

**Masters Swimming Ontario
Annual General Meeting**

Sunday November 15, 2009
Etobicoke Olympium Pool, Olympic Lounge
590 Rathburn Road, Etobicoke
After Swim Meet Social

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To be provided at the meeting.

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Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Masters Swimming Ontario shall be held at the Etobicoke Olympium, Olympic Lounge, 590 Rathburn Road, Etobicoke, immediately following the conclusion of the Swim Meet social on Sunday November 15, 2009.

The AGM shall be held for the following purposes:

1. To receive and consider the financial statements of the Association for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2009
2. To elect Directors to the Board
3. To appoint Auditors; and
4. To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Annual reports from the Workgroups, a blank Notice of Motion and a blank Nomination/Consent to Serve Form accompany this notice. In addition, the list of current serving Directors, new nominations and an explanation of the voting procedure are attached. The Association's financial statements will be presented at the AGM.

All members, including Unattached Members, are encouraged to attend. Only those clubs and unattached member registered during the 2008-2009 season may have voting rights.

Voting Delegates are required to sign the Register and record the number of votes they represent for the Member Club.

Dated at Ottawa, Ontario October 1, 2009
By the Order of the Board of Directors
Sally O'Brien, President

Board of Directors 2008-2009

A Board of Directors consisting of nine (9) Directors, each to serve for a term of two (2) years, shall manage the affairs of the Association. Five (5) in numerically odd years and four (4) in even years shall be elected by the duty authorized Delegates at the AGM.

To complete their two (2) year terms, the returning Directors are as follows:
Cathy Macdonald Alison Abgarov Robert McGlashan

The Directors whose terms have expired are:

Michael Heath-Eves Sally O'Brien Sean Warburton
Johnny Hewerdine

Two members have been appointed this year: Nicole Fisch-Doucette and Phil Rogers.

Therefore their terms have also expired and they need to be nominated.

Therefore there are six (6) positions open for the year 2008-2009.

Nominations are welcome and must be submitted on the appropriate Nomination/Consent to Serve form (attached or <<http://www.mastersswimmingontario.ca/worddoc/fm.nomination.doc>>) and received by the Registrar, Box 8, 552 Church Street Toronto M4Y 2E3 prior to the AGM.

Additional nominations, if properly submitted and approved by the Delegates to the AGM, may be entertained from the floor at the AGM.

Voting Procedure

Only registered Members of MSO may vote at Delegates at the AGM. One Delegate may represent all the votes of the person's Club, or where a Club has more than one vote, it may spread its votes amongst more than one of its members.

For Member Clubs having two (2) or more Members in good standing, the votes are allotted as follows:

Registered Members	Votes Allotted
2-24	1
25-49	2
50-74	3
75 and over	4
Unattached members (as a Group)	1

2009 MSO AGM

AGENDA

1. Welcome. Quorum, Roll Calls and Vote Tabulations
2. Acceptance of Agenda
3. Acceptance of the 2008 Annual General Meeting Minutes
4. Business arising from the 2008 AGM Minutes
5. Annual Reports from Workgroups, External Representatives and Staff
6. Notices of Motion
7. New Business
8. Retiring of Outgoing Directors
9. Election of Directors
10. Appointment of Auditors
11. Adjournment

