

# MINUTES

Masters Swimming Ontario  
Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, September 6, 2014  
Regent Park Aquatic Centre  
640 Dundas St. E., Toronto  
1:00 p.m.

**Present:**

Phil Rogers  
Mike Starr  
Chris Smith  
Lesley Dusevic  
Brian Croker  
Carole Herbert  
Sally O'Brien  
Sean Warburton  
Cathy Macdonald

**Guests:**

John Outridge, President, NORMAC  
Sharon Jorgens, NORMAC  
Chris Prentergast, SMAC  
Carolyn Howard, SMAC  
Erik Haites, Toronto Athletic Club  
Stephen Forsey, North York Gators  
Charlie Lane, EOMAC  
Nick Foster - EOMAC  
Alisa Bolanger, IFS Masters  
Brian Begley, DSC

**Regrets:**

Craig Zimmerman  
Wes Musial

Phil called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

The meeting was attended by several Masters swimmers from the Toronto area. Phil asked that they introduce themselves and the club they represent. Everyone was welcomed by Phil who explained that the invitation was sent out to a few local clubs giving the opportunity for members to attend an MSO Board meeting giving them an opportunity to sit in and get a sense of issues being faced. An

invitation was extended to the guests to attend a dinner immediately following the meeting.

### **Adoption of Draft Agenda**

**Motion 01:** That the agenda be adopted as written

Moved: Sally O'Brien

Seconded: Chris Smith

Unanimously carried

### **Adoption of Draft Minutes June 3, 2014 Teleconference**

**Motion 02:** That the Minutes of June 3, 2014 be adopted as written.

Moved: Lesley Dusevic

Seconded: Chris Smith

Unanimously carried

### **Business Arising from Last Meeting**

- **Board Position Descriptions**  
Phil explained that MSO is in the process of updating Board positions providing a summary of what each position involves. Lesley Dusevic is working on this and indicated she had not received anything for the Leadership position. The person in this position is out of the country at this moment and may be leaving the Board. Sean Warburton has offered to write up a description and get it to Lesley.

Chris noted that he was listed as member at large as well as OSOA rep and he has given Lesley a description for his member at large position which included his various responsibilities and connections to other organizations. The second OSOA rep definition was therefore redundant and should be removed.

The matter has been put forward to the next Board meeting.

### **New Business**

- **Signing Officer for MSO**

Mike Heath-Eves respectfully requests to be removed as a signing officer since he's no longer on the board. Currently Sally O'Brien and Cathy Macdonald are signing officers, as well as Mike.

**Motion 03:** That we remove Mike Heath Eves as signing officer for MSO and replace with Lesley Dusevic of Ottawa and Mike Starr, Toronto.

Moved: Chris Smith

Seconded: Sean Warburton

Unanimously Carried

- **Review of Budget**

Cathy noted that a budget update had been sent to the Board members by e-mail and with the large agenda of today, it was agreed that it be reviewed on-line at a later date.

- **Records Keeping**

Discussion took place on providing help to Pat Niblett in keeping Ontario records for MSO up to date while she continues to recover from her stroke. It was noted that newer technology, as well as newer programs are available for keeping the records and perhaps they could be considered at this time as well. Lesley Mason-Ward, who used to do the records along with Pat, has offered to work with Pat to train someone else. Sally will speak to Lesley. It was also suggested that it would be a good idea to seek out people who may be interested in updating our platform as well.

- **MSO Computer**

Brian has issues with his computer, specifically he cannot access Sentex and respond to emails. His computer was purchased in January 2008 and uses Windows XP which is no longer supported. He is looking for a new computer and noted that a laptop would be very useful.

**Motion 04:** That MSO agrees to the acquisition of new computer for Brian up to an amount of up to \$1000. The choice is to be approved by Mike and Brian.

Moved: Sean Warburton

Seconded: Lesley Dusevic

Unanimously carried

Phil noted that MSO has a somewhat larger issue, which cannot be resolved today. We are burdened with a series of historical systems, which are not very efficient and we are unable to do certain tasks. For example during registration we request information including e-mail addresses but we are unable to do anything with these addresses at this time. It would be very useful to be able to communicate directly with swimmers and on a regular basis, using their e-mail address. It is recognized that there would have to be some form of consent in order to move forward. Communicating directly and often would quickly build a connection with swimmers and clubs. Currently most communication is done with club representatives and information is not always passed on to the swimmers. A better system would certainly help foster a better understanding of each other.

