

Masters Swimming Association of BC
Annual General Meeting
April 27,2013

Thirty-four members in attendance Quorum Declared.

Meeting to run under Roberts Rules of Order.

Adoption of Agenda Moved Susan Simmons, seconded Danielle Brault.
Carried.

Introduction of the current Board and quick summary of tasks. All Board Members present except Secretary Nancy Ryan.

Directors' reports

President. Gilles Beaudin

See attached full text.

Key points - Starting to see increased interest in League trophy with addition of small club group. Good competition in all three groups.

Banners being hung at pools leading to greater public awareness.

Stan Powell and Ted Simpson awards increased nominations. coming from clubs but more still needed. Need to stress Stan Powell not just about people who help with meets but any key contributions to club or MSABC. Ted Simpson not just for record setters but also personal bests, overcoming adversity

Treasurers' Report 2011-2012 year. Keith Kendall

see attached full text and spreadsheets.

Key points surplus increase in membership. Board costs reduced.

Large reduction in Website costs

Invested assets providing a return in keeping with interest climate. Vancouver Foundation fund providing better than market rate. In strong Financial Position.

MSABC uses volunteer Auditors. Two members who are not on the board sit down with the treasurer and he goes through the expenses item by item with all documentation. The auditors then if they are satisfied that the spending was reasonable and justified sign off on the report. This year the Auditors were Danielle Brault and Brent Hobbs who agreed that expenditures were acceptable. The board would like to thank them for giving there time to this. The revenues side is only limited to what the clubs forward to MSABC can't be audited at board level.

Questions Will any government body want to see the accounts or challenge the amount accumulated?

Since we are not a registered charity no government body will ask. However members can ask anytime and ask for outside scrutiny.

Communication Report Susan Simmons and John McManus

See attached full text and examples.

Key points. Web hosting now provided by John McManus at cost for large savings.

Revamped Website to hopefully make it more useful to members. Quick and easy to find current information for MSABC and quick links to MSC and world events. Members and clubs can contribute with Quick Email to John. Providing quick access to the following new communication forums

New this year MSABC Facebook group allowing members to keep track and communicate with one another. New to encourage members to join a forum **limited** to MSABC.

Twitter feed established with small but growing numbers putting MSABC events and performances out in a **public** form.

Blog a place to share stories and make members aware of upcoming events. An outlet to document a club event, personal inspiring story. The blog allows for real time stories instead for a newsletter deadline. or waiting

Send in completed stories or email notes for stories.

Questions

Q. Can the webpage have a section where Members who have past away or have encountered serious illness could be mentioned?

Will work on it should be straightforward to set up. Will take members input to work.

Registrars Report Len Martel

See attached for full text

Key Points - Things went smoothly this year.

Currently 1778 members

The systems in place are working well and being tweaked as needs arise.

Working closely with MSC some of the problems for international meets have been fixed and it is a streamlined process to get letters of permission for those meets.

Len is working with MSC to try and solve on going registration issues and smoother data transfers between bodies.

Questions

Q. What is trend in membership?

Year over year seems to be steady 1650-1750.

Q. How can we increase membership?

Swim clubs best source, an online general registration system creates problems for clubs controlling size.

Online works for unattached swimmers; payment is only catch there.

Q Can we do a better job of marketing? ?

Public awareness through pool info in pool brochures.

Banners in pools, Publicity before and after meets.

The new website should help.

Q. What do we know of why clubs have closed?

Mostly small clubs, one off groups.

1 person drives clubs which collapse if that person leaves.

Q. Can tri geeks be tapped?

Clubs need to get word out to what they can offer to that section of the non swim racing public.

Competition Report

There were 9 sanctioned meets this year and Provincials. Starting with the North Shore sprint challenge and ending with the Burnaby meet. There were 3 meets in the Okanagan, 2 on the Island and 4 in the lower Mainland.

March 2013 Burnaby Masters Swim Meet
March 2013 Penticton Masters Swim Meet
February 2013 EBSC LTS Meet
January 2013 Vernon Swim Meet
January 2013 Victoria Masters Swim Meet
December 2012 Nanaimo Ebttides Swim Meet
November 2012 UBC Masters Swim Meet
October 2012 Okanagan Masters Frightfest .
October 2012 North Shore Masters

Starting to see a path to dual sanctioned meets where a kids club hosts a meet with a Masters section sanctioned within it. Should help remote and small market swimmers. Burnaby would be a good example of option.

New this year.

MSABC Open water Championships. Races of 1.5 and 3 km.
To be held in conjunction with the MS Thetis Lake swim in Victoria.
The races will be Swim BC sanctioned event following the Fina Open Water Rules.
Type of start, suits, and manner of finish are things that are different. The MS Thetis Lake swim would also be events would be available to swimmers as well. Shorter 800m swim for those new to open water and nervous a 5 km race, Wetsuit races. Details will become available on the Website. Swim near end of July.

Sponsor group MS Thetis lake swim was good fit as an event that has been running for 20 years. Venue is very contained and temperature friendly

Some problems getting it off the ground. Largest problem was finding a qualified ref for Open water. Only 2 in the province. Thanks to Glen M for working that one through. Hoping to use event to get more people qualified.
The open water rules require some specific things that have not been used at open water swims around the province.

Thetis lake swim has offered to take on for several years until others can get up to speed on needs.

Board will put together a How To package Sanction needs, venue needs, Ref qualifications etc for future events.

Okanagan will host open water event this summer as well.

Questions.

Q. Possible for June July outdoor pool meet?

Venues mostly 6 lane 25m but possible. Take some one to organize.

New Business

Setting fees for 2013-2014

Our fees go to several different places.

