

Minutes of New England Prep School Swimming Association Coaches Meeting  
30 October 2005.

**I. Treasurer's Report** Accepted.

**II. Thanks** to Jean Farnum and Roger Nekton for a successful New Englands meet at Exeter last March.

**III. Problems** from last year's meet?

A. judges for diving:

- do we want to mandate that programs with diving should provide judging?
- the pool of diving programs/coaches seems to be shrinking
- should we hire judges?
- John Kelly is a keeper; he's becoming good at working with our organization

B. Motion to "keep process of assigning diving judges as is but with a provision that if we encounter problems with staffing, we will look to hire judges."

C. Discussion of Motion:

- some people are not comfortable coaching and judging
- verbal commitment by end January for who is able and willing to judge
- there are at least 12 diving coaches in the league

D. Motion passes by clear majority.

#### IV. Jobs for the NE Championship Meet:

- A. Entries – Jon Liller of Worcester will do it again.
- B. Hy-Tek Computer – Running the timing system and trouble shooting
  - would parents be able to run the system?
  - we need two people to run it
  - people have been paid \$150 (for the weekend) to do this job
  - CSH and K-O will look into finding parent volunteers to fill this role
- C. Awards and Ribbons – Williston-Northampton will complete his job.
- D. Officials – Loomis-Chafee
- E. Table – Andover
- F. Announcer – Andover
- G. Food – Hopkins
- H. Results - this has become a non-job (formerly held by Hotchkiss)
- I. Back-up Timers –
  - requires attendance by the coach
  - need 25 timers (in two sets of 25) for each session
  - evening session are easier because more kids are free
  - Barbara will contact a school for the job
- J. T-shirts – Hotchkiss
- K. Programs – no longer a job
- L. Lifeguards – for swimming **and** diving
  - how many lifeguards do you need? (ARC)1 for first 25, 2 for 40, ...  
1 lifeguard, several marshals is a US Swimming “solution”  
US Swimming also requires all coaches to be certified lifeguards
  - the site director should have final say on who is responsible if a person is removed from the water
  - Barbara will contact a school for the job

M. US Swimming Officials:

- not the job of this league to cover that
- is there a way to certify the whole meet?
  - no, too cumbersome
- Teams that have US swimmers must take responsibility for insuring that US officials are present.

V. **Rule Changes:** presented by Bob DeConinck

- FINA and NCAA already have allowed one dolphin kick off of starts/turns in Breast stroke- others are noted in the Federation rule book.

VI. We will continue to award the **Distinguished Service Award** at the conclusion of the diving.

- no nominations received at the present time.
- Nominations encouraged via e-mail to members of the executive committee: Barbara Gould (Worcester), Bob Burns (Choate); Alex Kraus (K-O)

VII. **Diving sequence:**

A. The main question: should we keep the third week a coaches' agreement (to avoid the necessity of 301-reverse dive)

B. Motion "to adopt and keep the sequence of a regular diving rotation with no changes" – that is a regular series running through 101, 201, 301, 401, 5111 and repeating.

C. Discussion of motion: some disagreement about the efficacy of having divers learn the reverse dive early because they have to have it versus the efficacy of not rushing divers into the reverse dive.

D. Motion passes with a clear majority.

## VIII. New Business:

A. Treasurer – Bob Tyler will cover for Bob Burns who is on a reduced teaching/coaching schedule at Choate.

B. Next year: someone else needs to step into the role of president – Barbara Gould has announced she has appreciated and enjoyed her six years as president but she will step down.

### C. Web Site:

- 1) send dual meet schedule to Jacques Hugon of Andover; also send him dual meet results as soon as possible in the various forms outlined on the NEPSSA site.
- 2) update coaches' names and e-mail addresses on the web site
- 3) we can have a central location for sharing team rosters if A.D.s are okay with that.
- 4) the discussion board is up and running; should it be for everyone or only for coaches?

### D. Order of heats for dual meets:

- some discussion of formalizing the standard order of heats
- a suggestion made to run 1) unofficial, 2) girls, 3 boys
- No motion made but consensus reached that we will keep the status quo which is girls heats before boys heats although the rule is technically stated as “visitor’s choice.”

### E. Rhode Island has outlawed diving in public schools.

- we remind the league that diving is an event and must be run in our league (even in the state of Rhode Island) if the facility is legal

### F. Assisting with costs for host school:

- we currently omit the fees for host schools (about \$500 for entries, and by definition no travel, no housing costs)
- should we jack up our entry fees to discourage size of meet and give us money to help host schools
- there are some costs that a host school can't “spread out” or “trade for”
- overtime (\$6000 at Deerfield for one given year), custodial, security
- this is really an AD issue. They need to figure out ways to make hosting big meets more equitable

G. One vote per head coach or one vote per school:

- to give each gender one vote weighs process in favor of larger schools (assuming double gender coaches don't get two votes)
- often if there are 2 head coaches who are opposed, they will simply not vote
- no motion made and we will keep the status quo: one vote per school

H. Pingree/Landmark Issue:

- Pingree and Landmark have made a proposal to exist as a combined team
- our rules:
  - 1) school must be NEPSAC member;
  - 2) school must have two dual meets vs other NEPSSA schools;
  - 3) school must have an official team
- this could be a problem if small groups of athletes (non-teams) create false teams to pass through our requirements for participation in NEs.
- This could also be a problem if small groups of athletes from several school join together to form a renegade "team" that could disrupt the team championship feeling of the NE meet.
- Pingree/Landmark have made this a non-issue because they have decided to train and travel together but compete separately.
- some public schools have stipulated that a school (a team) is one with one principal or head of school
- Barbara will contact the ADs association to "pass this issue up to the A.D.s" and have them get back to us on precedents or accepted practices for dealing with combined teams.