Lesley noted that she knows someone who would be interested and suggested that person could work with Mike on a basic outline, from the ground up. It would be essentially to develop a plan of what we want to do before moving ahead. It would save time and money if something is already out there, being used by others that would meet our needs.

Chris suggested making this a collaborative affair with MSC. Phil noted that while this is a good idea, in the past it has been difficult to receive a reply from MSC and it would slow up the process awaiting a reply. MSO needs to move ahead while continuing communications with MSC.

Brian Lesley and Mike will work together for an RFP and will be looking for interest.

- **2015 Ontario Provincials**

The Olympium in Etobicoke will reopen this month after extensive renovations. EOMAC has offered to host the 2015 Ontario Provincials in April during the Easter Weekend, on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday. This was the only bid received and it has been accepted.

**Motion 05:** That the 2015 Ontario Provincials be held by Etobicoke at the Olympium on Thursday April 2, 2015 – Saturday April 4, 2015.

Moved: Chris Smith

Seconded: Sean Warburton

Unanimously carried

It was suggested that a notice be put on the website with calls for bids for 2016 with deadline for submissions. Sally will look after it.

- **Dinner** for outgoing and incoming Board Members  
Phil noted that it would be logical to have this dinner in Toronto since most face-to-face meetings will be here. He suggested we combine it with the Annual General Meeting.

- **2014 AGM**

It was decided that the 2014 AGM would be November 16, 2014

**Date: November 16, 2014**

**Place: Olympium Pool – meeting room to be confirmed**

- **Update Harassment Case**

There is nothing new to report at this time.

- **MSC BYLAW REVISION**

Introduction and Summary of the Issue

Phil introduced this weighty subject and noted that there is a time limit allotted to each item and asked people to try to adhere to it. He noted that

this is an ongoing topic and that Chris and Mike have done a considerable amount of work together. Phil also gave a brief outline for guests who may not be aware of changes going on at MSC which are directly related to the federal statute NFP (Not for Profit) act to which MSC must conform by October 17, 2014. This is not a substantive process and does not change MSC as it has been known.

Independently, MSO has had an issue lead by Chris to propose that we change the structure of MSC. We will discuss today what our proposal is, why it would be an improvement and what the steps will be. We have the potential to make a proposal for a prospective change that will be better and that proposal has to sell itself on the merits going forward.

#### Formation of the Committee, Allotted Budget and General Communications over the Summer

Mike gave a power point overview of the existing and proposed structure. He noted MSO struck a committee last April fueled by the new act, which brought up bylaws issue. Over the summer MSO hired a lawyer specializing in structuring NFP corporations.

Chris gave a brief history of this ongoing process. He noted MSO actually began this process 12 years ago. There are 10,000 members in Canada with no real ability to have any interaction of contribution with MSC. The delegates would represent the provinces on a proportional basis with a slight preference towards smaller provinces, they would be elected by the masters clubs or swimmer in the province and would build up the strength of our provincial bodies and connect them to MSC. An annual conference of delegates (representatives) would give an opportunity for issues to be brought to MSC and would give the MSC board direction. This is what the proposed by-laws prepared by the committee and Anna Naud describe. Chris noted that a representation of only 1-2% of swimmers would make a huge contribution.

Sean noted that these delegates would be active and involved masters and would know the issues and vote in a relevant way. Currently swimmers do not necessarily understand the issues and so there is some disengagement and lack of voter participation at the club level. This proposal (new by-laws) would end up with more, informed swimmers engaging at the MSC level.

Phil made the point that MSC is a completely separate legal entity and would not be bound by any suggestions for change that came from MSO. However, after receiving a copy of the new MSC proposed by-laws, MSO feels that there may be some issues of which MSC may not be aware. MSO would like their lawyer look at these proposed by-laws.

**Motion 06:** That MSO ask Anna Naud to review the August proposed MSC by-laws to make sure there are no technical issues or affects on the MSO membership.

Moved: Chris Smith  
Seconded: Mike Starr  
Sally O'Brien abstained from the vote as she is on the MSC Board.

Unanimously Carried

It was that we initiate direct discussion with the MSC Board, especially since Phil has talked to Dave Wilkin, MSC President, who welcomes hearing the points we wish to raise. Stephen Morsey, guest, also noted that there is more power, strength, and cohesiveness if several provinces came to MSC indicating that they have looked at the structure and would like them to consider changes, with which the provinces are in agreement. MSC would be more willing to look at the structure.

Phil agreed. Whatever we come up with it is important to go directly to MSC with our proposal for the future.

