

2013-AGM-MINUTES

MASTERS SWIMMING ONTARIO

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday December 8, 2013  
Douglas Snow Aquatic Centre  
5100 Yonge St.  
North York, Ontario

Following North York Gators Pentathlon Meet

Present:

Sean Warburton, GRAN  
Phil Rogers, TECH  
Mike Heath Eves, TECH  
Sally O'Brien, NEP  
Chris Smith, TYMS  
Brian Croker, Unattached  
Pat Angus, TECH  
Cliff Gentle, TYMS  
Claus Koch, TYMS  
Wieslaw Musial, TYMS  
Barrie Malloch, ATB  
Michael Starr, DSC  
Judie Oliver, NYMAC  
Yoshi Nomura, TMU  
Ian Stuart, NYMAC  
David Richards, BMSC  
Dave Wilkin, MSC  
Steve Forsey NYMAC  
Doug Vanderby NT

Regrets:

Carole Herbert

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Cathy Macdonald  
Lesley Dusevic

The meeting was called to order by Sean at 1:45.

1. Welcome. Quorum, Roll Calls and Vote Tabulations  
Sean welcomed Dave Wilkin, newly elected President of MSC (Master Swimming Canada). Dave thanked Sean for the invitation to sit in on the meeting and noted it has been a challenging year for MSC at both the Board and operational levels. Going forward, Dave expressed confidence that there will be opportunities over the next year for more engagement and better communication with the provinces in an effort to better tie them into the national body.  
There are many things that can be done together, and the top priority of MSC is to get the structure working – things that matter to swimmers, every day services, programs, etc.

Canada is hosting the 2014 world Masters

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Championships in Montreal, July 31 - August 9, 2014 and MSC needs help from the provinces and especially MSO to drum up interest and engagement of membership to support Canada. Dave will be available for questions later today.

Brian Croker announced that we have a quorum with 11 clubs attending.

2. Acceptance of Agenda

Motion 01: That the agenda be accepted as written

Moved: Phil Rogers

Seconded: Sally O'Brien

Unanimously Carried

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Acceptance of the 2012 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Motion 02: That the minutes of the 2012 AGM be adopted as written.

Moved: Barrie Malloch

Seconded Judie Oliver

Unanimously Carried

3. Business arising from the 2012 AGM Minutes

Master Swim Canada Identification cards for meets outside province/Canada

MSC is now handling all registration of MSO swimmers on-line and there are no longer registration cards given to each swimmer. Verification of the swimmer's affiliation can be done by anyone (eg. meet manager for swim meet) but MSC is developing a pilot program whereby a card can be printed off by individual swimmers. This should be available soon and the MSC website will be updated as soon as it is available.

Doug Vanderby, of NT noted that this is the 4th year he has bought this issue up at the MSO AGM and indicated that he has made up his own card. MSC has taken much too long to resolve this issue. Many swimmers travel throughout the world to compete and this card is badly needed. Dave said he understands and hopefully this problem will be solved very soon. MSO has indicated to MSC that this should be a priority.

Phil Rogers indicated that he is a member of USMS

and their website gives swimmers the ability to print off cards.

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Wes Musial asked for a timeframe on when to expect swimmers to be able to print off their own cards. Dave indicated that as a newly elected President of MSC

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and he is not yet familiar with all the issues and so can't commit to that at this time. Mike Heath-Eves suggested it is possible to print off your own card with the required information that this is not the card that is requested and required at some meets

was asked if this project is volunteer or paid. Dave replied that it is generally volunteer. was requested that that the minutes from this meeting be forwarded to MSC and that he would like to be kept up to date on the progress of this issue, not wait for another AGM.

4. Annual Reports from Workgroups, External Representatives and Staff

Sean noted that the reports are attached to the AGM package that is available on line. He indicated that there is no report from him, but he would like to let people know what MSO does, for example, sanction all the meets held in Ontario throughout the year. He noted that the newly updated MSO website is underused, but there are programs available to all clubs and asked the members attending the meeting today, to take the information back to the clubs and encourage them to use the website. There are approximately 3600 members of MSO and yet there is a very small representation at the AGM. He opened the floor to questions to board members.

Ian Stuart -NYMAC- Financial question

Ian asked why the most recent financial statements available are for 2011. Mike Heath Eves explained that the books are reviewed by an accounting firm and not audited, and are lagging two years behind at this time. It was agreed that this information needs to be

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on the web sooner. Sean noted Cathy Macdonald, our treasurer is not at the meeting today but she could respond to questions on the web.

Ian queried the deficit of \$10,000. which will be \$25,000. next year. Sean explained that in actual fact we have a surplus.

Mike Heath Eves explained that MSO has a reserve fund for emergencies which is 50% of operating costs. During the last three years we have been generating a surplus, which has been put into the reserve fund. At the same time, we have had decreased revenues due to the fact that we have not passed on MSC fee increases of \$5. last year and \$3. this year. we anticipate it will take several years to get the reserve fund to a manageable 50% of our operating costs and we are operating efficiently as we do this.

Sean was asked the cash balance of the MSO account and he did not have this information. He was also asked what the interest income was as it appeared to be lower than Ian Stuart's club.

we will have marketing expenses in 2014 as we

celebrate MSO's 25th year - logo design, branded items, marketing on the website.

