

Present :

Sally O'Brien President
Lesley Mason-Ward Treasurer
Michael Heath-Eves Vice President

Committees, Representatives and Staff :

Chris Smith MSC/OSOA
Steve Goodwin SO
Brian Croker Registrar

Guest:

Cathy MacDonald – London Silver Dolphins

Regrets:

Cindy Bertelink Marion Wyatt Craig Zimmerman Olenka McKee Sean Warburton
Jacqueline Odlum

No Notice of Absence:

Johnnie Hewerdine (call later – family emergency) Nathan Degiorgio

01. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m. with Michael presiding as chair as Sally has been busy moving to Ottawa. Introductions of all were made for the benefit of Cathy MacDonald.

As there was no quorum, all motions were tabled

01. Motion: To adopt the agenda.

02. Motion: To approve the minutes of Board meeting of June 14th

President's report

No report as Sally has been moving from Soo to Ottawa.

Vice President's report

1. COP/MSC

- Swim Saskatchewan's rep will retire. No further news.

2. Swimmer Registration Program

- The following is an excerpt from an e-mail from Lindsay Patten concerning the new SNC Registration system:

“There are a few provinces that are using the SNC system now, the feedback has not been entirely positive, but the early experiences with new software that was brought out on a tight deadline are often suboptimal. I fully expect that they will be working full tilt to bring it up to par by the fall. “

- Lindsay has suggested that MSO wait for the fall before looking at any new system.

- The MSO data base has been given to SNC by MSC for downloading into the new registration system.

3. Insurance

- The renewal package has been prepared and mailed to HUB International (broker) for the 2008 – 2009 Season.

4. Equipment List

- Incomplete. Waiting for responses from some Board members and the Registrar.

There was a major discussion on the database. Steve and Chris reported that all SNC provinces are using the “Clevernet” system as is Masters in BC, Alberta, Quebec, NB, and Newfoundland. Steve mentioned that there are still issues to be ironed out and SO is working on them. Clubs must be registered prior to swimmers being registered.

Reports from Workgroup Leaders

Treasurer – Lesley Mason Ward

2007-8 Revenues and Expenses – Monthly Accounting

	2006-7 ACTUAL	2007-8 PROJECTED	2008-9 PROJECTED	SEPT-OCT	NOV-DEC	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG
REVENUES									
Deposits	76,955	77,000		22,230	19,565	20,825	19,400	2,890	5,390
Interest	1,702	1800		312	315	315	315	276	300
Awards	3,730	3800						4,406	
Total	82,387	82,600		22,542	19,870	21,130	19,715	7,572	5,690
		RUNNING TOTAL			42,422	63,562	83,277	90,849	96,539
EXPENSES									
1. Affiliation									
a)MSC	32,750	35,000		4,280			21,010	9,270	
b)SO	6,680	6,200			6,146				
c)OSOA		1000		1,000					
Total	39,430	42,000		5,280	6,146		21,010	9,270	
		RUNNING TOTAL		5,280	11,426	11,426	32,436	41,706	41,706
2. Insurance									
Total	10,988	11,000		11,019					
		RUNNING TOTAL		11,019	11,019	11,019	11,019	11,019	11,019
3. Finance									
a)Audit	4,452	2,500		17	70				8,400
b)Bank charges	177	200		8	8	8	8	8	83
Total	4,629	2,700		25	78	8	8	8	4,208
		RUNNING TOTAL		25	103	111	119	127	8,610
4. Board Meetings									
a)Directors' travel	8,008	8,500		2,391		1555	182	1,269	212
b)Venue	135	500							53
c)Teleconference	945	2,000					64		519