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

STEP 3 REPORT 2009

	# Clubs	# Females	# Males	Total Swimmers	Total Swims	Cdn non Ont	Non Cdn	OR	CR
OWS 2008/09									
St. Marys					34				
POOL 2008									
Brantford					101				
Technosport	No report								
Thunder Rays	3	11	10	21	36	0	0		
EOMAC									
Kingston	10	30	37	67	277				1
North York									
POOL 2009									
Muskoka 01/11					42				
Brockville 01/18					42				
Alderwood 01/25					127				
Technosport 01/31	No Report								
Kenora 02/07	11	32	19	51	193	23	1		
Burlington 02/08	26	59	67	126	505			9	5
Technosport 02/21	No Report								
London 02/22	No Report								
Technosport 03/07	No Report								
Milton 03/07	24	70	84	154	604			4	
Nepean Prov's 03/20-22	58	267	279	546	2652	50		42	25
EOMAC 03/29		15	20	35					
Toronto DSC 04/25	No Report								
Tillsonburg 05/02	7	11	10	21	113				3
Cornwall 05/03	No Report								
OWS SUMMER 09									
Whitby OWS 06/20		1							
Technosport 06/27									
Brights Grove 07/18		14	23						
Brockville 07/01	3	1	2	3	3				
Technosport 08/08									
Brockville 08/09	5	3	4	7	7				
Welland 08/09	Storm all swimmers pulled from water								
St. Marys CANCELLED									
TOTALS	147	514	555	1377	4390	73	1	55	34

OSOA FEES 2009 REPORT

OSOA	SUPPORT 2008-2009		Inv Sent	Date Paid
	REGULAR			
	# Swimmers			
OWS 2008				
Brights Grove			\$180.00	Aug 30/08
Welland	23	X2	\$46.00	Jan29/09
September 2008 OWS				
St. Marys	56	X5	\$170.	
POOLx2				
Brantford	101	X2	\$202.00	Nov 15/08
Technosport	155	X2	\$350.00	10 Mar 09 23 pr 09
Thunder Rays	21	X2	\$42.00	Nov 28/08
EOMAC	235	X2	\$470.00	Dec 8/08
Kingston	67	\$134.00		17 Feb/09
NY Pent		X2	\$328.00	24 Jan/09
TOTAL				
2009 POOL				
Muskoka	42	X2	\$90.00	10 Feb 09 24 Mar 09
Alderwood	127	X2	\$254.00	25 Jan 09 18 Feb 09
Brockville	42	X2	\$84.00	18 Feb 09
Kenora	51	X2	\$102.	1 8 Feb 09 24 Mar 09
London		X2	No report	
EOMAC Heart & Sroke	35	X2	\$0.	25 Sep 09 Waived /charity
Burlington	126	X2	\$252.00	18 Feb 09 9 Mar 09
Mlton	154	X2	\$308.00	10 Mar 09 14 Apr 09
Tillsonburg	21	X2	\$42.00	5 May 09 13 May 09
Provincials **	546	X5	\$2,730.00	27 Mar 09 2 Apr 09
OWS				
Brights Grove **	37	X5	\$185.00	15 Sep 09 1 Oct 09
Brockville 1&2	10	X2	\$20.00	15 Sep 09 1 Oct 09
Whitby	0			
Welland	0	Storm		
Total September 1 2008 to August 31, 2009			\$5,763.00	
Nationals			\$4,745.00	
Total			\$10,508.00	

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.
-
- The result of this has been that MSO has attended two MSC Board meetings (teleconference) since June.
-
- I am pleased to report that MSC is, under the leadership of Nigel Kemp, working for all Masters swimmers in Canada.
-
- 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.
-
- 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.
-
- 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.
-
- This will be effective September 1, 2009.
-
- 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.
-

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.
-
- 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

LEADERSHIP REPORT

No Report Submitted.

OFFICIALS REPORT

I
Included in MSC report- see below.

MASTERS SWIMMING CANADA REPORT

Ontario Masters and Officials; a positive relationship

An analysis of the evolution of the Ontario Masters and Ontario Officials organizations and the relationship between them, particularly over the last eight years, is a useful exercise. Each is a potential model for other components of the Canadian aquatic community. This and their symbiotic relationship, if emulated elsewhere across Canada, in other components and at other levels, have the potential to greatly enhance our sport, all components of it.

Ontario Officials

Up until 1995 Ontario officials were governed, trained and recruited for competitions by the Swim Ontario's Officials Committee. This consisted of Senior and Master Officials (Levels 4 and 5) from the six Ontario Regions with special interest and expertise in these areas. Funding for the operation and programs of the Committee came from the Ontario Government through Swim Ontario. The relationship between Swim Ontario and the Committee was some times a stressful one, for example when Swim Ontario overruled the Committee for what appeared to be petty political considerations or pure expressions of control.

