

LMSC Name:	Niagara	Location:	Rochester, NY
Chair:	Greg Danner	Vice Chair:	Art Munson
Minutes recorded by:	Ann Marie Crye	Date/time of meeting:	11/8/2015

Motions Passed:

1. Niagara will continue the Swimmer of the Year program through 2016 with \$500 earmarked towards purchasing awards. Approved unanimously.
2. Niagara LMSC will absorb the entire USMS sanction fee (\$50) for recurring meet hosts in 2016. The meet bonus will be reduced by \$25 for a total of \$475. Approved unanimously.
3. First time meet hosts (or any host recommended by the Sanction Chair) will adhere to a new policy of sanction fee deposits (\$50 non-refundable, \$100 refundable upon successful completion of event). In the event of meet cancellation (by the host or the Board), the entire deposit is non-refundable (to cover USMS Sanction OME fees). The Sanction Chair will not initiate OME with ClubAssistant until the deposit is received. Approved unanimously.
4. With the advice and consent of the Chair, the Sanction Chair reserves the right to cancel meets with less than 25 registered participants. Approved unanimously.
5. Niagara LMSC will reimburse 50% of the certification cost for Niagara registered members seeking certification in 2016. Approved unanimously.

Number of Board members present: 8 **Absent:** 2 **Number of other members present:** 0

LMSC members present: Greg Danner (Chair/Webmaster), Art Munson (Vice Chair), Lorie Rick (Fitness/Coaches), Kay Turner (Sanctions), Ann Marie Crye (Secretary), Geoff Wells (Records), François Caudrillier (Top 10), Brooks Howard (Officials)

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1:53 pm

Old Business: None

Reports of officers:

- **Treasurer** – Lynn Fuller (absent) – no report
- **Registrar** – Dawn-Ann Dykes (absent) Greg gave a membership report: Niagara LMSC had 675 total members in 2014 (highest ever). Currently for 2015, there are 634 total members (2nd highest ever).
- **Secretary** – Ann Marie Crye – no report
- **Chair/Web** – Greg Danner reported that we didn't have anyone go to the National Convention this year. The Niagara meets are posted on the USMS website. Everyone agreed that the website looks great.

Reports of committees:

- **Vice Chair** – Art Munson Swimmer of the Year (SOTY) report. Art reported that 185 swimmers have competed so far in 2015 and that most age groups have had participants for the award. The SOTY award is based on participation/attendance at swim meets. Currently \$500 is earmarked for awards (trophies in 2015, plaques in 2016). **Motion** (Danner, second Rick) Niagara will continue Swimmer of the Year program through 2016 with \$500 earmarked towards purchasing awards. **Motion passed.** Art suggested that events of 25 yards start off the blocks since it is a paid event. He also suggested handing out promotional merchandise such as USMS stickers for cars and/or bag tags. This has been tabled for email discussion.

- Sanctions** – Kay Turner reported that there were 8 sanctions for 2015 and that online meet entries are working very well. Kay suggested charging a meet sanction fee to cover club assistant in case a meet is cancelled (Niagara swallowed the club assistant cost for the Buffalo State meet which was cancelled). Greg recommended the following Policy & Procedure (P&P) changes: For recurring meet hosts, sanction fee deposits of \$125 will no longer be required. The \$25 non-refundable portion will be deducted from the meet bonus check. Reason: Reduces work for the meet host, Sanction Chair, and Treasurer. The meet bonus itself serves as enough of an incentive for meet hosts to comply with USMS/Niagara LMSC rules and regulations. Our recurring meet hosts have been very reliable. *update* USMS has raised the sanction fee to \$50 per event. **Motion** (Danner, Turner second) Niagara LMSC will absorb the entire USMS sanction fee (\$50) for recurring meet hosts in 2016. The meet bonus will be reduced by \$25 for a total of \$475. **Motion passed.** **Motion** (Danner, Wells second) First time meet hosts (or any host recommended by the Sanction Chair) will adhere to a new policy of sanction fee deposits (\$50 non-refundable, \$100 refundable upon successful completion of event). In the event of meet cancellation (by the host or the Board), the entire deposit is non-refundable (to cover USMS Sanction OME fees). The Sanction Chair will not initiate OME with ClubAssistant until the deposit is received. **Motion passed.** **Motion** (Danner, second Caudrillier) Meet Cancellation Policy (add to P&P): With the advice and consent of the Chair, the Sanction Chair reserves the right to cancel meets with less than 25 registered participants. **Motion passed.**
- Records** – Geoff Wells reported that many records have been broken in the past year. Split times are valid for records. A split verification form is needed for Top 10.
- Top 10** – François Caudrillier – no report
- Coaches/Fitness/Awards** – Lorie Rick reported on a positive note that there are more coaches on deck for meets. Education Programs reimbursement was discussed. The current cost for USMS Coach Certification Levels 1 & 2 (\$100 each or \$180 combined) and Level 3 (\$225). **Motion** (Danner, Crye second) Niagara LMSC will reimburse 50% of the certification cost for Niagara registered members seeking certification in 2016. **Motion passed.**
- Officials** – No report (position is vacant). Brooks Howard was introduced and with the advice and consent of the board, Brooks will fill the Officials Chair position. USMS officials must be certified USA officials for stroke and turn and should use the Officials Tracking System (OTS) to get credit for officiating at the meet. There was a discussion about swimmers not following the proper protocol (whistle chirps to get ready, long whistle to get on the block). Referees are in charge of the meet and will enforce the protocol unless there are safety issues where it is unsafe for swimmers. Brooks suggested there be four (4) officials at each meet. **Action item:** Lorie Rick will generate a form for officials to fill out at the beginning of the meet with a formalized payment program. Officials will be able to choose if they would like a gift card or if they wish to donate back to the meet host by volunteering their time.
- Competition** – There have been competition committee email discussions in the past about swim meets, but this has not occurred in 2015. Kay gets a referee's report which lists the official number of disqualifications at the meet.
- Elections** - There were no nominations from the floor and all officers wish to continue, so no formal vote was required: Chair – Greg Danner: completing 2nd term, Registrar – Dawn-Ann Dykes: completing 1st term, Treasurer – Lynn Fuller: completing 10th term.
- Tabled** - New awards: Coach of the Year, Appreciation, Contributor

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 pm
