

MINUTES – LMSC for VIRGINIA Quarterly Meeting
Tuesday, January 30, 2018
7:00 pm Conference Call

In Attendance: Chair Kirk Clear, Secretary Alice Phillips, Treasurer Becca Latimer, Registrar Shirley Loftus-Charley, and committee chairs Rich Williams (coaches), Brianna Lovell (fitness), Kate Stephenson (long distance), Heather and Chris Stevenson (newsletter, records/top ten, webmaster), Charlie Cockrell (officials)

I. Membership – our numbers are down from both 2017 (900 members) and the two previous years (low 800's). We are currently at 770. We are also down in the number of clubs registered at 31 (40 in 2017). Shirley and Kirk will do some direct outreach via email to non-renewers and Rich will write a letter to coaches of various clubs and workout groups.

II. Financial Reports – the group reviewed Becca's reports for November and December. Becca will do some marketing to remind clubs and groups about the \$100 social allocation available to teams wanting to promote membership.

III. Volunteer Award – the group voted to award the Stevenson Volunteer Award to Kyle Ahlgren and Denise Letendre. The group also decided to ask the Northern Neck YMCA Stripers that nominated Craig Bauer to submit his nomination to the USMS Kerry O'Brien award. Kirk will take care of letting them know.

IV. By-laws Review and Revision – Betsy Durrant will continue to be involved in this project along with Heather Stevenson. The goal for this group will be to have a final draft ready to consider at our annual open meeting in October/November.

V. Coaches Certification & Clinic – registration is going well for the February certification in northern Virginia in February. We will be reimbursing half of the fees for coaches who attend. USMS will be offering a coaches clinic in October in Maryland as well. The board discussed the possibility of reimbursing some amount of coach attendance at this event as well. We decided to defer to our next meeting so we will have an idea of the amount of reimbursement that will be used from the \$1000 allocation toward the certification.

VI. Sanctions – there was a thorough discussion of a situation involving the Commonwealth Games and the problems of recognized vs. sanctioned meets. Our LMSC pays the sanctioning fees for meets held in jurisdiction (\$50), requiring the meet host to only pay the \$1 fee per swimmer. USMS requires recognized but unsanctioned meets to pay a fee per day – \$100. The directors of the CW Games were unaware of the fee and the size of the meet has made this onerous for them to pay. The Board decided to waive the fee this time but reminded the organizers of its preference for a sanctioned meet. Charlie Cockrell determined that her will discuss the challenge meet hosts face in paying the two day recognition fee for a meet held over two days with the national office.

Additional discussion of a sanctioning issue with the Warrenton Dreaming of Spring meet occurred involving confusing about whether Virginia or Potomac is the

sanctioning body. It was determined that Virginia is the sanctioner, but the registration form for the meet is incorrect.

VII. VOLUNTEERS – Kirk has been getting some emails from potential volunteers, which he will begin to forward to Brianna. Brianna will be charged with helping to connect volunteers with suitable opportunities.

VIII. FITNESS – Brianna is working to email coaches to increase involvement with the USMS fitness challenges. She sought ideas from the group about other avenues for this endeavor.

IX. NEWSLETTER – Heather is working on an assignment spreadsheet to share with her potential writers.

X. WEB/TOP TEN – We will have to move our website to a different server because USMS will not provide support for hosting an LMSC website on their server, which they describe as unreliable. The Commonwealth Games held two recognized meets at Liberty University. But only the times from the long course meet will count, because the short course pool measurements were not taken.

XI. REFEREES – also gave a report.

XII. LONG DISTANCE – Kate shared the updated dates and information on the Virginia Open Water Race Series and discussed with the group the possibility of awarding those who complete the series. Kate is also seeking some potential locations for the 5k/10k postals this summer. Alice will talk to Jay Peluso and Swim RVA about some possibilities in Richmond for a workout or “event” around this challenge.

XIII. There was additional general discussion of possible tools or apps we might use to make conference calls and online meetings easier. Board members are asked to send suggestions to Alice.