In 1995 the Ontario Government notified Swim Ontario that it would be phasing out its financial support of sport, this included funding for all components of Swim Ontario's operation, including officials.

The officials felt, because of the above reasons, that they would be better off on their own and in 1995 their then Chair, Scott Malloy, incorporated the "Ontario Swimming Officials Association", OSOA, to govern, train and provide officials to Ontario swimming. The Swim Ontario Officials Committee resigned and became the OSOA Board, Level 3, 4 and 5 officials joined and became voting members. Although all friction between Swim Ontario and OSOA has not disappeared, I believe it is a much healthier relationship than the previous one, based on mutual objectives, respect and support.

OSOA recognized that their government funding from Ontario was disappearing and they had to find other sources. They also recognized that technology was providing them with potential training tools that could significantly improve their servicing ability; however this would take even more money. They were able to convince the members of Swim Ontario to provide them with \$1 per swimmer annually, from their \$100 plus fee to Swim Ontario/Swim Canada, for their work. This would cover under 50% of their then operating costs so that unless additional funds were found they would not be able to sustain current levels of service.

Ontario Masters

Masters Swimming Ontario, previously the Swim Ontario (then CASA, Ontario Section) Masters Committee, was incorporated in 1988 and Swim Ontario, having no interest in their activities and wishing no responsibility for them set them free to operate totally on their own. Since at that time there was no effective national Masters body, MSO promoted the establishment of one, at the same time developing the services and democratic structure which they felt appropriate for such an organization in Ontario and in Canada.

Masters Swimming Canada was incorporated in 1993 as the governing body for Canadian Masters, however events at the World level at that time were transferred to the national level and MSC was stripped of critical governance functions and given a structure that was unworkable. Discouraged, MSO focused on serving its own members and limited its national involvement.

In 2001 the leadership of Swim Ontario approached MSO and demanded the payment of \$2 per swimmer or they would take back the governance functions, specifically the right of sanction which they had given to MSO in 1988. After discussion the MSO membership decided to pay the \$2 rather than continue the battle with Swim Ontario. They also looked for ways to protect themselves from future attacks of this type including establishing liaisons with others who might be in a similar position.

Development of a closer relationship and its benefits

Although compared to some provinces, MSO at that time usually had little difficulty obtaining services from officials from outside their own membership, always necessary to run a competition, although this was not guaranteed. Swimming officials had played a major role in establishing Masters in Ontario and subsequently in Canada and the relationship between the two bodies was excellent. Both could see that working closer together could be of more benefit.

The two agreed that OSOA would run the 2002 provincial championship at Etobicoke as a fund raiser for their operations and training programs. This was most successful as a meet and as a fund raiser and became a pattern for the next several years with OSOA involved to some degree in the running of provincials in various venues plus the 2005 nationals, also at Etobicoke.

MSO subsequently formalized a payment of \$2 per swimmer at regular meets and \$5 a swimmer for all championships, including OWS, to OSOA, giving them a solid financial base to operate from with approximately 50% of their funding from this source. It should be noted that only about 5% of Ontario's officials' time is spent at Masters competitions.

With this financial base OSOA was able to greatly improve their clinics, develop with new technology, power point presentations of their material plus videos showing the activities being discussed. More recently they have developed on line clinics and exams that potential officials in remote areas or those unable to make scheduled clinics can take and obtain accreditation. This material, with major financing from MSO and produced by OSOA, is used across Canada, with minimal change for the training of all Canadian officials for the benefit of all Canadian swimmers, including Masters. Ontario Masters have no difficulty contributing in this way to support this important component of our sport.

Ontario Masters for their part are assured that the members of OSOA will work hard to ensure that all their officiating needs are met. This is significant in providing MSO's membership with a full competitive program across all but the most isolated parts of the province.

