# Montana Local Masters Swimming Committee (MT LMSC)

Sunday Dec. 12, 2021 @ 7:00 PM MST via Zoom meeting

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome – Call to order 7:03 PM MST
2. Roll Call – voting members – Jeanne Ensign, treasurer, Dick Weber, vice president, Mackenzie Jones, secretary, Donn Livoni, president, Brady Baughman (Missoula Masters); Not in attendance: Peggy Stringer (Big Sky Masters, Guro Lindgren (Bozeman Masters).
3. Ex-Officio --Non-voting members –Paul Landes
4. Approval of Nov. 20, 2021 Annual Meeting minutes
	1. Motion to approve the Annual Meeting notes: Moved (Jeanie) / Seconded (Dick) / Discussion – none / Approved (6 voted and approved - 100%)
5. Treasures Report – Jeanne – see attached
	1. A formal treasurer report did not come together, but Jeanne did a 2021 report. There was a loss of $73.20 for the year, but since the Annual Meeting we received the check for the USMS deposit for $571.00. This makes our net income for 2021, $500.80.
6. Reports –
	1. Membership Coordinator – Marci Bochman
		1. 63 members signed up for 2022
		2. 3 clubs registered for 2022: membership coordinator report
	2. Top Ten/Records – Donn Livoni (would like to find a replacement)
		1. Updated the records, **Janelle will update on the website.**
		2. 2 records in distance for 3000 E-postal swim that took place in September-November. All records have been posted: long-course and short-course.
		3. FYI to swimmers: If you are swimming out of state at a sanctioned meet or at an in-state dual sanctioned meet and you think you might have set a record, then you need to send Donn (email: glenhollyfarm.livoni@gmail.com) the official meet results. Send the event #, event name (distance/stroke), your age group, your time and he will be glad to double check and record them in our Montana records. It is the responsibility of the swimmers swimming outside our LMSC to capture these records and the associated course. If you are swimming at an in-state USMS sanctioned meet he will need the same info (the event host sends the results to Donn and to USMS).
	3. Sanctions – Jeanne Ensign
		1. No new sanctions, still trouble with the website.
		2. For the Teddy Bear classic, a sanctioned meet, Jessica was able to force it and get it on the calendar, but it was after the meet entry was closed.
		3. There were efforts to get a dual-sanctioned meet in Kalispell. **Jeanne will check in with Marci about this.**
	4. Coaches – Paul Landes
		1. No updates with the GoPro. Continues to work with the Helena swimmers.
		2. Paul plans to write an article about the clinic in Hamilton and the use of the GoPro. This will be posted in January. Paul wants to promote the GoPro to more members in Montana.
		3. Paul would like to see the website be more interactive: possibly allow for an opportunity for website visitors to ask questions.
			1. **Paul will talk to Janelle and Mackenzie about this.**
		4. Adult Learn to Swim (ALTS) – Paul became certified in September. He has been talking to people in Helena to work with the Tribal communities. Paul wants to promote ALTS to more people to gauge interest levels. They are going to do have programs with two different pools in the first quarter of 2022. Paul hopes to get ALTS more involved with LMSC.
		5. **Paul would like to be reimbursed by LMSC.**
			1. This can go into the coaches expenses. Formal approval is not needed because this is in the budget.
		6. Peggy S. went to the Teddy Bear classic. She will be sending info and pictures to Mackenzie to go on the website.
			1. Successful meet. Masters swimmers were able to stay on deck and keep up COVID precautions. There were new records set. Charlotte was a hit with lots of people wanting a picture with her.
			2. Hoping to get two new board members on our Big Sky masters team. This will happen after the first of the year.
	5. Webmaster – Janelle (would like a replacement)
		1. Mackenzie has login access. Janelle is training Mackenzie to assist her with the website until Donn can find a permanent replacement.
		2. Records are updated
		3. **Mackenzie will upload the meeting minutes from the meeting in November.**
		4. Mackenzie and Janelle are working together to identify more things that need to be cleaned up on the website.
		5. FYI to members: New content that you would like to see posted, should still be sent to Janelle until further notice / Mackenzie is better trained.
