

## CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 15, 2010

The Championship Committee Conference Call convened at 8 PM (EDT) on Sunday, August 15. Attending the call were the following members: Jeff Roddin (Chair), Sandi Rousseau (Vice Chair), Tom Boak, Debbie Cavanaugh, Kim Crouch, Barry Fasbender, Michael Heather (ex-officio), Kris Houchens, Jane Moore (ex-officio), Michael Moore, Patty Nardozzi, Robin Segnitz, Jody Smith, Jeff Strahota, and Lisa Watson.

### 2012 SUMMER (LC) BID

The committee first discussed the Omaha bid. Jeff outlined concerns that have been expressed by our committee, such as getting officials, layout of the facility, and structure of the organizing committee. Tom noted that there was a huge gap in the volunteer organization for Puerto Rico, and is concerned about a similar situation for Omaha, since this will also be run by the National Office. Sandi suggested that we stress to the National Office the importance of engaging the Nebraska LMSC to take an active role in running the meet and providing volunteers. She also stated that in light of the fact that Olympic trials do occur every 4 years, we need to be able to measure the marketing success of Omaha and how it has affected USMS growth, particularly with the possible financial loss for this meet. Is this something feasible to do again in the future? Tom emphasized that we need to be certain of local involvement for Omaha. Kris suggested that there should be a local meet director and that area USA swim teams should be recruited to be involved. She also suggested connecting with the Olympic organizing committee for volunteer help in setting up the meet. Jeff commented that a lot of the volunteers for Olympic Trials will be brought in for that event, so local people may want the chance to assist with our meet at the facility. Also, the Omaha CVB will help us with local volunteers. Debbie mentioned that we also need to stress the need for open communication with the Championship Liaison from the National Office on all aspects of the meet- she noted a few gaps of communication from Puerto Rico. Local volunteers should be recruited for key positions in the meet organization. Compensation should also be given to the LMSC for their volunteer efforts, to help promote growth. Jeff added that our committee recently discussed having a 'junior' liaison in addition to the Championship liaison (which has been done in the past) for Nationals, and this should certainly be done for Omaha. Jeff Strahota said we should talk with the Nebraska LMSC, and Jeff Roddin will follow up with that.

Sandi voiced the concern that since the National Office is organizing the meet, will they be responsive to the Championship Committee and our needs for the execution of the meet. Jeff Roddin stressed that our committee needs to be proactive to make sure this occurs.

Jeff also read an email from Jeff Moxie, stating that the USMS Executive Committee has every desire to make Omaha successful and profitable. Tom stated the National Office needs to be sure to promote both 2012 National meets, not just Omaha.

**MSA TO CERTIFY THE OMAHA BID FOR 2012 SUMMER (LC) NATIONALS.**

**MSA TO AWARD THE 2012 SUMMER (LC) BID TO OMAHA.**

2012 SC BIDS (Kris Houchens left the call)

The committee discussed the need to have a written procedure in place should there be a committee member with a potential conflict of interest. Mike Heather said that USMS does have a conflict of interest policy. The committee will investigate this further so that we can make sure there is something in place for future situations.

The committee also discussed the possibility of awarding a bid 3 years out, which is now in our power to do (per the rulebook). Tom stated that this should not be done except for a special extenuating circumstance. He suggested we include a statement in the bid packet that emphasizes this. Jeff stated a concern about awarding one meet 3 years out and not the other - thereby restricting us somewhat with soliciting a bidder for the other meet that year.

Jeff addressed the recommendation of the 2012 subcommittee from last week's conference calls: the subcommittee recommends Greensboro to the Championship Committee for Spring (SC) 2012, citing the excitement of a new venue, depth of the organizing committee and National Meet experience, and favorable location. It further recommends that a generic exit clause be added to all future meet contracts beginning with 2012, which would allow the Championship Committee to rescind the bid if for some reason it appears the meet cannot be held. Mike Heather suggested we make this motion into 2 separate parts.

**MSA TO CERTIFY BOTH INDIANAPOLIS AND GREENSBORO AS VIABLE BIDS FOR SPRING (SC) 2012.**

**MSA TO AWARD THE 2012 SPRING (SC) BID TO GREENSBORO.**

**MSA TO ADD A GENERIC EXIT CLAUSE TO ALL FUTURE MEET CONTRACTS, BEGINNING WITH 2012, WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE TO RESCIND THE BID IF FOR SOME REASON IT APPEARS THE MEET CANNOT BE HELD.**

Michael Moore suggested we check with Rules regarding the wording of this exit clause.

The committee next discussed the 2 sets of dates given by Greensboro: April 12-15 and April 26-29. The consensus of the committee was that the latter dates would be preferable, as there would be less chance of potential conflict with existing state and regional meets, and more opportunity for swimmers to get NQTS. This would still give a 10 week period between Greensboro (SC) and Omaha (LC), which should be adequate.

**MSA TO APPROVE APRIL 26-29 AS THE DATES FOR 2012 SPRING (SC) NATIONALS IN GREENSBORO.**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM (EDT).

Respectfully submitted by: Lisa Watson