Both MSO and OSOA are democratic, member controlled organizations, these initiatives have been developed with the involvement and support of the members of both organizations. There is a significant commitment of these two organizations to each other and to swimming generally. It is hoped that this will

lead to a more fraternal relationship between these two bodies and Swim Ontario, all working together for the benefit of our sport.

The development of these two bodies and the relationship between them has been a positive force for swimming in Ontario and Canada. Should components of this be considered as a template for other parts and other levels of Canadian swimming?

Chris Smith
MSO representative on OSOA Board
September, 2009

Registration

It's exciting to have the online registration up and running in Ontario ! I am convinced that MSO will reap many benefits from the move online and I have already received positive feedback from some of the clubs on the ease of use and convenience of the new system. We currently have over fifty clubs compromising more than three quarters of your members set up.

I have already set up one report page for Sally so that she can monitor which clubs are set up and how many swimmers they have registered, with data that is up-to-the-second up to date. I think that there is a lot of potential for adding further reports to meet you needs and allow you to monitor various pieces of information. One thing I noticed was 40% of members last year were not members the year before, given that growth was a much lower number that indicates a pretty high churn rate, I would think that there would be an opportunity to look into why a large number of people aren't renewing, and try to hold on to more members, which would result in more growth. One key to that is offering attractive programs, which takes us to...

Team and Individual Challenges in the Million Metre Challenge

We are currently working on adding new team and individual challenges to the MMC and I see this as an excellent opportunity for working together. The basic idea is to use google maps as a way to make MMC participation more fun and interesting, instead of just dealing with numbers swimmers and teams will be able to see progress on a map. For a much simplified mock up see this Trans Pacific Challenge map:

<http://mymsc.ca/GeoLoc.jsp>

I would like to see each province come up with one or a few challenges for their own swimmers and swimmers from across the country. PEI is working on a challenge where you swim from Summerside to Charlottetown , either the long way or the short way, or swim around the island. Ed in Newfoundland is looking at a "Swim around the Rock" challenge. It seems like the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence, as well as some of the waterways provide some obvious possibilities for Ontario .

I think there are some good possibilities for raising the MSO flag here, as in "The MSO Lake Ontario Challenge" and similar. Would your committee or one or more of your clubs be interested in working with us on this?

1km Challenge

The first iteration of the 1km Challenge was successful, and you can see the Ontario results here:

<http://mymsc.ca/OneKmChallenge.jsp?province=ON#results>

Clearly there is room for expanded participation in Ontario, and we should look at ways to achieve that. We are currently working on new brochures, and we are changing the format so that clubs can run one or more 1km events at any time of year.

Video Initiatives

MSC has built a library of swimming videos that are available for loan by swimmers and clubs. This is a free benefit of membership that we could use your help promoting. In addition, MSC is producing a series of videos specifically aimed at masters swimmers. The first video is complete and we are awaiting the French version of it before releasing it. It deals with Sprint training for masters. We have started work on a second video on using video taping of swimmers within clubs. These videos will be made available to swimmers and coaches on the internet as they are completed. But where there is real potential for collaboration is in a series of videos that feature coaches and clubs. For example, we have one in planning with Doug Vanderby on the topic of dryland strength training for Masters. We should work together to identify coaches and clubs that are particularly successful in some specific area, e.g. catering to triathletes, and work with them to document what they are doing and tell the rest of the province and country about it. This series of videos can serve the dual purposes of giving recognition and visibility to some of the people that are leading the way, as well as spreading information so others can benefit from their experience.

Finally, at our fall face to face meetings we are inviting the provincial representatives on the MSC Council of Provinces to join us to look at ways that MSC and the provincial organizations can work together as a single cohesive system rather than eleven isolated islands. It would be very useful for MSO to discuss and think about what opportunities you see for us to work together for everyone's benefit, the above are just some opening ideas to open the dialog.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas and to working together!

