

FINAL

Masters Swimming Ontario Annual General Meeting

Sunday, November 19, 2017

Toronto, ON

Minutes

Present:

Club Delegates

Beth Carey	ANC	Ancaster Aquatic Centre
Andrea Smith	BTRN	B-Train
Charlie Lane	ETOB	Etobicoke Olympium Masters Aquatic Club
Alisa Boulanger	GRAN	Granite Masters
Bob Richards	SURF	Kanata Surfers (by email)
Sue Leeder	MMAC	Milton Masters Aquatic Club
Michael Sweny	NEP	Nepean Masters Swim Club
Doug Vanderby	NT	North Toronto Masters Swim Club
Duane Jones	TECH	Technosport (represented by Ian Feldman)
Ian Feldman	THOR	Thornhill Masters Aquatic Club
Alex Boulanger	TORO	TORO Swim

Attendees

Brian Sheridan	ETOB	Etobicoke Olympium Masters Aquatic Club
Carla Oliveira	ETOB	Etobicoke Olympium Masters Aquatic Club
Kalis Rasmussen	ETOB	Etobicoke Olympium Masters Aquatic Club
Brigitte Zirger	NEP	Nepean Masters Swim Club
Ryan Saw	NEP	Nepean Masters Swim Club
Sue Weir	TYMS	Trillium Y Masters Swim Club
Jake Nesovic	TYMS	Trillium Y Masters Swim Club
Wes Musial	TYMS	Trillium Y Masters Swim Club
Chris Cupidio		MSO staff

The meeting was called to order by Brian Sheridan at 1:00 p.m.

1. Welcome. Quorum

Brian Sheridan welcomed everyone to the meeting. Carla Oliveira confirmed we have quorum; 11 Member Clubs were represented in person, by proxy or by email ballot.

2. Acceptance of Agenda

Brian suggested the order of the agenda be modified so that item 10, Appointment of Accounting Firm, is moved up prior to item 9, Election of Directors. Chris Smith also asked to include FINA rules in new business.

Motion 01: That the agenda be accepted with the updates mentioned.

Moved: Michael Sweny

Seconded: Chris Smith

Motion Carried

3. Acceptance of the 2016 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Brigitte Zirger noted that Barrie Malloch from Alderwood Teddy Bears was missing from the attendance list as was 2 other team members from Alderwood. Alisa Boulanger also noted that Caroline King should be removed from the attendance list as she did not attend the 2016 AGM. The attendance list was verified against the 2016 AGM sign-up sheet and updated.

Motion 02: That the minutes from the 2016 Annual General Meeting be adopted with the amendments required to the attendance list.

Moved: Michael Sweny

Seconded: Jake Nesovic

Motion carried

4. Business arising from the 2016 AGM Minutes

No outstanding business from the 2016 AGM Minutes were identified.

5. Annual Reports from Workgroups, External Representatives and Staff

These reports are attached to the AGM package for perusal by members.

a. Treasurer – Beth Carey summarized that MSO had transitioned to Quickbooks. The financial statements for the past 2 years are almost done. Brigitte Zirger pointed to both the 2016 and 2017 treasurer reports which noted that MSO had absorbed MSC's fee increases in 2011/12 and in 2013/14 and that MSO had been consciously operating at a deficit which cannot be sustained. The board did consider an increase to the fees this year and agreed to maintain the same fees due to the uncertainties for the current season.

b. Registration – Brigitte Zirger noted that at the same time last year MSO had approximately 2,352 members. MSO now has 2,041 members (about 86%

compared to Nov 2016). Michael Sweny asked how many members were budgeted. Brigitte indicated 2,000 members were budgeted. Several clubs have either folded or have merged into age group teams. To date 47 clubs have registered with MSO.

- c. Competition – Brian Sheridan explained that from October to December Swim Ontario sanctioned MSO swim meets. Although Swim Canada published a letter in January indicating MSO was no longer recognized by SNC or MSC, MSO did proceed to sanction 11 additional meets including Provincials. Nationals were held in Quebec City where SNC and MSC introduced the \$2 SCCM (Swimming Canada Competitive Masters) fee so that Ontario swimmers could attend. However, Ontario teams were not recognized and prevented. All Ontario clubs were required to compete under a version of the SCCM club code rather than their own. Although Technosport earned the most points by almost a 1,000, it was not recognized as the top club in Canada. The banner went to the second placed club. This year, MSO has already sanctioned several meets; Swim Ontario does not have any meets scheduled as there are not enough registered swimmers.
- d. Records – Brigitte Zirger explained that Ontario records are maintained in a FoxPro application as well as the online system. The FoxPro application contains SCY, SCM and LCM results and records that date back to the 1980s and earlier. Ontario results and records have also been maintained in the MSC system since 2005. Effective September 1, 2017 all Ontario records will be maintained only in the FoxPro and the MSO online system. Brigitte reviewed the records outlined in the package. Several errors in the package were pointed out and Brigitte agreed to review and correct any errors.
- e. President – Brian Sheridan introduced the current MSO board members and explained the board has undergone many changes in the past year. Brian summarized his report provided in the AGM package.

Doug Vanderby noted his club joined MSO for insurance. Members on his team want the ability to compete across provinces which is currently unavailable through MSO. Dan Thompson as the new leader of Swim Ontario is a benefit for Masters Swimmers. The two organizations should merge without negative repercussions.

