

PSSA Winter 09 Meeting  
Jan 3, Morgan Family YMCA

Attendance and Updates:

Sarah Channel, Head Coach, NSYS; PSSA President

Team check-in: things are going well at Northshore, with a more active team than we have had in past years. 70-80 percent turnout, up from average 60 percent in the past.

Dave Anthony, League Commissioner.

Jim Cornforth, League Treasurer; Head Coach, Skagit; Substitute Rep for Whatcom Y.

Things are good up north, snowy!

Katie Beck, BEST Parent Rep

Jing – BEST Head Coach

Ashely R., Lakewood Y – team doing well

Dave Baer – long time volunteer through WS Dolphins

Tricia Montmaym...

West Seattle YMCA, VP Parent Group. The team is at a meet today. The team is growing, another private club in the area is falling apart, had up to 100 swimmers, she expects many to join her team.

Frank, former league commissioner and volunteer

Mel Clark, League Secretary, Team Admin NSYS

Andrea G., Morgan YMCA

The team is, doing well, has grown, we are sharing swimmers w/ Lakewood.

Looking forward to state meet. The ribbons for our last dual meet are coming, we have also had to wait on an order from Hasty.

Mika, Head Coach Olympia.

We are feeling like we are finally settling into things for they year, with around 50% new swimmers. .

Tim>>>>, League VP

Casey Barga, Auburn head coach.

The team is doing ok, and slowly gaining more swimmers.

Nicole Evenson, Grays harbor Y,

There are more HS girls swimming now with us now, they won state, are and are excited, and showing up!

Teams absent: Longview (ice).

***Tricia moves to suspend \$50 fine due to weather, Nicole second, motion carries.***

## **Minutes From the Fall Meeting**

Jim had a clarification on changes that were made in the spring, and then modified in the fall, on the AB and fall fest fee changes. It was decided to discuss this clarification during old business.

Spirit awards, vs. team awards at AB Champs. Discussion of exactly what was decided: Yes, we are doing spirit awards only for AB Champs. The State meet was not included in this, and any spirit and/or team awards for that meet will be determined by the host team.

*Motion by Jim: Minutes to be approved with the clarifications to the AB and Fall Fest fee structure changes. Second, Nicole.  
Motion carries.*

## **Treasurer's Report.**

Jim passed out his usual detailed report. The league treasury is in much better shape. One comment: please give the league one check for an event – not from each parent. You as host teams are responsible to endorse and deposit all checks when you host, and send one check to the league.

*Motion to approve the report, Mel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Katie.  
Motion carries.*

Jim passed out a \$\$\$ review for Fall Fest '08. Be aware fall fest north pool rental fees have doubled. Every team is current and has paid, thank you! Thanks for the update Jim.

**OLD BS:**

**Item 1)** Last spring we redid the format for AB champs, and created the state meet. Part of that was we decided to structure AB champs from a business standpoint to match the Fall Fest – Hold a north and south, with the same teams, and to match the fee structures of the 2 meets. (The events don't quite match, Fall Fest is a sprint meet, AB champs will continue to follow the dual meet format, and will have a scored A and B 'pool').

At the Spring 2008 meeting we voted to raise fees for both meets, and re-did the bylaws to state that the fees for AB would match the fees for Fall Fest. At the fall 08 meeting, we revisited the fee structure portion of this discussion only. We lowered (somewhat, but not to the original level) fees for Fall Fest, a structure of 8/2/8 (surcharge, individual, relay). We did not specifically address the AB meet fees. We are re-revisiting the issue now, just to have clarity and because the flyers currently out for this year's AB Champs meets do differ.

Jim: Just so everybody is fully aware: the host team receives 25% of the surcharge, but not the individual or relay fees. We have increased the fees for individual and relays, to help offset higher operational costs for the organization,. The host will be left with only 25% of the surcharge fees. Remember, the league, not the host team has traditionally paid for the pool charge.

