

**MSO Board of Directors
Minutes September 12, 2009**

Present:

Johnny Hewerdine
Sean Warburton
Cathy MacDonald
Sally O'Brien
Brian Croker
Chris Smith
Steve Goodwin
Phil Rogers
Pat Angus

Regrets:

Alisa Abgarov
Robert McGlashan
Nicole Doucette
Mike Heath Eaves
Craig Zimmerman

Absent:

Nathan Degiorgio

The meeting was brought to order by Sally at 11:07 a.m.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion to Adopt Agenda – moved by Sean Warburton, seconded by Cathy MacDonald.

***As we there were not enough members present to form a quorum, today's motions were not passed*

Note: The motion unanimously passed – via votes received by e-mail.

Approval of Minutes of June 7, 2009 Teleconference

Motion to Approve Minutes – moved by Johnny Hewerdine, seconded by Sean Warburton.**

Note: The motion unanimously passed – via votes received by e-mail.

Business Arising from the Minutes

1. Welcome Pat Angus

Sally welcomed Pat Angus as the new recording secretary.
As well, Sally welcomed Phil Rogers who wishes to become a new board member.

2. Provincials 2010/2011

Cathy MacDonald of the London Silver Dolphins, who will be hosting the 2010 Provincials March 19 – 21st, reported that Paul Cappa, the meet manager, will be meeting next weekend with officials. They are very supportive and it is expected formal approval will be forthcoming.

The Silver Dolphins will be having an executive meeting this week and the meet package should be going out soon.

Cathy noted that her e-mail will be changing and she will send a new one to everyone.

Sally asked if any clubs had indicated they would be interested in hosting the 2011 Provincials. Brian suggested that the University of Toronto might be interested. No one has come forward to date. The Board will solicit clubs to join together and rent a pool to run the meet.

3. Registration On-Line

Brian reported that some clubs have had trouble registering the club contact. He has the list from Lindsay Patten and the majority of clubs are ready to register. Information needs to be sent to the clubs.

Swimmers will have new numbers but no cards. Chris suggested that this will not be a problem for any National or International events as the registrar will have proof of the swimmer's membership.

It is not clear how clubs register on-line – to be resolved.

It is unclear how, or if, deck entries (registration) could still be allowed. Brian indicated that as far as he was concerned, until the money has been received by the registrar, a swimmer cannot swim. He does not feel money should be paid to meet manager on day of meet - too onerous a job for meet manager. The new registration would have to get onto the database in order to be included in the results.

Sean suggested it is in the best interest of promoting Masters Swimming to be able to do so. As far as insurance coverage is concerned, a cheque in-hand indicating the intent to join is sufficient.

It was agreed that Brian should send our questions and concerns to Lindsay for clarification. As well, since Brian is extremely busy right now, it was suggested he send all questions he receives to Lindsay.,

4. Is phone contact required to make sure who registrars are?

No.

5. Absent Board Members

Nathan Degiorgio has missed a number of meetings and there has been no response to letters and phone calls. MSO rules say a director can be removed from the board in such an instance.

Motion – To removed Nathan from the Board of Directors (according to by-laws)
Moved by Johnny Hewerdine – Seconded by Cathy MacDonald **

Motion – to appoint Phil Rogers to the Board of Directors
Moved by Sean Warburton – Seconded Johnny Hewerdine **

At this point it was noted that this vote required a two thirds majority. It was suggested that since there has been a problem getting a quorum that members not able to attend a meeting would be asked to give their vote by proxy to another board member. It was agreed that this could be done.

NOTE: Both motions unanimously passed by 6 Board members via e-mail. (Cathy Macdonald, Sean Warburton, Robert McGlashan, Johnny Hewerdine and Nicole Nicole Doucette)

Board reports

President – Sally’s report - attached

Vice President – Mike’s annual and AGM reports - attached

Treasurer – Cathy MacDonald – report will be ready in time for AGM

Competition – Sally’s report - attached

Leadership – Nathan has not forwarded his report. We need the information including results of surveys, etc. Also Nathan has some information only available in hard copy which needs to be given to the Board.

Health and Lifestyle – Sean’s last update was his report and there have been no changes.

Communication - (report received?) Alisa could use more items for the website. Everyone on the Board should be looking for items of interest to post.

Staff Reports

Web - Craig – is putting things on the MSO website as he receives them.

Registration – Brian’s unaudited report of clubs as of August 31st. – attached
Overall general membership continues to be stable.