Cheers,

--

Lindsay Patten
Executive Director
Masters Swimming
Canada

Annual Report – MSO WEBSITE 2009

Over the past year the webmaster has strived to make the online navigation to the MSO website simple and more intuitive. The online sanctioning process including, booking a date for a meet, submitting the meet package, and reporting on meet results seem to be working quite effectively by speeding up the process. The MSO Forms page was also improved to provide easier access to information. In the Fall, a new link will be activated taking the Master Swimming Ontario membership to a new and improved registration process and page. This will alleviate and streamline the number of various forms that have been required in the past.

As always when new information, becomes available w.r.t. meets, statistics, and facts of interest to the membership, it is posted as soon as it is available. Feedback from the membership has been very helpful in correcting oversights, changing club contact information, and ensuring information posted is as up-to-date as possible.

Craig Zimmerman

2008-09 Treasurer Report

The auditors are finalizing their review of the 2008-09 fiscal year financial statements. Upon adoption of the report by the Board of Directors of MSO, we will put a notice in the MSO Newsletter and on the website to tell you when the report has been posted on the MSO website.

As noted in last year's report from the Treasurer, we started this year with funds of \$72,000. Unlike previous years however, due to the drop in the interest rate being credited on the investments in the savings account (3.0% down to 1.2% per annum by August 2009), we earned less than expected. We are estimating a small increase in the average rate over the 2009-10 fiscal year on these assets.

Sounding like a recording from last year's report, the Board of Directors' continued to hold many meetings by teleconference to achieve lower total expenses. Costs of communication with MSO swimmers and others have stayed lower due to more materials being sent out electronically.

Membership exceeded estimates for the year and was the major factor for surplus funds arising this fiscal year. We did switch internet providers this past fiscal year and did receive an initial waiting period free of charge for further minor savings from anticipated expenses.

The Board of Directors had budgeted for a coach's clinic in the 2008-09 year however was not yet completed by the end of the fiscal year, which lowered actual expenses. There are plans to proceed with additional training for coaches and/or swimmers in the coming year that we have included anticipated costs in next year's budget.

A final item of note is the cost for insurance coverage does tend to increase each year, partly due to increased membership as well as an increase in the average premiums. We have increased the estimated cost for next year by a larger margin than normal due to the anticipated impact of Harmonized Sales Tax being potentially being applied to next year's premiums (as suggested by our insurance advisor).

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

**MASTERS SWIMMING ONTARIO
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 2008 – ETOBICOKE OLYMPIUM
TORONTO, ONTARIO**

Present

Olenka McKee	1000 Island
Norm McKee	1000 Island
Grant Jeffrey	Alderwood
Barrie Malloch	Alderwood
Robert McGlashan	Downtown Aquatic Corporation
Brian Croker	Downtown Aquatic Corporation
Cindy Bertelink	Etobicoke
Annette Partridge	Etobicoke
Charlie Lane	Etobicoke
Sean Warburton	Granite Club
Cathy Macdonald	London
Nathan Degiorgio	London
Amy Bartoch	London
Johnny Hewerdine	London
Bryan Finlay	London
Kim Lumsdon	Norseman
Doug Vanderby	North Toronto
Alisa Abgarov	North Toronto
Jacqueline Odlum	North York Gators
Jana Chvatal	Scarborough
Nicole Fisch-Doucette	Scarborough
Anne Wilkie	Scarborough
Sally O'Brien	SOO
Lesley Mason-Ward	Swimming West Y
Mike Heath-Eves	Technosport
Jake Nesovic	TYMS
Chris Smith	TYMS
Lois Adams	TYMS
Wieslaw Musial	TYMS

1. Welcome, Quorum, Roll Calls and Vote Tabulation

The meeting was called to order at 1:55 p.m. by Sally O'Brien. The Board members and staff introduced themselves. Brian Croker as Registrar confirmed 14 clubs were present with 41 votes so we have a quorum.

