

Masters Swimming Ontario
Board of Directors Meeting
Date: Sunday, April 24, 2005
Location: North York Y,
Toronto, Ontario

Present :

Beverley Tucker
Sally O'Brien
Lesley Mason-Ward
Olenka McKee
Richard Arsenault
Stuart Martin
Jim Talbot
Angela Davis
Geoff Camp

Committees, Representatives and Staff :

Norm McKee
Barrie Malloch
Christopher Smith
Brian Croker
Jacqueline Odlum

Absent with regrets:

Claus Koch

The meeting was called to order at 11:29 a.m. with Beverley presiding as chair.

01. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was presented.

Motion: To approve the agenda.

Moved by Angela Davis; Seconded by Sally O'Brien.

Carried

02. Approval of the Minutes from March 19, 2005

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed.

Motion: To accept the minutes of March 19, 2005.

Moved by Sally; Seconded by Olenka McKee.

Carried

03. Business Arising from the Minutes of March 19, 2005

- a) Board appointments – Claus has agreed to step down from his interim position on the Board and Beverley introduced Stuart Martin as a possible replacement.

Motion: To nominate Stuart Martin to the Board

Moved by Olenka; seconded by Angela

Carried

Beverley then introduced Jim Talbot who was elected at our last Board meeting.

- b) Provincial Championships – Sally reported the meet was a great success except for the ribbons which still have not arrived. Chris Smith said it was a very exciting meet and stated swimmers like having the meet at different locations.

04. Committee Reports

- a) Competition – Olenka presented statistics based on meets so far. Dates for meets in 2006 are posted on the website and clubs will confirm pool dates. Brock is preparing a formal bid for 2006 Provincials.

Olenka raised an issue regarding a swimmer who had requested permission to kick dolphin in a breaststroke event. No special treatment can be allowed for people with disabilities who are swimming in regular masters meets. They will be treated as able bodied. SWAD is a separate designation to be pursued by the swimmer.

Chris Smith reported that UBC has withdrawn the bid for 2006 Nationals due to pool availability and MSC is meeting tonight to discuss. USMS is not holding a National long course championship in 2006 because of World's being held in California.

(1) Statistics – Lesley's report stated that 21 meets have been recorded since the beginning of the season. Most meet managers now send results in the appropriate format for recording, but there is still a gap where competitors swim out-of-province and do not send in all results. 5746 swims have been recorded. 178 relays noted and Lesley would like to input all relay team information rather than just 1st place finishers. This was agreed. If the first swimmer sets a record, it is only put into the system if the officials point it out.

Swimmers can change clubs for specific meets as long as the request is in writing to the Registrar (e-mail is acceptable).

World Masters Games in Edmonton is allowing Swim Alberta to register swimmers who are not otherwise registered for a \$10 fee. Chris Smith to check with USMS to see how they are handling this. The Board's position is that if an Ontario swimmer is not registered with MSO, the results will not be counted by MSO or by MSC.

Chris reported that 600 entries have been received for Nationals but several large clubs have not yet entered. He anticipates over 800. Due to a generous sponsor, the banquet cost has been reduced to \$35.

- b) Communications – Richard Arsenault Regarding the database project, the 3 main items are:
- to simplify the work – speeding up last minute registration;
 - outreach – putting sample practices in the website and/or the million metre club;
 - E-mail addresses for swimmers to communicate directly with them. MSC has started this already and Norm McKee is the communications chairman. In June Richard will present how current swimmers' MSO numbers will be sent to meet managers. Key item is to develop a template and tools to enable clubs to enter information in a consistent manner.

Brian will make a proposal that MSO employ a full-time staff person and he is willing to stand as a candidate. More revenue must be generated in order to pay this staff person.

- c) Treasurer's report – Geoff Camp. As Geoff is still working his way through boxes of material, the reconciliation report will be available for the June meeting. Geoff has no plans to go on e-mail. The switching of signing authority has been done. Federal and Corporate tax returns still have to be filed. He has received an invoice for Provincial medals but not for ribbons yet.

Motion: That the Treasurer change the location of the bank from BNS in Scarborough to BNS at Brown's Line.
Moved by Geoff; seconded by Sally.

Carried

Motion: That MSO make an interim payment of \$15,000 to MSC to cover 1,500 swimmers.

Moved by Geoff; seconded by Sally.

Carried

05. Staff Reports

a) Registrar – Brian Croker

Clubs - 96

Mail memberships - 5

Total swimmers - 2957

Unattached swimmers - 54

Club swimmers - 2897

6 OSG Members (Beth Whittall, Ted Roach, Geoff Camp,

Michael Stroud, Brian Croker, Pat Niblett)

New Clubs – FIRE, TOMS, Markov's Swimming (York Mills Collegiate)

Chris raised the problem of acronyms – MSO works through Christian Berger but not all Provinces do that. We need a National control register of all acronyms.

Kenora has expressed a wish to transfer to Manitoba because of the geography.

Motion: That Chris Smith explores the possibility of transferring Kenora to Manitoba.