*Motion by Jim : move that we clarify and ensure that we will adopt the fee structure of 8/2/8 (for 2010 and forward), for both Fall Fest and AB Champs, and just 'roll' with whatever the host teams have done for AB Champs this year. 2<sup>nd</sup>; Mica. Motion carries unanimously. The rules of competition need to be changed accordingly.*

**2) More old business: Spring minutes from 2008. Jim moves to approve, mica 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carries.**

### **3) Old business: Regional job responsibilities for 2010.**

PSSA is hosting 2010 Pacific Region North Championships, either the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in March, waiting to hear from KINGCO. This may be the first time it has been hosted by a league, instead of a team.

Stacy Lions from Skagit valley has agreed to take on meet director. We need to compile a jobs list and determine which teams want to handle which jobs. Each team will be expected to take on a piece and offer up volunteers to help run the meet. This meet hasn't been back in our area since 2002.

Dave Baer has begun to compile a jobs list. It is a huge number of officials, but appropriately so. A huge pool, huge number of lanes, will accommodate a lot of kids, so that is appropriate.

We can have YMCA officials, but we need a minimum (of USA officials) of 1 ref and 2 stroke and turn, per pool, for times to go into the USA database. Our preference is for ref's to have BOTH certs. Sarah is organizing a training, and will try to get BOTH on the same weekend. Per Dave Anthony: You cannot have a Y meet without having a minimum 2 YMCA level 2 officials to have it be a Y meet. Boise and Spokane will have plenty of USA officials coming.

Jim Cornforth provided a handout with detailed eligibilities for USA nationals for Y's and Swimmers, as taken from the Blackbook. There was discussion of the definition of a closed meet, and particular emphasis on the requirement that 'closed' meets cannot have non-Y teams participating, and this needs to be clear to participants. And, we may have a non-Y team joining our league, which would affect if Fall Fest, AB and those dual meets are 'closed' meets. The three closed meets is ONLY a requirement for Y nationals. For state – Jim has chosen to require 1 closed meet. We can also clarify and add more clarification to the meet information that we put out. We need to decided what our regionals needs to be – 1-3 closed meets...? We must run it as a closed meet for it to be a sanctioned meet if it is to count for Y nationals for the swimmers.

Per Sarah: We need to have an outline for OUR meet ready to go for regionals this year to give teams. Technical details can be hammered out at the spring meeting. And we need to have a technical committee help create the meet rules and docs.

An additional point for that committee will be the schedule: will we do a 2 or 3 day meet. Per Jim – three days will cost us a much bigger chunk of money. Per Sarah – we had put in a bid for three days. Per Jim – we can do a 2 day, or run the Friday events at a different pool. KingCo is going up 5% per year. Cost for state – runs about 9000 for one day. The Oregon team has reworked their schedule to try to 'fix' scheduling problems. And, we don't want to have kids there for super long days either. Jim will have a detailed monetary review after state – as to the costs of that event. Sarah has been working with KingCo – and knows the directors, and they are trying to work with us. Per Jim: Spokane will compete in state and skip regionals – this year and next, as they will go to sr. sectionals, and this will affect entries for Regionals.

Sarah called for volunteers for a technical planning committee. Jim will head it, Dave Anthony will help, and then include the meet ref when that is decided. It will also include Stacy, the meet director. Plan to do the majority of committee business via email, and report to the league at the spring meeting.

Details about key jobs:

Meet Ref – operation of the meet. In the event of any question about technical rules, the meet ref's decision stands.

Admin ref: one of the support people. For instance, if the heat sheet didn't match what was given to KCAC, they would handle this, and are responsible for tracking down which kids were actually in which lanes. If there were timing problems, they would interpret the rules for calculating the correct times. Meet ref gets to be seeing what is happening, while admin ref is fixing things.

Deck ref: these are the people blowing whistles, at least 1 per pool. Good idea to have a 3<sup>rd</sup> as relief. Each will be paired with a starter.

Head Chief Judge: 2 pools – want one in each pool. Can talk to stroke and turn, etc. and recommend approval to deck ref, and interface with athletes and or coaches.

Chief judges in each pool – officials on both ends, they do not need to run back and forth.

Stroke and Turn: ideal one covers 2 lanes, half the pool, plus 2 walking the sides, but there is flexibility, can cover 3 lanes each.