d)Presidents Banquet	655	800			350				
e)Recording secretary	750	1,200	150		150	150	150	150	150
Total	10,493	13,000	2,541		2,055	214	1,419	934	
		RUNNING TOTAL	2,541	2,541	4,596	4,810	6,229	7,163	
	2006-7 ACTUAL	2007-8 PROJECTED	SEPT-OCT	NOV-DEC	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	
5.AGM	772	2,000		1,599					
a)Directors Travel	150	200		150					
b)Recording Secretary	1,250	1,500		145					
c)Clinic/teleconf	403	400		1,095					
d)Supplies,copy,post	2,575	4,100		2,989					
Total		RUNNING TOTAL		2,989	2,989	2,989	2,989	2,989	2,989
6)Registrar	6,000	6,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
a)Salary	957	2,000	824		716		420	710	
b)Phone/Internet	915	1,200					241		
c)Supplies,copy/post	565	500							
d) Club refunds	8,437	9,700	1,824	1,000	1,716	1,000	1,661	1,710	
Total		RUNNING TOTAL	1,824	2,824	4,540	5,540	7,201	8,911	
7)Communications	1,500	1,500		750			750		
a)Webmaster	527	600	40					188	
b)web costs	2027	2,100	40	750			750		
Total		RUNNING TOTAL	40	790	790	790	1540	1,728	
8)Competition	4,075	4,000			4,376				
a)Medals/Ribbons	944	1,000						500	
b)Records Keeper	5,069	5,000						500	
Total		RUNNING TOTAL				4,376	4376	4,876	
9)Health and Lifestyle Marketing		500							
Total		RUNNING TOTAL							
10)Leadership	211	200							
a)Survey	670	800							
b)Special awards(egOS G)	881	1,000							
Total		RUNNING TOTAL							
	2006-7 ACTUAL	2007-8 PROJECTED	SEPT-OCT	NOV-DEC	JAN-FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-JUN	JUL-AUG	

TOTAL REVENUES	85,947	91,300	22,542	42,422	63,562	83,277	90,849	96,539
TOTAL EXPENSES	81,308	90,000	20,729	31,692	39,847	62,261	75,292	87,002
BALANCE	4,639	1,300	1813	10,730	23,715	21,016	15,657	9,537

Lesley reported she needs to resign effective immediately as there illness in the family and she is needed. She also felt that resigning now would give the new treasurer time over the full new year starting September 1, 2008. The budget has been completed and an e-mail copy of it has been sent to all board members. She feels its time for new and younger blood to come forth for the Board. We now have the audits done for the last two years. The Board needs to decide whether to continue with the same auditors or make a change at the upcoming AGM for the 2009-10 year end.

Competition – Olenka McKee

Olenka sent Mike a report but it has not been circulated. He will do that this week. Discussions regarding records for open water and yards. Ontario still keeps them and they are posted on the website but they are not forwarded to MSC. It is up to the individual to report on their out of province and out of country meets for records and top ten.

Leadership – Nathan Degiorgio

No report

Health and Lifestyle – Sean Warburton

Sean sent e-mail draft of “postal event” or a challenge timed swim in November. Need more info before presenting to the swimmers. Our discussion found it too restrictive, for example “2 per lane”. MSC wants to do it nationally at some point- tie in with MSO.

Communication – Cindy Bertelink

Communications Report
September 6, 2008
Newsletter
I have been putting together a newsletter to go out after this meeting. Since this report is being submitted in August – I’m hoping that I’ll be able to circulate the newsletter for review prior to the meeting. If you have indicated that you will be submitting an article – please try to get it to me as soon as possible. My goal for the newsletter is to evolve it from a means to report on board activities to include information on health & lifestyle, technique/fitness, swimmer profiles and other topics of interest to master’s swimming. By expanding the scope of the newsletter, I will be touching on topics that are under the purview of other workgroups. It will require more cooperation and involvement of board members in the newsletter, however I think it will benefit workgroups such as health & lifestyle and leadership as it gives them a forum to speak to the membership.

Advertising
I have not had much opportunity over the summer to research (in detail) the feasibility of advertising/sponsorship of the website and newsletter. I think over the next year, we should put together a report and strategy on proceeding with this.