<u>Club</u>	<u>Votes</u>
1000	3
ATB	3
DSC	4
ETOB	4
GRAN	1
LSD	4
NYG	4
NOR	2

NT	4
SOO	3
TECH	4
TYMS	2
SCAR	1
SWYM	2

2. Acceptance of Agenda

Motion: To accept the agenda

Moved by: Olenka McKee; Seconded by: Cindy Bertelink
Carried unanimously

3. Acceptance of 2007 AGM minutes

Motion: To accept the minutes of the 2007 AGM

Moved by: Michael Heath-Eves; Seconded by: Brian Croker
Carried unanimously

4. Business arising from the 2007 AGM Minutes

Database – BC is using the MSC system to register the swimmers. We will prepare a letter of intent to move ahead and to be on the new system next year. It is all on-line and very easy to use.

The Board extended their thanks to Claus Koch for all his work and help on Insurance.

All the reports were included in the package already distributed to the clubs except for financial which is now available – copies were distributed.

Chris Smith reported that the new Rule Book would be available within two weeks.

The “no false start” rule goes into effect January 1, 2009. The World Masters Games will be held in Sydney October 2009. He also advised the next World’s Championships will be held in Sweden July/August 2010 and a group will be attending from Ontario.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Last year’s Annual General Meeting was attached to a morning swim meet at the Etobicoke Olympium which greatly improved the attendance. We have done the same this year. The AGM will be held right after the free lunch, which follows “A Fourth Not So Serious Swim Meet”.

Registration

One of the main features that we have been working toward these last 3 years is an online database so that our swimmers can register on line. With this database we should be able to register for meets much more easily and Meet Managers will have the ability to confirm MSO memberships directly. We are getting close. There are some kinks to be ironed out, as with any new program, and we want it to be as user friendly as we can possibly get it. Our registration will continue this year as it has in the past. In a few months we may be able to start on the new format

Communications

Our newsletter, which is published regularly on the website, is a useful tool to help all Ontario swimmers keep up to date with what is happening with Masters Swimming Ontario.

Competition

If you check out the latest newsletter you will notice that competition is doing great with records being broken everywhere. Open Water Swimming competition and attendance is also increasing.

Leadership

We are looking at following up on the ideas received as a result of the surveys. More to come on this.

Health and Lifestyle

Again there is a plan in the works with more to come in the near future.

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.

I would like to thank our VP Mike Heath Eves who has graciously taken over the reins during the summer months while I was in the long process of moving from the Soo to Ottawa.

MSO's work is only possible with the help of its members. That means **YOU**. We have a great group of people on the board, but a number of vacancies need to be filled once again this year, and **we need your help** to further grow the organization and move our projects forward.

Thank you in advance for your interest and assistance.

Sally O’Brien - President

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

4. COP/MSC

- Your Vice President attended the Council of Provinces meeting in Quebec City at Nationals. This body of Provincial Masters representatives ensures that the comments and concerns of the Provincial Masters Organizations (PMO) are brought before the MSC. It is also a forum for the exchange of ideas between PMOs. In all sincerity though this body needs to be challenged with useful projects to be truly effective. This will occur in time.

5. Swimmer Registration Program

- 2007 – 2008 saw a change in direction by SNC with the discontinuance of the Swim Direct registration program, which MSO and other PMOs were reviewing if not utilizing. Although Ontario was not affected as it currently uses a “made in Ontario” registration system, many Provinces had to switch or are in the midst of changing to or sampling a new registration system. Your MSO Board, which is currently reviewing new systems designed by MSC, will recommend that its member clubs and Registrar change to a new program. It can be said now that a change will be recommended if it makes sense to us in Ontario. As a goal for this current swimming year your VP will investigate a new system and promote its use only if the Board approves it so that by next year (September 1, 2009) I think we will be on a new system. Look forward to a change that will make registration electronic and easier.

6. Insurance

- Once again I would like to take this opportunity to thank our risk manager, Claus Koch, for his continued service to our organization. Insurance, which represents one of the largest expenses in the budget, 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.

I look forward to serving on the MSO Board with a very dedicated and talented team for another 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 still a lot of work to do and we need help to get it all done.

See you at the pool!
Michael J. Heath-Eves.

COMPETITION REPORT

As this will be my final report as the competitions meet coordinator I would like to thank my predecessor, Charlie Lane, all the meet managers, officials and the MSO board for their support and guidance over the past four years.