External Reps

Swim Ontario - Steve Goodwin – Steve reported that as the \$2. forwarded to SO for each MSO swimmer is used for insurance coverage, he is hopeful that when MSO can forward a proof of insurance certificate to SO, we will no longer be required to pay twice for insurance.

It was suggested that MSO could instead pay SO an affiliation fee of an undetermined amount each year. Another suggestion was to request SO to earmark the money for development of young officials. It was agreed that it would be beneficial to continue to liaise with SO. This would also allow us to continue to have a SO rep on our Board.

This issue may be brought forward for discussion at the AGM.

Officials – Chris Smith – Nothing new to report. He will have a report for the AGM

Motion - to approve reports received to date.

Moved by Cathy MacDonald – Seconded by Johnny Hewerdine **

New business

1. MSO should be offering a swim camp or coaching clinic.

Sally noted that this was an identified need in recent surveys.

Johnny indicated that he hoped to offer one week camps next year.

Technosport offers camps throughout the year in Ottawa, but these are not advertised on the MSO website.

Chris informed the Board that a basic coaching clinic system is being put together by some coaches and swimmers and will be available on the MSC website, along with some swim videos currently being put together.

2. Sanctioning OWS (Open Water Swims)

Open Water Swim sanctioning stipulates that all swimmers must be members of a Masters Swimming Club. A one-day, pay as you go, membership such as is available through OAT for triathlons will not work

It was suggested having two swims running simultaneously – one for masters, one for non masters.

3. AGM – November 15th 2009

“EOMAC "Semi-Serious" V”

It was suggested that we have a room for the lunch after the EOMAC “Semi-Serious” V swim meet and a separate room for the AGM. AGM lunch and beverages are provided by EOMAC swim meet hosts.

The AGM report has to be out by October 1st. Once Pat has all the information she will prepare and send it to Brian. He will send it out to all the clubs.

4. Terms are up for Sally O’Brien, Michael Heath-Eves, Sean Warburton, Johnny Hewerdne Nicole Fisch-Doucette and Nathan Digiorgio

Nomination forms will need to be filled out by members wishing to continue on the Board. As well, Phil Rogers will need to fill out a form. These are available on the web at <http://www.mastersswimmingontario.ca/msoforms.htm> and should be send to Sally or Brian.

Other Business

1. OWS – Any complaints on the sanctioning of events within 2 hours drive?

Currently the rules do not allow meets that close to each other to be sanctioned. It was suggested we could remove this restriction if the organizers were made aware of the conflict and the final decision was left up to them. For now we will just watch the situation closely.

2. Medals

Cathy currently has the provincial medals and Brian has the OWS medals. We will need to buy more OWS medals. These should be ordered at least 3 months in advance.

3. AEDS

These seems to be in place in all provincial facilities. Meet managers should check when planning a meet. It has been suggested that there should be emergency help on site for meets. The expense for St. Johns Ambulance is thought to be quite expensive.

MSC has set up a committee to study the issue. We will await their report.

It was suggested that meet managers meet with pool/facility management to understand their protocol in an emergency. This information would be passed along to all officials, volunteers associated with running the meet.

New Business

1. Suit Rule Changes

Phil asked whether the recent FINA rules on suits will impact masters swimmers. Chris indicated there has been no decision yet. For now FINA has said this rule does not apply to masters swimming.

2. Cancellation of long standing OWS

Chris noted that the St. Mary's open water swim was cancelled this year after being offered for 23 years. It would appear nothing could have been done this year but perhaps MSO needs to ensure the support is there next year for the meet to be offered.

3. TOMS Team for the 2010 Worlds

Chris reported that there are over 40 people who have indicated they are interested in going to Sweden next year.

****It was agreed that absent members would be asked to review the minutes and give assent so the today's motions could be passed.**

4. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held by teleconference on Sunday October 25th at 3:30 PM

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. by Sally. (didn't check time!!)

President's annual report 2009

The Annual General Meeting will again follow the "Not So Serious Swim Meet" to be held at the Etobicoke Olympium. We, the Board members, are hoping for a large turn out as there is a need for more volunteer members for the board.

Registration

Registration is to be done on line this year.

At the writing of this report all club registrars should have their instructions for the easy registration. With this database we will be able to register for meets much more easily and Meet Managers will have the ability to confirm MSO memberships directly. At this point cards will not be produced for each member swimmer.

