympic Training Center
2010 dates are tentative – August 15-21, on-site at the OTC

There are spots for 20 athletes and 4 coaches
The focus of the camp is teamwork, leadership development as well as training

Group Representatives Report

Mitzi Kremer-Tighe is the new group representative in the Southeast, there is a vacancy in the South and potentially the Northwest

USA Swimming is hosting a planning retreat for group representatives in Colorado Springs in May

During 2009-10 season, the YMCA Competitive Swim website showed 552 teams, 53, 687 swimmers, 347 full time coaches, 2,199 part time coaches and 547 volunteer coaches registered

USA Swimming reported 335 YMCA teams registered with USA Swimming last year

26 states were represented at Short Course Nationals this year

Virtual Swim Meet Report

2009 Meet included 220 teams, just over 11,000 athletes

Oct. 16-24 is the date range for 2010

Teams need to carefully review results before submitting them

Awards (certificates and plaques) will remain the same in 2010

In 2010, swimmers may participate in 4 events including up to 2 relays

The meet qualifies as a closed YMCA meet but not a sanctioned championship meet

USA Swimming Board Report

USA Swimming and the USA Swimming Foundation had a successful year financially FINA now has 2 USA Swimming representatives in leadership positions on committees USA Swimming has created a Youth Protection and Abuse Prevention Task Force and will select an outside consultant to help implement an educational and training program. Pat Lunsford is the chair of the task force and Vicki Marsh (Spokane YMCA) is a member. They have been working on the process for over six months, prior to the 20/20 television program aired. The task force has looked at several abuse prevention and youth protection policies and programs from various youth organizations, including the YMCA.

Sponsorship

Four swimwear sponsors were secured for the year – Speedo (2 year commitment), Nike Swim (1 year), Dolphin (1 year), Blue Seventy/Keifer (1 year)
All donations now go through YUSA Financial Development Department in addition to the Marketing and Legal Departments
TYR and Aquazone are interested in developing a relationship with the YMCA

Training Updates for Principals

YUSA has completed updates to the Principles course and five webinars were held to update all trainers. Trainers must have participated in a webinar in order to remain a trainer.

Officials Committee Report

Some YMCA teams were using their USA Swimming affiliation and insurance coverage to justify competing in pools with four foot depth. With the help of YUSA Aquatics Department, the five foot standard was reiterated and cited in several documents.
105 officials signed up to officiate at Short Course Nationals

Financial Report

Short Course revenue up and expenses down in FY 2009
Long Course revenue up and expenses down in FY 2009
Volunteer expenses were down in FY 2009
Grants for Make A Splash were down
A task group was formed to examine possibilities to improve the national championship meets as well as learn to swim opportunities through the financial benefits of the contractual arrangements made through YUSA, with special consideration to scholarships for swimmers to travel to YMCA Nationals

Time Standards

The time standards subcommittee will be looking at the time standards given the number of swimmers at this year's meets.

Connie Carroll Award

Hank Mittelstaedt was this year's recipient as chosen by the award committee

Joseph G. Rogers Award

John Mendell was this year's recipient

Bettie Williams will be next year's recipient as chosen by the award committee
Noel will order 3 more awards.

Hotel Reservations & Commitments

The Stay to Play Guideline was re-examined during the week at Short Course Nationals and reworked to be a strong recommendation rather than a mandate after hearing strong objections at the coaches meeting

Julie and Noel have worked with the local hotels in the preferred list to better accommodate teams with catering options, group room placement, price guarantees and reservation processes
A task group was created to look at opportunities for value-add incentives to using the hotel group reservation system

YMCA & USA Swimming – Teach Every Child to Swim

Work continues between the YMCA of the USA and USA Swimming to collaborate on the *Make A Splash* campaign and they hope to make a formal announcement in May or June with a Fall 2010 program announcement and a full launch to all 2,700 YMCAs in January 2011

The *Make A Splash* logo will include both organizations

Public policy interest is peaking with the White House interested

The next steps are final draft approval, position description and marketing, development of rollout strategy

Time Swim Workshop

Claudia attended the Times SWIMS Workshop hosted by USA Swimming and she is now fully into the SWIMS database

Short Course Meet results went into SWIMS within hours of completion of the meet

YMCA Swimming History Project

Paul Atkinson has helped construct the history of YMCA swimming and diving, working with the University of Minnesota and their archivist

The committee will allocate fund to purchase Paul a new computer on which to continue work on the project

Waiver of Championship Meet Requirements

A task group was created to address need for language clarifying waiver application process for YMCA Nationals

USA Swimming / YMCA Meeting

A group of representatives from both organizations continue to meet regularly and met during Short Course National Meet and discussed proposals from USA Swimming to provide resources and opportunities specifically for YMCA teams who are/become USA Swimming members.