One major initiative I undertook with Craig Zimmerman, the Webmaster, was the online sanctioning process. This procedure has proven successful and will make the changeover to the new coordinator easier. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to be part of Masters swimming in Ontario.

Open Water Swims

St. Mary's and Bright's Grove were again well-organized successful championships.

Thank you to Sue Weir and TYMS, Bryan Finlay and LSD for their hard work.

Two events were added this year : Welland Canal swim was revised. On behalf of MSO Charlie Lane and Bryan Finlay worked with the organizing committee to ensure a safe and successful event.

1000 Islands Y Swim Masters and Upper Canada Swim Club introduced the cable swim, a bridge between pool swimming and open water. The event was well received even by seasoned open water swimmers.

2007 – 2008 SEASON

Another year that provided our members with opportunities to challenge themselves

22 meets were sanctioned, 4 were later canceled.

In order to be able to continue running successful meets MSO and the clubs have some challenges facing them- the cost of pools, pool availability, and marketing and availability of officials.

2008 - 2009 SEASON

The meet calendar is rapidly taking shape. Refer to MSO web site for the schedule.

PROVINCIALS hosted by Nepean at the Sportsplex March 20 – 22, 2009.

NATIONALS in Toronto at the Etobicoke Olympium May 15 – 18, 2009.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Newsletter

This past year, we have continued to develop the MSO newsletter. During this time, we have been working on slowly evolving it from a means of keeping membership posted on board activities to encompassing a larger view on Master's Swimming in Ontario and around the world. Moving forward, our goal is to include articles on our members, health & lifestyle information, technique tips, as well as information on upcoming events (competitions, clinics, etc.).

We encourage anyone who has ideas for articles, or wishes to submit an article to contact us at communications@mastersswimmingontario.ca

Currently the newsletter is emailed to a designated club contact for internal distribution. We also post it on the MSO website, so you can find current and back issues there. Please note: Every issue we have several bounced messages due to incorrect email addresses. Make sure your club has submitted a valid and correct email address – and don't forget to contact us if this address changes!

Website

Over the past year, Craig, our Webmaster has been reviewing the website and re-organizing it to update any outdated information, as well as to remove any extraneous or duplicated information. He has also worked with Olenka to create a simple online process for sanctioning meets.

The website contains a lot of information – everything ranging from pool and open water competition dates, to workshops on how to be a meet manager. If you haven't gone to the website lately – check it out!

Ongoing Projects

We have been exploring the feasibility of having advertising of our website and newsletter to generate revenue and/or sponsorship to provide added value for our members. We will continue moving forward with confirming the feasibility of this as well as putting together a strategy.

Cindy Bertelink
Director, Communications

LEADERSHIP REPORT

No Report Submitted.

OFFICIALS REPORT

Ontario Swimming Officials Association

OSOA has now incorporated components in their training material that deals with officiating at Masters meets and these are now in use at Clinics across Ontario and in most of Canada. They are now developing programs that will allow people to take clinics and receive certification on these on line, most important for people with time challenges and in isolated areas.

Ontario officials look forward to the release of the MSC Rule Book later this year which will eliminate some of the current confusion on Masters rules. They look forward to working at both our Provincials in Nepean and Nationals in Etobicoke next year. They, as always, express their great appreciation for the financial support by the members of MSO through the meet surcharge, without that the development and operation of OSOA's training programs for officials for all swimmers, Masters, youth and elite, would not be possible.

We would encourage any Masters interested to take the officials clinics which are available in all regions of Ontario to become certified and contribute to our great

sport. You learn more about swimming which could be useful to you, contributing in this way has its own rewards.

MASTERS SWIMMING CANADA REPORT

Masters Swimming Canada

MSC continues to work on programs for our members across Canada. In addition to the need of a MSC Rule Book to cover all Masters competitions across Canada, it has become clear that we need a modern, national registration system where member clubs and swimmers can register on line for both membership, for competitions and other programs and pay on line. Producing such a program has faced many challenges, both technical and political. MSC continues to move forward, overcoming these obstacles as quickly as possible to achieve the optimum solution for all our members across Canada.

