

SMS Board Minutes of December 10, 2016 following the SCM Championship Saturday events

Attending were Chris Frederic, Doug Holmes, Doug Kopp, Rob Cambias, Ellen Hall, Mia Stephens, and Barbara Aguirre. Missing were Dale Williams, Nan Fontenot, Pat Arnold and Mariela Miers.

Chris reported she wanted to update our social media, particularly our SMS website. She will appoint a Social Media Chair to make recommendations, a cost estimate, changes, innovative ideas, and present them to the SMS board.

Chris reported Crawfish Aquatics is becoming a fitness club and will be dropping their master's swimming program. They will not be requiring their swimmers to become USMS/SMS members which could result in a reduction of 150-200 SMS members, a possible 25% loss in membership and income. Former Crawfish Aquatic team members can still join USMS but would swim as a Southern Masters Swimmer. In addition the Crawfish Aquatic pool in Baton Rouge will not be available for the SCM, SCY or LCM Championships in 2017 and probably longer. A lengthy discussion followed on where SMS would/could hold swim meets in 2017. Barbara Aguirre, coach of the Shockwave Masters in Tupelo Ms had offered to host the 2017 SCM Championships, but could not host the SCY or LCM meets due to their pool's heavy schedule, but several of the board members were opposed because of the long drive for the majority of the SMS swimmers who are located in southern Louisiana.

The following motion passed unanimously, "SMS will hold all three SMS Championships at the UNO Arena in 2017 and because of SMS's commitment to UNO we would ask the UNO Arena for a discount. Janice Roth verbally agreed to hold the three meets, but the secretary will write her a letter/contract for the SMS Chair, who would be ultimately responsible for setting the dates and the events. Crawfish Aquatics did not charge SMS for their pool in meets held there. UNO has charged \$800 for the pool for the weekend, and \$400 for John Roth as Meet Manager for preparing (and sending) invitations, heat sheets, results, and forwarding the \$35 checks made out to SMS to our Treasurer.

SMS board members would be taking on **more responsibility** since they would greet, provide ribbons, participation awards, trophies, pay officials, and provide lunch and desert **for all three Championships**. Secretary will write a letter to Shockwave coach Barbara Aguirre thanking her for her offer and encouraging them and Dewey Case in Hattiesburg to hold one day meets in Mississippi in 2017 to further masters swimming.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Holmes, SMS Secretary