

Masters Swimming Ontario  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Baton Rouge, Yonge Street (In person meeting)  
Sunday, December 11, 2016

MINUTES

**Board Members Present:**

Michael Lindsay  
Aimee Grodski  
Jake Nesovic  
Carla Oliveira  
Brian Sheridan

**Board Member Regrets:**

Jennifer Ellegood  
Matisse Nelis  
Caroline King

**Staff Regrets:**

Brigitte Zirger  
Brian Croker

Michael opened the meeting at 2:20pm. Quorum confirmed.

**1. Attendance of Board Meetings**

Michael discussed the inconsistent attendance of board members to meetings. Jake indicated that previously the board met every 4 weeks. The last 2 meetings have been in person, the next meeting should probably be on Skype; meetings should be alternating between Skype and in person.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda**

The focus of the meeting will be on the relationship with SO and SNC as well as the website update and committee.

**3. Reading an Approval of Last Meeting Minutes**

Carla read the minutes from the last meeting.

*Motion 1: That the minutes from the last meeting are approved as written.*

*Moved by Carla Oliveira and Seconded by Jake Nesovic.*

#### **4. Replacement for Filippo Porco's board position**

November 21<sup>st</sup> Filippo Porco resigned from the board. The board agreed at this time that there is no urgency to replace Filippo's position.

#### **5. Replacement for Registrar position**

Brian has been paid up until December 2016. The board needs to target having a replacement no later than April. Aimee offered to write the job description. One has already been started which Michael will share with Aimee. Once written and reviewed, an ad will be placed on the website and communication sent to all clubs in an effort to solicit candidates.

#### Action items:

- Aimee to write the job description with help from Brian and the board.
- Once the job description is approved, Aimee will post on the website and send a communication to the clubs soliciting candidates.

#### **6. Relationship with SO and SNC and impact to Sanctioning**

Michael and Jake had a conference call with the CEO of SNC, Ahmed El Awadi and their IT Lead as well as Michael and Jake met separately with Eric Martin, President of Swim Ontario. From these 2 meetings it is our understanding that SNC is working towards incorporating many aquatic programs such as life saving, lessons and safety as well as masters swimming. SNC would like to have all MSO members become members of SNC and provide all membership data including name, address, date of birth.

Jake indicated that Sport Canada previously provided a grant to SNC of which none has been shared. Masters Swimming although Masters makes up 1/6<sup>th</sup> of swimmers in Canada. Brian pointed out that the biggest problem for masters is securing pool time, not necessarily money.

Jake suggested hosting a convention for masters swimmers to weigh in on the issue. Some members have expressed concern about sharing their personal information with Swim Ontario and/or Swim Canada. It's not clear how many members are against this approach and having a convention may help make a decision on how best to proceed. The board felt that attendance would be very weak to such a convention.

If MSO can provide minimal membership information such as name and registration number to SO for sanctioning, then it should be sufficient and there would be no need to implement a 2 tiered membership system.

Carla asked why Masters Swimming Canada has not been more involved or supportive with this issue. Michael explained that MSC has indicated that Ontario is the only province that is not providing membership data to SNC although this has not been confirmed.

The board suggested that Doug Hannum be invited to a MSO board meeting to discuss how we can work together to address the issues around sharing membership data.

Ralph from MSC shared a letter with Michael that explained MSC and SNC are bound by their privacy policy and compliance with PIPEDA. SNC will not contact any members who have opted out from communication.

Michael agreed to write a letter back to MSC explaining that MSO will share only name and registration number with SNC and to request a joint meeting with Ralph, Doug and Alisa.

Action items:

- Michael to write a letter to MSC explaining what membership data MSO is willing to share and to request a joint meeting with MSC

## **7. Website Updates**

Aimee has updated the Strategic plan and board information on the website as well as the MSO address.

The meet management side of the website needs to be revisited. Jake indicated there is still work being done to the database. It's not clear when this will be completed. Brian explained that when he submitted the details for a meet that was sanctioned, he was unable to update the meet package after the fact. [Note, this was subsequently resolved]

Jake explained that MSC took over the site from Swim Alberta and it was originally designed and implemented for age group swimmers. The developers may not have clear requirements on what is needed to manage Masters swim meets. It's not clear who from MSC is leading the initiative for the site. Jake suggested reviewing the site with Brian and Brigitte to gather their feedback then have a meeting with Mike and Rick from Alberta who are doing the work on the site and determine how best to move forward. Carla would also like to be involved as she has experience with building websites.

Brian indicated clear direction is needed from MSC on the expectation of using the site for swim meets. For the Thornhill Invitation meet, MSC and Swim Ontario want all registrations to be submitted on the MSO website however Ian has a Google page ready for registrations. Although it would be helpful to run meets on MSO site, it's never been clearly communicated that the capability is available or how it works.

Action items:

- Jake to work with Brian to identify deficiencies with the meet management site.
- Jake to contact Mike and Rick who are working on the website to see how the site's been designed and how easily modifications can be implemented to support masters meets

## **8. Other Business**

*Budapest:* Several swimmers are planning to attend Worlds in Budapest. MSC will not be able to form a team as the team needs to be registered as a club which needs to be at the provincial level, not national. Chris is organizing clubs for the purposes of relays. Michael indicated Alisa from MSC is aware that they cannot form a national club. The intention of her involvement is to help with coordinating travel and other support for swimmers planning to attend.

*Sanctioning meets organized by Ian Feldman:* Mention had previously been made that Ian could potentially sue MSO for lost revenue if his meets were not sanctioned. Brian and Jake spoke with Ian at the North York meet and Ian indicated he has absolutely no intention of suing and isn't sure why that was ever mentioned. Brian and Michael indicated it was only mentioned theoretically since he could be at a loss; Ian had never actually indicated he would sue.

*Hosting provincials:* Carla asked, what is MSO's involvement with supporting Provincials, is it only in supplying medals? Michael indicated it could be a revenue generator for MSO. Brian explained that hosting Provincials is quite a large undertaking and not a lot of clubs have the capacity or interest to host such an event. MSO should provide more support to clubs hosting. Typically it's difficult to have clubs step forward to offer hosting Provincials. Brian suggested MSO could help to organize consortium of clubs to co-host Provincials.

## **9. Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn, moved by Brian Sheridan seconded by Jake Nesovic  
Meeting adjourned at 4:58pm*