

Minutes of the Illinois Swimming Association Annual Meeting
Saturday, November 13, 2021, FNC Natatorium, Westmont, IL

Call to Order: 8:30am. In attendance were President Steve Fedota, Treasurer Fred Gafrick, Secretary Jim Katula and approximately 25 members of the Association. Absent were Member-At-Large Mike Hutton and Vice-President Todd Gray.

Remarks: It was announced that Nancy Myer won the annual Friday pool. Eight people attended the annual get together, this year held at the Country House Restaurant.

Minutes: It was moved (Dennis Yard) and seconded (Skip Yates) to accept the minutes as posted on the ISOA website. Motion carried with 1 vote against.

Treasurer's Report: It was moved (Dennis Yard) and seconded (AC Buehler) that the report be accepted as posted on the ISOA website. Motion carried with 2 votes against.

Remarks from Kraig Garber: Kraig thanked all of the members for their commitment to becoming better officials by belonging to an association and for attending this first ever state meet at the new facility in Westmont. While the venue has posed several unique challenges, Kraig stated it had performed excellently so far.

President's Report:

1. Last year, we collected no dues, and we presented no awards.
2. Membership information (and leadership contact information) was removed from the website due to increased nefarious use of membership data by hackers.
3. IHSA licenses 160 Swimming & Diving Officials
 - a. Mean tenure: 14.9 years / Median tenure: 12 years / Range: 1 to 54 years
 - b. 15% - two years or less tenure
 - c. By comparison, ISOA:
 - i. Mean tenure: 17.7 years / Median tenure: 15 years / Range: Same
 - ii. 15% - five years or less of tenure (15% of ISOA's longest tenure members cuts off at 29 years of experience)
 - d. 67% of officials in Metro Chicago area
4. Bob Richter has been made an honorary member of the Association
5. Directory
 - a. All personal information was removed from web site
 - b. A secure directory is kept in "real time" fully accessible by members
 - i. Going digital / green, allows the Association minimize printing and mailing costs
 - ii. Keeps the directory updated in real time
 - iii. The directory can be downloaded to your digital device and printed on demand
 - iv. A QR code for the directory was distributed and the URL shared with member at the meeting
 - c. The Association contact email address is isoainfo1@gmail.com Posted on the website).

- d. Membership is warned not to download or click on any links in any email from another address.

6. Old Business

- a. Pay Process Committee to be resurrected after vanishing due to Covid. Tom Strunk, Noreen Rodriguez, and Brian Smith will continue their work to get information to members about how to get paid at the different schools.
- b. Banks are raising their compensating balance requirement for business checking accounts. The Association will be changing banks in the coming months to minimize this cost increase.
- c. Although dues were reduced several years ago when the Association minimized its printing and mailing costs, all costs continue to increase, and it may be time to raise dues to pay for website support, printing, and various Association expenses.
- d. The operation of clinics has been changed by IHSA. Clinicians received compensated by IHSA for the time they spend developing (four hours of unique) curriculum (the content of which must be approved by IHSA), preparing the educational materials, making all administrative arrangements, and ultimately presenting the four hours of instruction. While IHSA retains the supervision of and appointment of clinicians, IHSA will no longer provide any compensation. In the past many associations that provided clinics to their members, and nonmember officials at a cost that differed based on membership.
 - i. Before the girl's season our clinicians offered EVERY official in risk of being placed on suspension due to a lack of timely participation in a clinic, the opportunity to participate in an on-line clinic. Subsequently, a similar offer to attend a second clinic was made to every ISOA member.
 - ii. ISOA believes (although no commitment has been made) that an on-line no cost clinic may be offered this winter.

7. New Business

- a. Nominating committee. Vice-President and Secretary will be voted on at the Boy's State Swim Meet in February. Voting will be done in person, per the Constitution. Skip Yates and Brian Smith will serve along with a member of the Board.
- b. Awards Committee. Fred Gafrick, Nancy Myer, and Jeff Hemesath will discuss possible recipients for Rookie of the Year (3 years of less), Most Improved Official and Official of the Year. They will report back in time for plaques to be created to award at the Boys Meet. Nancy Myer indicated it is important for ALL MEMBERS to provide input to the committee.
- c. Special Olympics. It is anticipated that Special Olympics will return this year. Fred Gafrick is looking for officials to volunteer for the State Meet in June. If interested, Special Olympics generally provides a double occupancy hotel room during the 2-day event.
- d. Diving Invitational. There is a 2-day diving invitational at UIC on November 20-21, with diving starting at 9am both days for any officials interested in seeing more high-level diving.

Adjournment: It was moved (Dennis Yard) and seconded (Tom Strunk) that the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 am. Motion carried unanimously.