### **Next Steps**

Phil has talked to Dave Wilkin and explained that we have nothing to report or bring forward at this time. Dave has indicated he welcomes hearing the points that we want to raise. MSO will initiate direct discussion with the MSC Board after approaching others outside Ontario once we have resolved what we are doing.

Erik Haites, guest, noted that MSO has issues about being able to maintain software, computers etc. and have positioned ourselves as struggling to keep up, communicate etc. It is clear from looking at the USMS approach, that a larger organization is better able to do this. If we approached all the other provincial organizations and MSC, we would all be better off if we were able to do this in one system/one approach. By asking MSC to help organize this, one outcome would be better. He noted that in reality we are calling to change the structure, not the organization, and we would like MSC to help in the process.

Chris noted that at this time there are only two Provincial bodies, Ontario and BC. A change in the structure would significantly benefit other provinces because it will encourage them to build up their provincial bodies. This would result in more involvement with MSC.

It was agreed that it is time to move forward with this issue. Everything needs to be put into a package to be presented to relevant organizations, MSC and all provincial organization boards.

Brian suggested that MSO members should be informed of this process at the AGM before we go to MSC.

Nick Foster, guest, noted that he didn't hear anything in the re-structuring that would be beneficial to his club. Average clubs often struggle keeping track of finances, memberships etc. Phil agreed that functional benefits at the club level would encourage more involvement from members. Alisa Bolanger suggested a functional benefit document be prepared to include in the AGM package. Phil agreed that this would be useful.

**MOTION 07:** That the board approves moving forward with a proposed restructuring of MSC in conformity with the bylaws drafted by Anna Naud and the chart considered at today's Board meeting and that the Board produce a document for distribution broadly to MSC and the provinces to outline the benefits of such changes and once such document has been approved by the board we then proceed to engage MSC and the provinces.

Moved: Chris Smith  
Seconded: Mike Starr  
Sally Abstained

Unanimously Carried

- Comments on FINA Worlds in Montreal--lessons to be learned for MSO and MSC – carried forward to next meeting.

**Board Reports:** Deferred to next meeting

**President** Phil Rogers - deferred to next meeting

**Vice President** Mike Starr

**Past President/Special Projects** Sean Warburton

**Treasurer** Cathy Macdonald - deferred

**Secretary** Carole Herbert

**Competition** Sally O'Brien

**Leadership** Wes Musial

**Health & Lifestyle** Lesley Dusevic

**Communications** Mike Starr

**OSOA REP** Chris Smith

Chris informed the Board that more officials than usual worked the 2014 Worlds because they were in Canada. As a result, expenses charged to OSOA were higher than expected. He requested that MSO provide additional financial help to OSOA.

**Motion 08:** That MSO Board provides an additional \$2000. to OSOA to cover expenses for the Ontario officials who went to the Worlds.

Moved: Chris Smith  
Seconded: Mike Starr  
Motion defeated

### **Staff Reports**

**Web** Craig Zimmerman – nothing new to report

**Registration** Brian Crocker - Report Below

### **External Reps**

**Claus Koch** Insurance

### **Other Business**

### **Next Meeting**

The next MSO Board meeting will be a conference call September 23, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Sally moved that the meeting be adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

/pja

Masters Swimming Ontario

REGISTRAR REPORT

As of August 31, 2014

**UNAUDITED**

Clubs	99
Total swimmers	3452
Club swimmers	3351
Unattached Swimmers	93

OSG Members- **Active**- Barrie Malloch, Ted Roach,  
Chris Smith, Pat Niblett, Brian Croker,  
Bryan Finlay, Michael Stroud, Olenka McKee

**Not Active**-Kay Easun, Beth Whittall, Geoff Camp

**New Clubs**- Injury Free Swimming, Brampton Cobra Masters,  
Windsor Aquatic Masters, Oshawa Aquatic Masters, Guelph  
Swimming, Burlington Wm Ross Swimming, Kingston Blue Marlin  
Masters, Mississauga Life Time Fitness, University of Ottawa  
Triathlon, Elliot Lake Masters, ROCSTAR, The Boulevard Club,  
Collingwood Clippers,  
Cricket Club Masters, North York Aquatic Club,

**Not renewed**- Barrie's Other Guys, CCAC, Dorado Stars, Kirkland  
Lake, Cambridge Aquajets

**Re-vamped/re-newed**- Team Atomica-formerly Toronto Triathlon

Club

Oshawa Aquatic Club  
Windsor Aquatic Club- formerly Windsor Waverunners  
B-Train Swimming, Ottawa, Timmins Lane Burners,  
Collingwood, Whitby, Hawkesbury,