It is clear that certain programs such as the very successful Million Metre Challenge should be administered at the national level as most of the provinces have no capacity to develop and operate such programs. MSC continues to look at new programs to serve our members, new and better ways to communicate with our members so that Masters; swimmers, clubs and all provincial organizations can achieve their potential and we can contribute to the overall health and life experiences of our communities across Canada. MSO, because of its size, has the capability to develop such programs for its members. MSO's contribution and co-operation with MSC in developing these programs at the national level to serve all Canadian Masters is necessary to achieve this goal and greatly appreciated.

Carolyn Prebble of Welland, a member of Niagara Brock Masters, is an elected member of the MSC Board and Executive, also the Treasurer of MSC. Carolyn is moving to St. John, NB in October. We wish her well in her new home and shall miss her in Ontario.

Chris Smith
OSOA Board - Past President of MSC

REGISTRAR REPORT

As of August 31, 2008

Clubs 91

Mail memberships 3

Total swimmers 3368

Club swimmers 3330

Unattached Swimmers 38

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

New Clubs- Cambridge Aquajets- Cambridge
Performance Plus- Mississauga
Sarnia YMCA- Sarnia
St. Lawrence Masters- Downtown Toronto
Toronto Swim Club- Downtown Toronto
Open Water River Swimmers- Brockville

Lost Clubs Ajax Masters
Elliot Lake Masters
St. Laurent Ageless Power Swimmers

5. Annual reports

Motion: To accept the reports as distributed.

Moved by: Brian Croker; Seconded by: Jacqueline Odlum
Carried

6. Notices of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion

7. New Business

None

8. Termination of outgoing Directors

Marion Wyatt, Olenka McKee, Lesley Mason-Ward, Cindy Bertelink

9. Election of Directors

Seven nominations have been received to fill four vacancies:

Alisa Abgarov
Kim Lumsdon
Marion Wyatt
Robert McGlashan
Cathy MacDonald
Nicole Fisch-Doucette
Jana Chvatal

Motion: To close the nominations

Moved by: Grant Jeffrey, Seconded by: Brian Croker
Carried

Each club present voted according to the number of votes allowed.

Results – Alisa, Kim, Robert and Cathy were elected

Motion: To destroy the ballots

Moved by: Michael Heath-Eves, Seconded by: Sally O'Brien
Carried

10. Appointment of Auditors

Motion: To keep the same auditors.

Moved by: Cathy Macdonald, Seconded by: Michael Heath-Eves
Carried

11. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Moved by: Jacqueline Odlum



Ballot for the Election of Directors

Nominee Name _____

Nominee Name _____

Nominee Name _____

Nominee Name _____

Nominee Name _____

Nominee Name _____

Nominee Name _____

Write the name of your preferred Nominees on separate lines.

No ranking shall be inferred.

Each Ballot equals one vote for each Nominee.

The number of names written may be equal to or less than the number of positions available.

A name may be written only once on each Ballot

Any Ballot that contains more names than the number of positions available or on which a name appears more than once shall be identified as “spoiled” and shall not be counted.

NOMINATION / CONSENT TO SERVE FORM

NOMINEE: _____ (PRINT)
NOMINEE'S CLUB: _____ (PRINT)

BRIEF MONOGRAPH:

(Description of nominee's interest in / experience in / contribution to the Masters Swimming Programme, and any other pertinent comments)

I,, certify that I am currently a registered Master in good standing, and consent to stand for election, and to serve, if elected, on the Board of Directors of Masters Swimming Ontario.

NOMINEE'S SIGNATURE: _____
DATE: _____

NOMINATED BY: _____ (PRINT)
SIGNATURE: _____
CLUB: _____ (PRINT)

SECONDED BY: _____ (PRINT)
SIGNATURE: _____
CLUB: _____ (PRINT)