

**September 12, 2015 @ SNHU**  
**NHSA Annual League meeting**

President Steve Van Der Beken welcome to all teams and asked all to update any information on the contact list. After attendance it was noted that missing was Claremont Tigersharks and Connecticut Valley. Steve briefly went over the 2014 minutes, which have been on the website, and noted the change in the qualifying for NHSA league meet was now any number of meets. CONY voted to accept the 2014 minutes, seconded by FINS.

Steve briefly went over the Treasurer's Report from Judy Cook, mainly noting we were down 100 swimmers from previous year and that for this year's meet the cost should stay the same. FINS made a motion to accept the report, seconded by CONY.

Steve stated that Brian Crawford, Judy Cook, and himself were interested in staying on board with their current roles, and asked for any nominations from the floor. Mike Hirst of STORM made a motion to keep the same officers and that was seconded by UVAC.

Old Business: Teams were in agreement of how well the NHSA meet was run. John Dicaprio of CONY asked if we would rather see bag tags instead of patches for the meet. Brian Diranne of UVAC said this was easy to do as they do it for Regionals and Age Groups, saying they are 99 cents with a ten day turn around. FINS suggested putting league artwork on the tags or logo and Mike Hirst asked if we had any artwork to put on website. We would keep ducks as heat winners.

New Business: Teams talked about dates for League meet for 2016, being either the weekend of March 4-6 or March 18-20. FINS asked if we went with the later date, if we would keep the bonus session, in which Steve replied yes. Based on meet cut-off dates, the bonus session would stay. Teams were all in agreement with the latter option, March 18-20, unless New England Swimming changed any of their Championship meet dates.

By-Laws: Steve and Secretary Brian Crawford recently rewrote the league by-laws, in which Steve emailed out well before meeting. Steve made a couple of changes, adding "email" on page two, article four. Another change was "YMCA" meets counting as being sanctioned. High school swimmers would need two meets, and all other swimmers three, that are attached to your team. Brian of UVAC talked about the 120 day rule, and feels it is too long, stating if a swimmer came to your team in December, they couldn't swim in state meet for your team or participate on relays. He proposed it be cut in half to 60 days or even 90 days, however keeping the requirement for meets the same. Steve said we had to have some kind of cutoff date, and that there are always two sides to every story when a swimmer(s) switches teams. He said teams have the right to petition if the board is against a ruling. Brian of UVAC then commented that we should be keeping the best interest of the athlete. Steve felt that 60 days was too short, and FINS added that this wasn't excluding the swimmer from competing in unattached status at the meet. Steve proposed that if this was to happen it was to go to an executive committee, and if turned down, then the coach of the swimmer may appeal to all

coaches/group. The "Option to Appeal" would be added to the new by-laws.

Brian Diranne spoke to all teams and encouraged them all to have a HOD (House of Delegate) member for New England Swimming. Mike of STORM added to get an athlete on the list as well, which could help to petition to exclude our meets. Steve asked all teams to stay involved with USA and New England Swimming. Judy Cook of Lakes Regional made a motion to accept the new bylaws which were seconded by CONY. The motion to accept the NEW By-Laws was passed by a unanimous vote.

Steve again stated if anyone had a petition for the NE Swimming House of delegates meeting on Sepy 27. to contact himself, Brian Dirrane, or Brian from ESC.

New Membership requested from Gunstock, which were Associate Members. Coaches Martha and Jason talked briefly of their team of 30/40 swimmers, and were looking to grow after losing their pool two years ago. Steve mentioned there was room in the State meet. Dick of PWS asked if there was a list of teams wanting to come into the league, in which Steve replied he has not heard of any of the teams in recent years. STORM brought up that Gunstock has been coming to meetings every year. UVAC made a motion to accept full membership to Gunstock which was seconded by CONY. Steve has said he has heard of verbal interest from Pride of Nashua, and they are currently in the TSSA. Brian of UVAC mentioned at this time that he received a text from Tim Hernon on Claremont Tigersharks, who were missing from the meeting. Steve said that he would reach out to him and also Connecticut Valley.

Open Discussion/Misc.: Carol of RAYS asked what we can do as a group to strengthen us as a group for New England Swimming. Both Brian and Steve said to really attend each other's meets, as well as attend meetings and to stay involved. RAYS mentioned they are hosting a training in Salem, NH and asked how many were needed to run a class. Judy Cook believed she thought it was as little as five. UVAC also said they were running an Admin. Official class. League will continue to give three \$500 scholarships, but mentioned it should be a blind essay, not mentioning team or swimmers names in the essay from the swimmer. This would go out in the essay information which is usually due right around the state entry date. T-Shirts awarded to Salem Boys and Girls Club. Judy Cook asked teams their opinion of the newly added Silver meet, and coaches briefly talked of format. UVAC talked and provided paperwork on their three hosted meets and said how they wanted to add more NHSA teams. Mike Hirst talked of website, which he recently had done over. He asked if teams had photos to send in, and if anything was missing to let him know. UVAC asked teams if everyone was happy with State meet jobs, to which everyone was okay.

CONY made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 a.m. Seconded by UVAC.

Minuets submitted by Brian Crawford Sept 10,2015