MSO/MSC Relations

On August 23rd I met with Chris Smith to discuss MSO/MSC relations. Specifically, he was interested in developing stronger relationships between the Provincial and National organizations. The overall effect of this would be for the provinces to have a greater say in what happens at a national level.

Additionally, he felt that some of the services we currently provide could be offered at a national level instead. The end result would be that MSC would relieve Ontario of some of the services it offers – which may or may not be a good thing...

At our meeting, we specifically discussed moving the Ontario newsletter up to a national level. My initial thought was that in order for the newsletter to become national it needed to have contributions from each province. I also think further discussion is needed by our board to determine if we are agreeable to going in this direction – we also need to determine what this would mean in terms of responsibility. My feeling is that if we are to give up control to MSC, then we should have less responsibility/work (otherwise I'm not sure how it would benefit us).

The other item that was discussed was giving the provinces a greater say in national matters. The first step in this would be to build some consensus with the provinces. There was discussion of getting board members from all the Provincial organizations together with MSC to discuss current issues and develop strategies to work together on providing better masters swimming experiences for our members. Note Regarding Agenda item

“New MSO strategy with annual goals (lifestyle)” I know that this has been discussed at previous meetings however, there hasn't been a definitive response. A decision needs to be made if we want to proceed or not. If we are going to proceed with this, then it needs to be done now, so everyone's goals can be included in the AGM report. It would be nice to show the membership what our plans are, since we've increased their fees. The idea behind developing annual goals was for each board member to plan what they would be working on over the course of a year. These goals would be presented to the board and approved – including any budgets, if needed.

03.Motion: To accept the reports as presented.

Moved by: Sally, seconded by: Mike

Tabled

Business Arising

- (a) Auditors- to be advised at AGM
- (b) Report to Lindsay- tabled till later.
- (c) Survey results- Nathan- tabled to next meeting
- (d) MSO strategy- Need to get all Board members to set down goals for upcoming year/s.
- (e) Letter to be sent to MSC President Nigel Kemp in regards to updating the rule book nationwide ASAP as there are too many discrepancies at the meets.
- (f) If we could get the rules brought up to date we could look at getting an updated handbook perhaps as soon as May 2009
- (g) Registration- talked about handbooks- about 175 left. Too outdated to mail. Lesley suggested a letter to new swimmers personally- welcoming to MSO with info on Website and phone number. Sally to work on that.

Staff Reports

- (a) Registration, Brian Croker –

REGISTRAR REPORT

Clubs		91
Mail memberships	-	3
Total swimmers		3352

Club swimmers	3306
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

(b) **Web Master, Craig Zimmerman** –
 No report

04.Motion: To accept staff reports as presented.
 Moved by: Sally, seconded by: Lesley
 Tabled

Reports from External Reps

(a) **Officials/MSc, Chris Smith** –

MSC Rules

Canadian Masters' first rules were produced in 1977 by the Canadian Amateur Swimming Association (CASA) Masters Committee and included in the CASA Rule Book, they listed the Masters exceptions to the CASA Rules. The first complete set of rules was produced by MSO in 1989 and included in their members Handbook. MSC produced its first set of rules in 1992 based on the Ontario Rules, that is, they were complete. SNC continued to include Masters Rules in their Rule Book. For reasons that now seem obscure MSC decided in 2002 to revert to the earlier exceptions model of rules. MSO continued to print their rules in the Handbook until 2002, SNC included Masters Rules in their 2005 Rule Book even though they had agreed before hand to delete them.

By 2003 it had become clear around the World that there should be a separate complete set of rules for Masters. Under pressure from swim bodies and officials from several countries FINA agreed to separate rule books in 2004 and established a Committee to draft the first complete Masters Aquatic Rules. The 2005 FINA Rule Book was published before this work was completed, consequently has the old format of exceptions only. FINA Rules technically only deal with World Championships however all aquatic bodies use them, interpreted for the appropriate level of the competition. This is necessary in part to insure that results for World records and rankings are all swum under the same rules.

