

April 2019
Executive Director's Report

Happy Spring!

So many good things are being lined up.....I was reading the draft Planning Schedule for 2020, and am so excited about all the LCM opportunities for our swimmers to be prepared for Olympic Trials! I'm glad so many Senior, Age Group and Coach Reps will be meeting on April 13th to discuss the plans for SCS and 2020. We are inside 500 days before the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, and then LA 2028 will be here before we know it!

Speaking of LA 2028, we'd like to plan a meeting with Janet Evans Willson to discuss training locale opportunities for our SCS Clubs. Teams from other countries will want to start visiting the Los Angeles area after Tokyo 2020 in their long-range prep for 2028, and our clubs should be prepared to host visiting teams. I've put in a message to Janet to see if July 11 will work for her schedule, then will coordinate with Dave Salo/LAI to get a meeting space reserved.

Future/Strategic Planning: With new Board members being elected this fall, (particularly a new General Chair, as Michael will not be running again), we will need a Strategic Planning session or Board Retreat. Perhaps Sunday, September 29th might work for this?

On a local/office note: we have been experiencing quite a few challenges with the postal system in the last 6 months....many snail-mailed items are taking well over a week to be delivered, and some have been lost. We recommend and encourage our clubs to move in the direction of handling registrations and as many items as possible in an electronic manner.

85 of our 172 current clubs are now signed up for the ACH billing system, and we have one meet admin also signed up to be able to cover meet sanction fees in a pinch. This once-per-month bank transfer is working very well for clubs to pay for registrations (athlete, non-athlete, transfers and club) as well as sanctions. Clubs on the ACH system also can scan/email non-athlete and transfer forms to have them handled the day they are received.

So far, we only have items in the General Fund (registrations, fines, sanctions, banquet) set up in the ACH system. If we want to move all our accounts in an electronic direction, we'll also need to set up the Meet Fund up with an ACH system, so that meet entry fees could be paid via ACH as well.

An alternate option for meet fees could be to change our meet settlement process....clubs would pay their entry fees via check directly to the host club, then the host club would have the entries deposited in their own account, then settle fees owed to SCS.

Either option of paying meet entry fees would be a significant change to how we do things, so the pros/cons of this change would need to be carefully considered.

We're heading into the busy summer season....hopefully, all committee chairs are finishing up arrangements for the programs in their 2019 budgets (our fiscal year ends August 31), and are strategically putting together their requests for the 2020 budget, due before the June meeting. Our 2020 budget will begin on September 1.

Our survey feedback for Fall Clinic 2019 was to keep it in one location, rather than split the weekend out to the geo Committees. When given 5 options on where to hold this year's Fall Clinic (North/COC, Orange County, East-Palm Springs, East-Las Vegas, or Central/EI Camino), 58% of the 57 responses were for Orange County, so we'll find a venue and get this year's Fall Clinic arranged. I'll work with our Geo Committees and Committee Chairs on the feedback for topics/presentations in our conference calls in early May.