Per Dave Anthony: we want to know who is in these jobs ahead of time, and have teams and a rotation schedule formed, which should be coordinated by the meet ref. We would like to see that person have an assistant. We can require teams to provide 'x' number of officials, depending on entry. The assigned officials – admin, deck, starters, head chief judge, maybe the chief judge, need to be figured out ahead of time. We may want them to fill out a form to be considered for those positions. And we have to make sure we have enough Y certified officials to keep Y sanction. Per Dave B. Meet ref through deck ref should be certified refs.

Sarah asked and Dave B. accepted Meet ref for 2010, and he will be on the technical committee. Dave A. and Frank will work in as to Dave B.'s discretion.

Other jobs – entries, database, coordinating timers. Start talking to your active parents and see what they would like to do.

Every team needs to get a sponsor/contributor, perhaps a \$500 minimum donor, as a resource to help cover expenses.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Item 1) Pool capacities.** Teams are finding that they now frequently exceeded and they will be no longer able to host, especially at our Y on-site pools. This is becoming a bigger problem – and fewer teams are able to host, and are therefore hosting larger and larger meets. Please find out what your pool capacity is, and see if you are within limits. Think about incorporating rental fees into your team dues – it is probably just part of having a team.

Discussion point: Jim may solve it by running a 12 and under meet in the am, and a 13 and up meet in the afternoon. This is not exactly an action item, just an awareness issue. Please find out what your pool capacity is, we would like to have that emailed to Sarah right after regionals, so we can plan the dual meet schedule more appropriately for next year.

**Item 2) Ribbons at dual meets.** Receiving the ribbons the day of the meet is happening less often, and the time is growing.... Do you want to continue doing ribbons?

Discussion:

Best – team really likes them.

Jim – the inconsistency of it – getting them weeks later – not as motivating for the kids.

General concensus: we want ribbons. Larger teams will be happy to help smaller teams. There are a variety of ways to save money – one color ribbon, order them in a roll.

**Item 3) Participation in League Sponsored Meets.** This was approved via email, to just have 2 meets for AB this year, due to schedule change.

**Item 4) A/B vs. State in 2010.** By creating the State meet, we actually cancelled 2 meets – the new AB weekend, which used to be a dual meet, and the last chance meet. Sarah wants us to consider eliminating the AB championship meet, because we have state, in favor of having 2 dual meets. We will decide at the spring meeting. Talk to your teams. See how AB runs next week, and factor that into this conversation in the spring.

**Item 5) Format of the spring meeting.** It is usually loooong. The only meeting where we can change bylaws and rules of competition, review the coming meet schedule. Sarah would like to form a committee on the issues of: AB vs. State and our meet structure next year. They will bring recommendations to the group, 2 weeks before the spring meeting.

Volunteers for the AB/State and Schedule Committee: Tim ([tim.webb@yahoo.com](mailto:tim.webb@yahoo.com); [swimmertim@yahoo.com](mailto:swimmertim@yahoo.com)) will head it, Mica, Casey, Mel, and Katie.

Meet schedule to be out by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Additional business for the spring meeting will be discussing a list of regional jobs signup coming from Stacy and the tech committee.

**Item 6) Exceptions for AB Champs.** Are there any appeals?

Northshore has requests– 2 swimmers who attend Chinese school and a testing schedule. They have made an effort to attend meets. Dave A. approves the exception.

**Item 7) Housekeeping for AB.** North: From Sarah: we need help with officials, please let Sarah or Dave know if you are bringing officials. We are using 3x5 cards for events and times, do the north teams have a concern with that? Jim would like to have heat sheets by thurs or fri to review errors or omissions.

South: Entry deadlines, etc. Make the checks to Briggs if you haven't cut them yet. Ab champs times are not going to PNS, we are not paying the fee. West Seattle will pay for it for state, about \$500 dollars.

**Item 8) YMCA officials training.** Level 2 – who is expiring, who is active, etc. Sarah is doing a USA stroke and turn, Jim can coordinate a Y level 1, do the written exam for experienced folks and they can cert as a level 2. We are looking at a March or April timeframe.

*Dates for spring meeting:*

*April...BEST volunteered to host. April 25, 9 am. Plan on a long meeting.*

*Meeting Adjourned.*