Moved by Lesley; seconded by Olenka.

Carried

b) Web master – Barrie Malloch

Barrie suggested that we approach a few coaches with the idea of posting workouts on the website each week to assist swimmers who train on their own. It was felt that the workouts should be checked before posting to ensure good coaching principles.

At Nationals a meeting will be held for coaches to discuss requirements for "masters" coaches as there is such a difference from age group coaching. Nigel Kemp is running the session and Sally will co-host and attend the meeting. Content should include requirements of fitness swimmers as well as competitive swimmers.

Motion: MSO direct its Registrar to make coaches' information available to MSC for the purpose of inviting them to the meeting at Nationals.

Moved by Geoff; seconded by Richard.

Carried

c) Meet co-coordinator – Olenka McKee

For open water swims only St Mary's has applied. There is a date for Bright's Grove but no package.

A line has been added to meet warm up rules to allow a lane for slower swimmers.

06. External representatives

a) Swim Ontario – Claus Koch (sent via e-mail)

Proposal to increase membership fees. Focus on improving performances of its swimmers but Government funding has been cut from \$850K in 1988 to \$230K today. Staff dropped from 11 to 4 and many programs cut. Increasing fees would stabilize revenues to support ambitious program of improved performance.

2010 Program – governments are on a crash course to get medals at the 2010 Winter Olympics so there is some funding here for projects that meet the program objectives.

SO's AGM is being changed to early Fall in order to have a good kickoff for the new season. What about having a joint AGM with MSO - to be discussed.

Insurance – the 1998 insurance claim may proceed to court. The insurance company is sure it will win but does not relish court costs so they are considering offering a modest out of court settlement.

- b) MSC – Norm McKee A number of MSC members have resigned because of workload concerns. Need to be elected for skills rather than just appointing candidates who think they are observers. Need “workers” who will commit to a certain number of hours per month.
- c) Ontario Swim Officials – Chris Smith Officials are busy organizing Nationals at the moment. Nationals meeting will be held next weekend. OSOA/MSO have a good relationship and running meets is a good idea for the officials to make revenue.

OSG plaque is made by hand for long term contribution to Masters swimming. Trillium Y is presenting new awards at the banquet for short term contribution. MSO can take over next year and Trillium Y will provide the awards.

New Business

Norm presented “Key Objectives of MSO”

Competition committee (chair Olenka McKee)

- **Give leadership to Masters competitive swimming in Canada and internationally.**
 - a) Support meet managers, to continue to offer a variety of Swim meets for Ontario competitive swimmers.
 - b) Maintain records and accomplishments
 - c) Ensure that an annual Provincial competition is held in Ontario.

Health and Lifestyle committee (chair Jim Talbot)

- **Develop Aquatic programs that enrich the health and fitness of Canadians**
 - a) Increase the participation of fitness swimmers in Masters Swimming Ontario.
 - b) Develop structured programs that promote fitness and Improve health.
 - c) Promote aerobic fitness by providing an incentive for individuals to swim longer distances.

Marketing Committee (chair Richard Arsenault)

- **Create Marketing strategies to educate our members and The public at large, on the advantages of swimming as a way of maintaining one’s health and quality of life.**
 - a) Develop ways to enrich MSO members’ swim education.
 - b) Maintain an effective means of communication with our members and the public at large.
 - c) Develop marketing strategies to attract sponsors.

Leadership Committee (Chair Sally O'Brien)

- **Develop and deliver leadership programs for Volunteers, coaches (mentors) and club executives.**
 - a) Establish a coaches' network to facilitate the work of our present coaches and develop coaching programs for new masters swim coaches.
 - b) Create a network to support MSO local club Leadership.
 - c) Establish and maintain liaison with other Masters aquatic organizations

MSC has similar strategic plan. Suggest chairperson of each committee go ahead and find volunteers with necessary skill-set to sit on the committees – they do not have to be on the Board.

Chair of Nominating Committee – this position is usually filled by the Past President. This subject was tabled for discussion at our next meeting

Brian showed a note from "Toronto's Best Kept Secrets" offering us an opportunity to advertise for \$50 but as no-one had ever seen the publication, no action was taken.

Geoff needs volunteers to staff registration and awards tables at Nationals – an opportunity for Board members to be visible. Good response was forthcoming.

Next meetings

June 11th and 12th in Brockville. Lunch to be arranged at Brockville Yacht Club at 12 noon with Regular Board meeting and planning session to follow starting at 1 p.m. Social events planned for Saturday night and Sunday morning at the homes of Olenka and Norm, and Lesley. Facilities to be arranged by Norm and Olenka McKee

September 18th at 11:30 a.m. – Chris to check availability of North York Y.

AGM scheduled for November 26th and 27th at Etobicoke Olympium. Charlie Lane has plans arranged for a stroke improvement clinic in the morning, lunch to follow, with the AGM starting at 1:30 p.m. The club management session will be part of the AGM.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 pm by Angela Davis.

Minutes prepared by Jacqueline Odlum