7. Budget Ideas and Considerations
	1. Registrations
		1. Actual members 161, estimate that we will have 180 in 2022. Based on this we have a proposed budget for 2022.
		2. Paul said he thought that the 180 is a high estimate because last year LMSC focused on the hour swim and we aren’t going to do that this year. Jeanne believes the state meet will bring in people who wouldn’t otherwise register. There may also be a pentathlon or other type of event in the fall. With these events, then a 180 is a reasonable number.
	2. Expenses and awards
		1. MT LMSC generally always come in better than budget. We have extra money in the bank. In 2021 we tried spending that money to benefit the individual swimmers. Today LMSC started the discussion for how we will spend that money in 2022.
		2. MT LMSC Board meetings - There is no cost because Zoom is provided by USMS. Zoom will continue to be used.
		3. Coaches expenses – Last year we used it for online workouts. Do we need to continue this?
			1. Peggy, Paul, and another coach did it, but the small fee was not a high incentive. They don’t need $150, it can be put somewhere else.
			2. Workouts can be on the coaches site on the website.
			3. Go Pro clinic expenses: Pool rental, etc. opportunities will be decided later. Board can spend more money here, if needed.
	3. State Meet & Annual Meeting
		1. State meet will be held in Butte on April 8th and 9th.
			1. Donn will be meet director, but would like to recruit a new (possibly young adult) person wanting to learn what it is like to run a meet.
			2. LMSC will cover the pizza party after the Friday events. We will try to get a high school type format similar to the 2020 format.
		2. Mackenzie asked if there was a way we could pay officials? Colorado LMSC and High School officials are paid.
			1. Response: Currently, MT LMSC does not pay officials. It is a volunteer position and volunteers love to do it for USA Swimming and USMS. We are having trouble getting officials because our state meet is during a busy meet. Jeanne has never seen officiates get paid. They would have to become a 1099 of the LMSC, contractor – we want to stay away from that. We have given gift cards to officials before as gratuity/honorarium. This could happen again as opposed to paying them a check. This goes against their principles of volunteerism.
	4. Meet expenses
		1. FYI for clubs: LMSC offers a reimbursement for up to 3 events @ $200 each.
		2. Do a budget for the meet and submit to Donn Livoni.
	5. 2022 Relay March 2022 in Denver.
		1. Donn would like these representatives to include a coach, an experienced member, and a new (possibly a young adult) member.
		2. Multiple airlines were consulted for flights. LMSC will cover airfare for all participants.
	6. 2022 USMS Annual meeting
		1. National Annual Meeting in September – very little information currently. The goal is to have an in-person Annual Meeting in 2022. We can send 2-3 delegates.
	7. Member rebate
		1. Rebate = Reimbursement for LMSC dues. MT LMSC Board should budget for 80 members. This is the only thing that benefits every member and not just those that compete. The options for where the 2022 rebate can be allocated includes:
			1. Return it to the swimmer
			2. Keep it at the LSMC for regional programs
			3. Donate it to the swimmer’s Club or Workout Group
		2. Other options discussed but not approved, include,
			1. Donate it to an ALTS program
				1. This was not approved because the ALTS Foundation already issues grants to programs that want to do a training. Clubs can apply for grants through the foundation. There are opportunities for grants through the ALTS foundation for start ups and existing programs, $130,000 annually to provide resources for these types of programs.
				2. ALTS wants the swimmers to pay something to ensure they get something out of it. A big part of ALTS is to get people to join USMS. In Montana ALTS is run through private pools, but LMSC still will run those programs.
			2. Donate to some other swimming cause (Swim Across America or Swimming Saves Lives, for example)
				1. Payment can be complicated if it goes to a third party organization.
		3. Paul agreed to volunteer to keep track of rebates and then communicate with Jeanne. It will be retroactive to November 1st. The rebate will be offered to everyone, new and returning members—same as last year. The rebate opportunity will be open all the way until March 31st. We will close it at the same time we close registration for the state meet. Donn will send out email to everyone that will ask people to send their type of rebate use.