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#### I. Changes or Pleas at the New England Championships:

- a Worcester boy was entered in meet; then dismissed from team and removed from meet. The dismissal was overturned and he was reinstated in the meet.
- Almost every year we have pleas to make last minute changes or adjustments usually due to coaches' errors.
- We should have a firm deadline (Friday) and make sure that we as adults check the entries. After that, it's the coach's fault and the kids, unfortunately, have to suffer. But unless we have a firm deadline, coaches will not be responsible enough to check all of their entry and scratch details.
- Motion made "that once Wednesday's entry/scratch deadline has passed, we make **no** changes or updates. Extreme cases should go to the meet committee."
- Discussion followed and focused on two primary points: 1) we should be strict about enforcing a final deadline for changes to encourage coaches to double check all their entry/scratch/update information; and 2) we shouldn't mandate an absolute deadline because we may (and will) make errors especially at the end of the season when we are tired and focused on many more concrete details regarding our participating in the New England: travel, lodging, coaching, etc.
- If it is a clerical error by the person doing the entries, those can be fixed
- Motion carries by a clear majority.

## J. Length of Meet:

- a proposal made for the girls' meet always to be on Saturday
- this is not a gender issue; it is a length of meet issue.
- diving on a different day
- dive over starting
- hour earlier start for trials
- cut off times?
- but cut off times will cut out teams – especially smaller schools – should we have two meets? – two sites?
- what about a number limit – like 14 people – that keeps some smaller schools in the meet
- Dave Koritkoski volunteers to run a sub-committee for the “size of meet” issue
  
- motion made “for a sub-committee to study the length of meet issue and to recommend adjustments to the meet” – the committee’s purpose and final result will be a proposal to be brought before NEPSSA
- motion passes with a clear majority
- new sub-committee for “length of meet” are:
  - 1) chair: Dave Koritkoski – Williston-Northampton
  - 2) Bo Tanner – Eaglebrook
  - 3) Jacques Hugon – Andover
  - 4) Jean Farnum – Exeter
  - 5) Peter Snedecor – NMH
  - 6) Kathy Robertson – Deerfield
  - 7) Wendy Allerton – Miss Porter’s
  - 8) Maura Foster – CSH
  - 9) Clay Miles – Kingswood-Oxford
  - 10) Barbara Gould – Worcester
  - 11) Fred Seebeck – Loomis-Chaffee
  
- motion made “to allow unlimited entries in 50 and 100 free (only four can score)” not to add participants in the meet but to avoid placing weaker or slower swimmers in long events. The overall purpose would be to speed up the meet.
- motion is defeated by a clear majority

K. Would another time (for NEPSSA meeting) be better than 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in October?

- earlier?
- the general idea is to increase attendance at the meeting.
- or is the location the encumbrance?
- some coaches don't feel connected
- use the discussion board to generate interest in this meeting

L. Reminder made regarding the "length of meet sub-committee:

- Send information to Barbara regarding the length of meet:
  - 1) data
  - 2) anecdotal information
  - 3) observations
  - 4) questions
- she will pass them on to the Koritkoski sub-committee.

M. Motion made "for fly over starts for prelims"

- within each event, not between events.
- will save time
- won't this hurt the philosophy or feeling for the meet?
- motion passes 13 to 6

## **IX. Meeting Statistics:**

- Duration of meeting: 11:00 AM to 1:45 PM
- Location of meeting: Worcester Academy.
- Date of meeting: Sunday 30 October 2005
- Attendees: Barbara Gould (Worcester) – *president* of NEPSSA; Alex Kraus (Kingswood-Oxford) – *vice-president* of NEPSSA; Dave Koritkoski (Williston-Northampton); Bo Tanner (Eaglebrook); Jacques Hugon (Andover); Jean Farnum (Exeter); Peter Snedecor and Ramon Olivier (NMH); Kathy Robertson and John Burke (Deerfield); Wendy Allerton (Miss Porter's); Maura Foster (CSH); Clay Miles (Kingswood-Oxford); Fred Seebeck and Bob DeConinck (Loomis-Chaffee); Robert Sahms (Portsmouth Abbey); Zoe Street and Krissy Duff (Worcester); MaryPat and Grant Gritzmacher (Westminster), Deb Hill (Winsor)

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DIVING ROTATION SEQUENCE- this is a change from the meeting, necessitated by meets on Sat. Jan 7

11/27	101
12/4	201
12/11	301
1/1	401
1/8	5111
1/15	101
1/22	201
1/29	301
2/5	401
2/12	5111
2/19	101

- Minutes taken by: Alex Kraus (Kingswood-Oxford)