Brian Sheridan indicated MSO's strength has brought focus to Swim Ontario to address the needs of Masters swimmers. As of yet, Dan Thompson has not been willing to speak with or work with MSO to come to an agreement on working together.

Chris Smith explained that in 2004 when Dan Thompson was the president of SNC, his focus was on SNC's mandate and not to address the deficiencies of

MSC. As president of Swim Ontario, he will do what is in the best interest of Swim Ontario.

Michael Sweny explained the challenges encountered when Swim Ontario tried to amalgamate the Ontario officials organization, OSOA.

Alisa Boulanger explained that MSO has repeatedly reached out to MSC to work through the challenges and has not received support. Alisa thanked MSO for its focus on serving its members and diligently working on the issues. MSO has pushed ahead and is enabling swim meets despite the challenges it currently faces.

Swimmers are pursuing alternate options for competing across provinces by registering with other provinces or USMS.

Ian Feldman expressed gratitude to the board for introducing the Single Event Registration option which has opened the opportunity for any swimmer to participant in MSO sanctioned events.

6. Notices of Motion

Three Notices of Motion were submitted.

By-Law Amendment #1

Moved by Jake Nesovic

Seconded by Sue Weir

All in favor by show of hands. Motion passed.

By-Law Amendment #2

Moved by Brigitte Zirger

Seconded by Beth Carey

All in favor by show of hands. Motion passed.

Fold amount of \$4,875.33 which was withheld from MSO's final payment to MSC into general operating funds.

Moved by Brigitte Zirger

Seconded by Beth Carey

All in favor by show of hands. Motion passed.

7. New Business

a) FINA rules: Chris Smith reported that he had been asked to look at the 2017-2021 FINA rule changes and report on their impact on the MSC Rule Book 2013-2017 which MSO is using for its competitions. Chris noted that FINA reviewed the rules on September 22nd and there were no changes related to strokes or other matters. He indicated that with the addition of the November 2014 minor updates the MSC Rule Book remains a valuable reference for meet managers, officials, coaches and swimmers.

b) DQs at Provincials: Brian Sheridan noted there were many concerns at Provincials regarding the higher than average number of disqualifications. Michael Sweny indicated that the Meet Manager and Referee typically meet to agree on the tolerance and leniency of abiding by the rules. Ian Feldman indicated that he has the same team of officials at every meet he hosts and they were more strict at Provincials. It seems officials may have changed their tone and are following age group rules more closely.

8. Appointment of Accounting Firm

Michael Sweny asked if the board has sought out multiple bids from accounting firms. Beth Carey explained MSO has a history with this firm and they are still working out 2014 and 2015 financial statement.

Motion 04: That the Board retain the firm Schwartz, Levitsky and Feldman.

Moved: Beth Carey

Seconded Sue Weir

Motion Carried

9. Election of Directors

Brian Sheridan noted the both he and Carla Oliveira are resigning from the board. Brigitte Zirger thanked Brian and Carla for their contributions.

Carla Oliveira read the list of 6 nominations received: Jake Nesovic, Brigitte Zirger, Sue Weir, Beth Carey, Andrea Smith and Michael Sweny.

Brian Sheridan noted the board is made up of 9 board members and asked if there are any other nominations from the floor; no further nominations were received.

Brian asked for a vote on accepting the nominations received. All in favor.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

/co

Attachement

Masters Rules – FINA Rules Changes - 22.09.2017

The FINA Bureau approved the rule changes this past summer which will be incorporated in the 2017 – 2021 FINA Handbook.

There were no significant Rule changes related to strokes or other matters. Changes related primarily to clarifications of officials' functions, jurisdictions and responsibilities and improved wording related to some stroke rules, removing ambiguities. This was helpful.

FINA has relaxed their requirements for timers where automatic officiating equipment is not available to one per lane with one additional timekeeper. They then go on to say that when such equipment is not available it remains advisable that there be three timekeepers per lane. We suggest that we require three timekeepers per lane where such equipment is not available.

The breaststroke rule that the butterfly kick after the start and turn shall be before the first breaststroke kick, approved in November 2014, is incorporated. They also clarified that during the touch at the turn and finish in breaststroke and butterfly the hands may be touching but one may not be on top of the other.

A further clarification is that in an individual or relay medley event one cannot be on ones back at any time, excluding while turning, when swimming the freestyle leg. A swimmer may leave the wall on their back but may not kick or use their arms until they are on their breast.

We would recommend that these stroke clarifications be adopted by MSO for all competitions.

There were also clarifications, again following the November 2014 changes, related to the responsibilities of officials related to the lap counters in long distance events and the ledges in backstroke events. These relate to officiating at FINA World events and are not complied with at national or other localized meets by Swim Canada or other national swim bodies as they are not practical at their competitions to comply with. There is no reason therefore for masters to include them in their rules.

A number of FINA rule changes apply to different categories of meets not applicable to masters and therefore should not be included.

The MSC Rule Book 2013 – 2017 with the minor changes to the breaststroke and backstroke rules of November, 2014 is still applicable for use at Ontario Masters competitions. Ideally these rules including any minor adjustments from this year should be posted on the MSO website for reference for meet managers, officials, coaches and swimmers.

Chris Smith

November 2017