

Masters Swimming Ontario
Board of Directors Meeting
Teams meeting
Tuesday, August 18th, 2020

Board Members Present: Brigitte Zirger (President), Jake Nesovic (VP), Rod Beauprie (Secretary - late), Andrea Schwartz Smith, Michael Sweny (Treasurer), Sue Weir.

Regrets: Beth Carey, Phil Rogers.

Meeting began at 7:15 with quorum.

1. Adoption of the Agenda

Moved by: Mike / Seconded by: Brigitte Motion carried.

2. Approval of the minutes from July 15th meeting

Moved by: Sue / Seconded by: Mike Motion carried.

3. Business Arising from Minutes and Action Items

3.1 Starting the new season; encouraging participation; experience with opening up

- Use the affiliation process in September to see which clubs are starting up. No need for a special club declaration as we had in the summer. For the summer we needed to know who was back in the water and who was not.
- Hearing from clubs in other cities that they are having trouble getting in touch with their facilities and not getting much guidance.
- An update of MSO Return to Swimming guidance will include some schematics of home base. These diagrams are not in other the SNC Guidance. We will include a “sample” of city instructions without naming the city. That way clubs can pre-plan and simply tweak their plans after.
- Some cities simply pointing to SNC requirements for maximum swimmers but, SNC is NOT setting maximum swimmer levels, as per their FAQs. Ex: FNQ’s updated of August 11th allows 6 to 8 swimmers in a single lane for 25 m pools and 10 to 12 swimmers per lane in 50 m pools so long as swimmers are 2m apart at all times. The only caveat is that this is subject to local authorities and facilities.
- The MSO Guidance will be highlighted in our start-up notice.
- Some discussion on whether to request submission of plans. BoD felt that clubs could click on “I agree” check boxes at the time of club affiliation that they have their plans completed. BZ to pursue with Rick for system change.

3.2 Open Water Swimming Challenge

- Early bird fees have ended, we have had good registration that should cover costs; Brigitte has received many good stories and photos.
- Sue did 1.5 km twice
- Andrea and neighbours did a 7.3 km downriver swim in the Ottawa
- This event is quite successful and we have participation from other provinces.

4. New Business

4.1 Paying for provincial medals

- Question from Brigitte: the BoD previously agreed we should pay Nepean for the Provincial medals because of the cancelation. Do we pay for these now or wait to see if Provincials can be held in November? BoD confirmed that we should pay Nepean for the 2020 Provincial medals now with instructions not to destroy. It is unlikely that we will be able to hold a provincial meet in the fall. Even Nepean reluctantly agrees with that.

4.2 City of Ottawa

- Brigitte will send a letter of thanks to the City for the good job they have done with re-opening.

4.3 Meech Lake (Gatineau Park, north of Ottawa)

- Residents have complained to NCC of early morning noise/traffic, currently restricting open water swimming to after 7 AM. NCC says that OWS is technically illegal in Gatineau Park and they have been turning a blind eye, this could change. Meech Lake is a major open water swimming area for the Ottawa area.
- A group of swimmers is organizing to provide input to the NCC for any regulatory changes proposed for next year. MSO to engage with this group to add support but not lead. BZ to participate in Zoom meeting next week.
- Jake - is this not a local issue? A: yes but it impacts many of our swimming members and MSO should assist even if it is not directly sanctioning training there. It would be consistent with *"why would you do anything to prevent people from swimming?"* view at MSO.

5. Roundtable

- Orleans opening September 14, limited to 12 swimmers
- Sue – planning for mid-September

Next meeting: September 22nd at 7 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.