			1. **Mackenzie recommends using a survey. She will help Paul and Donn create this survey.**
	8. One Event Fee
		1. Event fees – the one event fee is set by the national office and is less than an annual membership/registration. We’d like to encourage people to do a full registration when they can. We have offered upping people from One event to full registration – but this was successful for a select few.
		2. Mackenzie said that when she first joined, she didn’t feel she could afford a full registration. She was right out of school and the One event fee allowed her to participate in one meet and not feel overwhelmed with the price, on top of her gym membership she was already paying.
		3. Mackenzie recommended scholarships as an opportunity to support college and graduate students, young professionals, others in need of financial support, and new swimmers to join.
			1. Peggy agrees this is a great idea.
			2. Treasurer would be the only person who knows about who asked for or received a scholarship.
			3. **Put this on the next agenda for initiating this.**
			4. If an event does come up and someone does want to do a One Event, then we can reconsider.
		4. Registrations are important for the budget, the One Event entries is not going to inject an influx in the budget. Clubs and workout groups get $12 for every member that registers.  Current clubs are Bozeman (BOZE), Missoula (MMMT), and Big Sky Masters (BSMT). Flathead Lake Open Water Swimming (FLOWS), Helena Ridleys (HRM), Missoula (MISS), and Hamilton (HAMMT) are registered as a workout groups under Big Sky Masters. FLOWS is registered as a workout group under Big Sky (Helena). Jeanne estimated 6 groups.
	9. Other incentives
		1. Coaches’ workouts / USMS Online workouts, inspirational articles
	10. Sanction fees
		1. LMSC is paying for the sanction fee for anyone who wants to put on a sanctioned meet.
	11. Zone Open Water Champs bid
		1. Northwest Zone, meeting on 12/6/21. $50 per swimmer, 140 swimmers last year.
		2. Open water events – Zone championship for 2022, you can contact Donn if you are interested in applying for this type of event.
	12. Communication to members <50 years old – volunteer help - *tabled*
	13. Purchase a Rule Book (LMSC board members)
		1. Every year the LMSC is offered the opportunity to purchase a rule book for any LMSC board member interested. There is a printable rule book for $10. The full or mini rule book will be purchased for any voting or non-voting member board members who email Donn.
	14. Website
		1. Renewed in 2021 for five years. Matt Miller still hosts this website on his personal server at no cost.
	15. Motion to approve the budget
		1. Motion to approve the budget as presented, with a net loss of $3538. M (Mackenzie) / S (Dick) / D – below / Approved (6 votes and approved - 100%)
		2. Discussion:
			1. Budgeting for a loss of $3,080 is not responsible, but not everything may happen. We can only spend the money if we get enough volunteers.
			2. However, this plan seems to benefit the members and we are on the right track to do that.
			3. Paul – doesn’t think it’s beneficial or fiscally responsible to send multiple people to the annual meeting or the Relay. Paul would not vote yes. Brady feels similarly, and has heard that the Annual Meeting is a hybrid option and we could send fewer people.
			4. Other members believe that since we have extra money in the bank, deficit spending is okay to support members to increase our membership, support all members, and build stronger clubs.
			5. Donn is in favor of this budget plan and supporting multiple members to attend the Relay and National Annual Meeting – the focus of the Relay is club development. It should help clubs to grow, recruit, improve opportunities.
				1. Emily on Jensen, Mark Johnson, Janelle Munson-McGee, Philip Luebke, Ellen Parchen attended more recently. In the past, Donn went automatically being on the BOD for the national USMS, Jeanne was an automatic delegate and is still one. Neither have expenses paid this year.
				2. Nominations are sent out to the teams.
				3. Brady went last year and it was really helpful to be virtual because of job and family constraints. But still very beneficial.
8. Other Business
	1. All officers need to be USMS members by December 31, 2021.
9. Adjournment – 8:33 PM MST

Next BOD Meeting – Feb / Mar