

**SUBURBAN AQUATIC LEAGUE MINUTES  
LEAGUE MEETING - MARCH 27,2001**

**Role was taken.** 2 Reps present from: Methacton, Norristown, Perk Vally, Upper Dublin, Centennial, Central Bucks. 1 Rep present from: North Penn, Souderton, Abington, Plymouth Whitemarsh, Radnor, Bensalem, Hatboro Horsham, Council Rock, Pennsbury.

Missing Teams: Wissahickon, Lower Merion, Upper Merion, Lower Moreland, Springfield.

**Treasurer's report:** None at this meeting.

**Chairman:** Len thanked everyone for a good season. He expressed a special thanks to members of the executive committee for a great job:

Barb Yiengst, Sue Moyer, Brian McMillin, Mercer Sisson, Christine & Mark McElwee, Mike Dunn, Roger Ward, Karen Palombo, Connye Flemming, Jack Jeffers, Kathy Garro, Pete Crippen, Jim Davidson, Marj Hawley,

Special Thanks to Mike Brown for getting our Website up and running.

**Registrars Reports:**

**Mike Dunn-Girls:** There were many peaks and valleys with the use of Meet Manager this season. Some things to keep in mind for next year is to try to do a better job with roster submissions. One of the biggest problems were receiving meet results and having an entry kicked out because a name that was submitted on the meet results was different from what was submitted on the original roster. A name was not submitted or it was spelled differently and there was a lot of time spent on finding out where these errors were. Everyone has learned from this year and it had worked out fairly well. Next year should be better.

Copies of Girls League Records are available. Pick one up on the way out. These are also posted on our website.

**Christine & Mark McElwee-Boys-**One comment was that many people contacted registrars thinking that there was instant updates to the website for the top 40 swimmers. Please be aware that these updates do not come immediately after a Saturday Meet. ALSO, coaches were putting swimmers into meets when they were not officially added to the roster. The name was then kicked out of the meet results and it took additional time to find out why. **Remember that according to the constitution all new athletes submitted for a team are not added to the roster or eligible to participate for 10 days. Reps need to remind Coaches about this.**

We will try to work toward being about to submit rosters and communications through the website and e-mail instead of a sending something out in the mail. **Anyone who had a new e-mail for the upcoming season, e-mail Mike Brown or Sue Moyer through our Website.**

**Pete Crippen – League Champs at LaSalle:**

LaSalle promises to have a better timing system next year. There were a few minor problems. Roger Ward ran a great, fast meet. Any comments or suggestions, please e-mail Pete Crippen.

There was a short discussion as to whether we still need a seed meeting. The consensus is that we still need to have a seed meeting before championships.

Because many unlimited swimmer leave early or do not show up at leagues, there was a suggestion that getting entries for the unlimited events at leagues be limited to the top 40 list. For some unlimited events, the league had to go to the 60<sup>th</sup> swimmer at the seed meeting. Next year this will be considered at the seed meeting. This led to a discussion as to whether we should include unlimited age group or it should be eliminated in the league.

Discussion followed and it was commented that the league was developed to include, not exclude any group of swimmers or divers.

Question Asked: What is the feeling about when League Champs were held this year. Should it be the first Weekend as before or the second Weekend as it was this past year?. There was discussion about how Sunday was accepted and whether it needed to be scheduled around the High School schedule. Most agreed that we need to include this age group but not schedule around them since they are only a small percentage of the athletes.

Sunday did not seem to be problems for any teams that the reps were aware of. The availability of LaSalle is dependent on their basketball schedule. We can always be bumped even after we are scheduled as we were this year if the Saturday we have scheduled would have an unexpected LaSalle event or basketball game.

**MOST TEAMS WOULD LIKE TO SEE DIVISIONAL BEFORE LEAGUE CHAMPS. ALL REPS FROM TEAMS THAT MAY HOLD DIVISIONALS SHOULD GO BACK TO THEIR CLUBS AND FIND OUT IF THEIR POOLS WOULD BE AVAILABLE THE FIRST WEEKEND IN FEBRUARY, IF WE WOULD HAVE LEAGUES ON THE SECOND WEEKEND IN FEBRUARY.**

Hi Tech now has a Meet Manager II and a new palm pilot program. Meet Manager II (MMII) has many new good features and the cost is under \$100. This new *MMII* has many new features and should make it much easier for teams.

**IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THERE IS A NEED TO HAVE A LEAGUE PROTOCOL FOR THE USE OF MEET MANAGER SO THAT EVERYONE IS DOING THE SAME THING.**

There was a motion for the league to purchase MMII for all teams and distribute it this summer if the cost is under \$100. .

Motion Seconded. All in favor.