Competition

This past year we sanctioned **20 meets**, 1 Provincial Championship, and 6 Open Water Swims

There were 42 Ontario records and 28 Canadian records established this year.

Congratulations! All that training has paid off.

It was great to see and meet **Alex Bauman** at the provincials this year. The competition was exciting to watch.

The Welland Under the 4 bridges OWS had to pull the swimmers out because of a storm.

It was with great regret that the St Mary's OWS was cancelled. It had been running for 23 consecutive years, our longest running OWS. We are hoping that it will run next year

Communications

Our newsletter had a little trouble getting out on a regular basis but we did manage to get it on the web site. Contributions to the Newsletter are appreciated. If you have any stories or coaching or nutrition hints that would be useful to your fellow swimmers please feel free to submit them. We feel that the Newsletter continues to be a useful tool to help all Ontario swimmers keep up to date with what is happening with Masters Swimming Ontario.

Health and Lifestyle

Our Health and Lifestyle chairperson came up with the idea of a 1 K challenge but MSC picked it up and moved on that just a little bit quicker than he did.

We, the Board members, continue to work towards our mission statement "**To contribute to the overall health and fitness of adults in the Province of Ontario through participation in a Masters' Swimming program**". We are not all for competition alone. Our motto, "**Fun, Fitness and Friendship**" shows that MSO is a social and competitive organization for those who love to swim for fitness. I know I repeat this every year but I feel it's important to recognize that most of us came to Masters swimming for the fitness and the love of swimming. Some of us came because the club has good parties with great food.

Sally O'Brien
President

Vice President's Report

1. COP/MSC

- The Board recognized an opportunity to increase Ontario Masters representation on the MSC Board by running for and obtaining voting membership (one of two) on that Board. One COP member is to be thanked for this opportunity as he stood down to give us this opportunity.
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- The result of this has been that MSO has attended two MSC Board meetings (teleconference) since June.
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- I am pleased to report that MSC is, under the leadership of Nigel Kemp, working for all Masters swimmers in Canada.
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- Latest fronts are the continued commitment to a national registration system, which MSO will utilize, the use of video media to provide training for coaches and swimmers and a look at the usefulness of the COP.
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- The COP was established several years ago to act as a liaison between the MSC and the Provinces Masters Organizations (PMOs). It has not functioned as well as expected and although all COP members are active in their Province, thought on how to involve the COP membership as a meaningful and useful group within the MSC is ongoing. This will evolve with positive results in the future.

2. Swimmer Registration Program

- The MSO Board approved the use of the MSC new registration system for the Provincial Masters Clubs.
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- The new system will make it far easier to track old members and to register new swimmers. It will also be more user friendly to register swimmer at meets.
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- This will be effective September 1, 2009.
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- At the time of the 2009 AGM all club Registrars will be familiar with the simple and effective on line registration process to enroll their swimmers as members of MSO and MSC.
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3. Insurance

- I said this last year but it bears saying again, that I take this opportunity to thank our risk manager, Claus Koch, for his continued service to our organization.

- Insurance, which represents one of the largest budget expenses, is managed by Claus to ensure that our requirements are placed with the company that will give us the best protection at a reasonable cost. Its one of those things we don't think about as we workout in the pool but its there thanks to Claus.
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- Your Board will be reviewing the insurance program during the 2009 – 2010 season to investigate any opportunity to reduce costs in this and any other related budget category.

I have enjoyed serving on the MSO Board with a talented team this past year. If you are thinking about assisting the Masters swimming community then the MSO Board is an excellent place to start. I have learned much about the organization side of swimming and met some wonderful people doing it. There is a lot of work to do and we need help to get it all done.

See you at the AGM and at the pool!

Michael J. Heath-Eves.

August 24, 2009

MASTERS SWIMMING ONTARIO

REGISTRAR REPORT

As of August 31, 2009 UNAUDITED

Clubs 89

Unofficial clubs – less than 2 swimmers
SWOT, BTRN, PPM, SLMS

Mail memberships 0

Total swimmers 3427

Club swimmers 3387

Unattached Swimmers 36

7 OSG Members, Beth Whittall, Ted Roach,
Brian Croker, Chris Smith
Pat Niblett, Bryan Finlay, Barrie Malloch

New Clubs- AUSM – Aurora Selkies
DSMS – Douglas Snow
HHBF – Halton Hills
KIRK – Kirkland Lake
MGMS – Maroon & Grey
STMY – St. Marys