It was agreed that each National Governing Body (NGB) should be responsible for the interpretation of the rules related to their sport in their country. SNC confirmed in 2004 that MSC should be responsible for Masters Rules in Canada. A number of PSOs which had their own interpretations of SNC Rules agreed to comply with SNC Rules. MSO agreed that they would no longer publish Ontario Rules in their handbook. Some PMOs still have unique rule interpretations.

When FINA published their 2005 Rule Book, SNC immediately published a new SNC Rule Book covering the rule changes for swimmers under their jurisdiction. Since MSC was aware of the FINA Committees work on the new FINA Masters Rule Book they decided to delay publication of their new rule book until this information was available. Unfortunately the committees work took much longer than expected and was not approved by FINA until August 2006.

For many years Canadian Masters and officials have had two sets of rules, the SNC and MSC rules, both incomplete and both incorrect. In Ontario they had, in addition, the MSO rules, complete but obsolete. All these rule books had different numbering systems. The differences in rule interpretations across Canada were also a problem. There has been a growing frustration among officials and swimmers at this situation at Masters meets and our lack of action to correct it.

Once the FINA approval was confirmed the MSC Rules Committee began to draft new MSC Rules based on the FINA Model. This was put on hold for almost a year for obscure reasons but since the spring of 2008 considerable work has been done on the "Swimming" component of the rules with the expectation they shall be completed this fall. The "General" component, which is primarily of interest to meet managers and those at MSC and the PMO's responsible for ensuring meets are run properly, and the "OWS", Open Water Swimming, component will be worked on through the winter for completion in early 2009. There will also be appendices which will deal with facilities, nationals, rankings and records.

The Committee is working with the FINA rules as its base data and numbering system, modifying it to apply for meets at all levels in Canada, including in it prior rules interpretations developed by MSC or which we have received from FINA or borrowed from SNC. FINA Rules tend to be "minimal" and often require interpretations. The original FINA rules for the Swimming section are noted as MSW rules. Those that have been modified to comply with a Canadian interpretation are noted as CMSW rules. We are also attempting to resolve the regional differences in rule interpretation that we have across Canada.

We were asked by the 2009 Nationals Organizing Committee to consider two Rule changes which we have done and will submit our recommendations so that it can be dealt with by the MSC Board this fall.

The members of the MSC Rules Committee are Mike Stamhuis, Linda Winfield, Bryan Finlay, Patricia Niblett, Cynthia Pincott, Nigel Kemp, Ed Evely and myself.

The intent is that the rules once completed and approved will be available on the MSC website and can be downloaded in a hip pocket format for those officials or others who require a rule book at a meet.

Chris Smith

Swim Ontario, Steve Goodwin

Swim Ontario- Steve now has numbers from Brian for his report to Swim Ontario. AGM for SAO is Sept 21. President Ted Harris is stepping down.

Rules- Chris working on Open Water rules for Officials. OSOA AGM Sept 20

05.Motion: To accept External Reps reports as presented.

Moved by: Sally, seconded by: Lesley
Tabled

New Business

- (c) AGM to be after Etobicoke meet November 16th. Need to send out MSO AGM Minutes September 16th.
- (d) Swim Camp- need to promote more- will move to more visual area on website. Jan 7-14, 2009
- (e) Brampton Open Water swim- objections to Masters not being notified that this was not an MSO sanctioned swim. Both Steve & Chris to bring up at SO AGM.
- (f) MSC- Chris mentioned that the MSC bylaws mention membership clubs- but no membership fee. Has been overlooked by MSC. Possible fee to be brought in. Looking at minimal fee?? \$5.00?? Obviously to be discussed at MSC level. Also looking at representation by population voting at AGM, not sure how to be handled votes wise... yet.

Next meeting – A teleconference call to pass the motions.

06. Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m.
Moved by: Michael Heath-Eves