**Len reminded everyone that the Suburban Aquatic League is run by the reps. This is the group that runs the league. If a rep misses a meeting, it is their responsibility to get the information they missed. COMMUNICATION in the group is the single most problem with teams. There was an incident this year with a coach and team that do not understand the 40% rule and that swimmer could not swim at championships because of it. THAT IS COMMUNICATION. REPS AND COACHES HAD MOVED ON AND NO ONE PASSES ON INFORMATION. THESE RULES ARE IN THE CONSTITUTION. IT IS THE REPS WHO MAKE THESE RULES AND ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMMUNICATING THESE THINGS. THIS RULES ARE IN THE CONSTITUTION**

**THE GROUP OF REPS HERE AT THE MEETING POSSIBLY WILL NOT BE THE ONES TO DO THIS NEXT YEAR AND MOVE ON. A NEW REP COMES AND DOES NOT READ THE CONSTITUTION OR DOES NOT KNOW THEIR RESPONSIBILITY. LEN STATED THAT IN THE YEARS THAT HE HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE LEAGUE, THE SINGE MOST LARGEST PROBLEM WAS POOR COMMUNICATIONS BECAUSE SOMEONE DID NOT KNOW WHAT THE RULES WERE AND THEY DID NOT BOTHER READING THEM.**

**TO HELP COACHES BE MORE AWARE OF WHAT GOES ON A REP MEETINGS, AND RULES THAT ARE DISCUSSED. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT EVERY TEAM BRING THEIR COACH TO THE FALL MEETING TO REVIEW IMPORTANT ISSUES FOR THE SEASON.**

KNOW THAT The reps make the rules. The reps run the league. If we need to eliminate the 40% rule or eliminate the 10 day rule to add new athletes to the roster, then lets take a vote and change it! We can eliminate the rule. The Chairperson is often the bad guy by enforcing rules that were voted on and decided on by the reps of the league.

It was asked if there was any discussion about the 40% rule. There was some discussion and the reps wanted the rule to stand as is. There was not a motion to make any changes .

THERE WAS A REQUEST FROM THE FLOOR AS TO WHETHER WE CAN HAVE A PAGE ON THE WEB THAT SIMPLIFIES SOME OF THE IMPORTANT RULES THAT SEEM TO BE A PROBLEM EVERY YEAR. IT WAS ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IT BE IN THE HANDBOOK. THIS WILL BE LOOKED INTO. WE ALL HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT AS REPS, IT IS OUR JOB TO COMMUNICATE EVERYTHING FROM OUR MEETINGS AND PASS ON INFORMATION THAT IS NEEDED.

LEAGUE DUES: There was a letter received by the chairperson that a team was not going to pay the dues. It is the reps that determine the dues to be paid and how much to be paid. The team rep that wrote the letter is not even here. The reps run the league. If you feel that the teams should not pay dues then a rep can make a motion to change dues payments.

**BLOCKS FOR 8 & UNDER AT LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS.**

One of the questions that came to the Len were the blocks for the 8 unders. Some statistics for the 8 & unders off the wooded blocks at league championships this year were 51% of the Boys had their best times, 22 % of the girls had their best times, 73% of the boys relays had their best times and 69% for the girls relays. These were off the wooded blocks. The suggestion from some of the people that questioned Len was to start the 8& unders on the starting blocks and hand time them. Discussion followed. Wooded blocks are slippery and swimmers have nothing to grab onto or curl toes over these blocks. THE DECISION WAS TO HAVE 8 & UNDERS GO INTO THE TOUCHPADS AND TRY TO MODIFY THE WOODEN BLOCKS. PETE WILL CHECK INTO THE WOODED BLOCKS.

When a registrar starts their term, the league give them a computer to do this job. The suggestion is to purchase the registrar a laptop computer that can also be used at league championships each year. It was decided that no vote was needed, since this was already something the league does and it was just a different type of computer requested so that that computer could be used in another way for the league.

**We need to vote on new officers for next year.**

**If anyone has someone in mind, they can place that persons name in nomination for any position.**

1. **Chairperson: need to have nominations. Len will be stepping down.**  
**Brian McMillin was nominated for Chairperson.**  
**Brian was not present but was called and he accepted the nomination.**  
**All were in favor of Brian being Chairman.**
2. **Treasurer: Barb Yiengst will continue for another year if there are no nominations. There were no volunteers. All were in favor of Barb.**
3. **Registrar: if anyone has interest in being registrars, please speak up.**  
**No one volunteered so both current registrars will return.**
4. **Girls President: Mercer Sisson**
5. **Boys President:**  
**POSITION NEEDED TO BE FILLED AT FALL MEETING.**
6. **Secretary:**  
**POSITION NEEDED TO BE FILLED AT FALL MEETING.**
7. **Scheduling:**  
**POSITION NEEDED TO BE FILLED AT FALL MEETING.**

**8. DIVISION REPS:****SOUTH-PETE CRIPPEN OR KATHY GARRO.****EAST- MARGE DONAHUE****NORTH-TOM MCMANUS****9. CHAMPIONSHIPS – PETE CRIPPEN****10. AWARDS –****11. SENIOR AWARD-**

This is a nice award but some divisions have only 1 senior apply and that one gets the award by default, while another division may have 6 apply and we have to choose one.

There were some suggestions but no definite changes will be made at this meeting.

This year we required that one of the recommendations letter has to be from that seniors SAL coach. The award committee should come up with final ideas and suggestions to present it at the fall meeting.

Len finished by saying that he has been involved in SAL for the past 14 years and enjoyed. It is a great program. Thank you.

Mark McElwee suggested that we have a social for SAL reps and parents. Nothing definite planned at this time.

Meeting Adjourned.

Submitted by: Sue Moyer, League Secretary