The question was asked, which Bank MSO deals with. Brian answered that it is the Bank of Montreal.

5. Notices of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion this year.

6. New Business

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David Richards of Burlington noted that MSO's liability insurance presently stands at \$1,000,000 and asked if MSO ever considered raising it to \$2,000,000.

MOTION 03: To review raising the coverage of liability insurance from \$1,000,000. to \$2,000,000

Moved: Dave Richards

Seconded: Ian Stuart

Unanimously Carried

David Richards, Burlington Masters, took this opportunity to inform the Board that their club meet on February 9th will not be held in Burlington but at the University of Toronto, Mississauga Campus as their pool is under construction. He noted that both the MSO and MSC websites need to be changed to reflect this. Brian will check into the matter and Sally will check with the webmaster

The next matter of business was raised by Doug Vanderby who recounted a situation that has arisen with his club and has escalated to several other clubs.

Doug Vanderby, of NT took the floor to raise the issue of how he has been facing a serious situation regarding a swimmer in his club since August 2012, which has escalated to several other clubs and now involves the police. Doug did not feel that he was kept in the loop by MSO and MSC as to how this issue was being handled by both organizations, and in fact there is not a paper trail of e-mails to document the progress. This is a very serious issue relating to sexual harassment issues. It was expected that MSC would issue an official statement to all clubs, informing them that this individual has been banned from swimming with any MSO affiliated club for two years. Due to the fact that MSC did not issue this statement, this issue has now escalated to two other clubs in the

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Toronto area. Doug noted that the MSC bylaws require this information to be made part of the public record.

Sean indicated to Doug that he does not utilize e-mails as a general rule but depends more on phone conversations. He did have a phone conversation with Doug at some point but Doug did not feel this was an adequate amount of communication regarding this issue. Phil Rogers noted that in this day and age,

Leaving a paper trail and record of communication is very important

Phil also noted that MSO does not have a Policy and Procedure for such an issue and so was relying on MSO P&P's. MSO will now be adopting our own P&P's within the context of MSO and the expectation is that should such an issue ever happen again, it will be dealt with more expeditiously.

Phil acknowledged that this is a process and a communication issue and that MSO intends to tackle it over the next year and with Doug's help. Phil welcomed input from everyone and will work on how to communicate results.

Doug reiterated that MSC promised to notify all clubs on the 2 year ban of this individual and he assumed it had been done. Brian noted that he had notified clubs in the GTA area not to register this individual. Doug felt this was 6 months too late.

Dave Wilkins acknowledged that as a new president, he was unaware of the situation. He suggested that the 2 year ban needs to be revisited and raised the possibility of a life time ban. Someone needs to be aggressively working with the City. There needs to be a circle of communications ongoing with clubs, Doug, Mike, MSO and MSC.

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Chris Smith took the floor and raised several issues. The status of the \$2. fee that MSO pays to Swim Ontario; status of structural changes to MSC. Chris suggested that at this time it would not be difficult now to set up the optimum structure of MSC and its relationship with provincial bodies, clubs and swimmers - a democratic structure with swimmers in control. Chris has written a paper which he is willing to share. He proposed that a committee be struck to look into this restructuring, with cooperation from MSC and bring the results to MSO members in Windsor where a special meeting could be called with just 10% of the membership. This would give MSC something to work with.

Sean indicated that Chris is available to discuss with everyone after the meeting. Sean also made the point that MSO is committed to look at the best option for an open dialogue with MSC in assisting and doing what's best for Masters Swimmers in Ontario.

Ian Stuart asked if there is an MSO strategic plan on website? Sean replied that on a broad scope the plan is to increase the number of swimmers, and number of clubs but this is not quantified. Ian suggested that there is no way to quantify the effectiveness of the Board based on what's promised. As this is a volunteer board, Sean agreed that quantifying is a good idea which is not being pursued at the moment. When asked if this is something the board would consider doing, Sean replied the Board would take it under advisement.

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Wes Musial requested that a subcommittee be set up at the next Board meeting relating to MSO MSC structure and relationships and the NFP act and noted that he is worried about procrastination.

7. Retiring of Outgoing Directors & Nominations

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Sean noted that Mike Heath Eves will not be returning to the Board. There are 5 vacancies and 4 nominations have been received prior to the meeting. Carole Herbert, Wes Musial, Sally O'Brien and Sean Warburton. A request for nominations from the floor resulted in the nomination of Mike Starr.

8.

Election of Directors - As there were 5 vacancies and 5 nominations, all nominees were acclaimed.

9.

Appointment of Accounting Firm

Motion 04: That the Board of Directors retains the firm Schwartz, Levitsky and Feldman, with remuneration to be agreed to and set by the Board.

Moved: Mike Heath Eves

Seconded: Chris Smith

Unanimously Carried

10.

Other Business

Steve Forsey made the request that at Provincial and National championships that coaches of all the clubs should be given meet packages - heat sheets. He suggested that this could be made part of the sanctioning requirements.

11.

Adjournment

Brian Croker moved for an adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m

/pja

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