SNC \$2.00

MSC \$18.00

SwimBC \$5.00

We have no control over these fees

In 2012-2013 MSABC charges \$38.00 paid the above fees and kept the remaining \$ 13.00 for our operating budget.

For 2013-2014 SNC and SwimBC fees will remain the same but MSC is going up to \$21.00

See attached table for options discussed by the board and presented to Members.

The board is proposing that we subsidize \$ 2.00 of the rate increase from our surplus and raise fees by \$1.00 to \$39.00 overall. This gives us a small cushion for increasing expenses next year while helping members with the MSC increase. This projection is based on a projected 1700 members and expenses of about \$15,000.

Moved to accept the \$1.00 fee increase to bring fees to \$ 39.00 for 2013-2014. Sarah Macdonald, seconded Lauren Westamcott.

Discussion.

Can we afford to subsidize the other \$2.00?

Yes surplus can cover it

Only one dollar but that becomes a significant thing to fixed income swimmers.

Could we not subsidize a greater amount from Surplus funds?

Point of order- must stick to motion until passed or defeated before discussion of other options.

Motion To accept the \$1.00 fee increase to bring fees to \$ 39.00 for 2013-2014.

Question called Vote 30 in favour. No one apposed.

Motion is carried.

Appointment of Auditors for 2013-2014 year.

Tony Hoff Okanagan Masters and Leon Politano West Shore Masters

Election of Officers. Run by Sarah Macdonald Victoria Masters.

President Call for Nominations

Gilles Beaudin EBSC Nominated by Susan Simmons

No other nominations

Acclaimed.

Secretary Call for nominations.

Nancy Ryan NEB Nominated by Glen Mehus

No other nominations

Acclaimed

Registrar Call for nominations.

Len Martel Vic Masters Nominated by Gilles Beaudin

No other nominations

Acclaimed

Director at large 2 positions Call for nominations.

Mike Dowling NSM Nominated by Brent Hobbs

Glen Mehus Wine Country Masters Nominated by Gilles Beaudin

No other nominations

Both Acclaimed

Board for 2013-2014

President Gilles Beaudin
Vice President John McManus
Secretary Nancy Ryan
Treasurer Keith Kendal
Registrar Len Martel
Editor/Communications Susan Simmonds
Directors at Large
Rod Carmichael, Mike Dowling, and Glen Mehus
Items from Floor

MSC Fee increase do we know why?

Structure needed to advance Masters agenda. BC and Ont only provinces with own organization all others through Prov swim Organizations.

Costs for executive director and staff rising. Trying to put together programs for coaching model, running Nationals, registration program. Teleconferencing and 1 face-to-face meeting.

Can we have an online meet entry system for all?

Costly \$5-\$8 dollars/entry if to take care of data entry.

Karolo 5 cents? event entered but all data has to be keyed in after closing therefore extra labour for meet organizers.

Len has been looking for a system that would pick up Registration and Entry info and place into HYTEK. So far too expensive or not out there.

Ongoing search but will not be in place anytime soon if at all.

Thanks to current Board for work done this year.
Anne Fabre.

Call for Adjournment Moved by Leon Politano, Seconded by Angela Johnston. Carried Unanimously.

Report from the President

As I come to the end of my first two-year term as President, I look back with pride at this Board's accomplishments.

First and foremost, with the invaluable input and many hours of hard work of our two IT savvy Board members – Susan Simmons and John McManus, we have completely transformed our presence on the World Wide Web enhancing our ability to communicate with our membership and for our membership to, in turn, communicate with us! I will not say any more as our current Editor will be presenting her report shortly but just suffice to say that this is something I've been pushing for since my days as Editor and, now that it's a reality, I for one am very excited!

Let me talk now of our MSABC Awards and let me begin with the League Trophy. Last year, after three years of presenting one yearly trophy and in order to give more teams an opportunity to vie for the honour, we split the award into Large Team and Medium Team. This year, we have moved ahead and have introduced the Small Team category into the mix. One of the goals of this trophy's inception was to increase participation at our meets and we believe we are starting to see those results as more teams become aware of this award and aware of how close they are to hoisting an MSABC League Trophy banner in their home pool. Another goal was to give MSABC more visibility in the pools across British Columbia. This year, the Winskill Aquatic and Fitness Centre in Tsawwassen – home pool of the Winskill Otters and the Hyde Creek Recreation Centre in Port Coquitlam – home pool of the Hyde Creek Masters will join the Vancouver Aquatic Centre – home pool of the English Bay Swim Club in having these beautiful banners hanging from their pool's rafters for all to see. The more visible we are to the public, the more aware they are of us - the more aware they are of us, the greater the chances that some of them may see Masters Swimming as good fit for their health & fitness goals. The other 'team' award is the Champions Trophy. It goes to the high point team at our Provincial Championships and that winner, as well, receives a banner to display at their home pool. Together with the League Trophy, as the years go by, hopefully more and more pools will play host to these beautiful banners and more and more British Columbians will become aware of MSABC!

As for our individual awards – the Stan Powell Memorial Award and the Ted Simpson Achievement Award, we strongly encourage teams to nominate people they believe are deserving of these recognitions. In the past, it has fallen upon the Board to choose a recipient – we truly need input from our membership as they are the ones who know these individuals on a day-to-day basis and are witness to their achievements. Please check out our web site and have a look at the description of each award and then help us honour those deserving of these accolades by sending in your nominations before our 31MAR yearly deadline. What a change and a joy it would be to have to choose from a dozen nominees for each award!

As for competitions, this year saw an increase in the number of meets held across the Province. Traditionally, in the past, we have had six meets throughout the year leading up to Provincials – this year we had nine meets and for the second year in a row, the Okanagan area accounted for three of these competitions. It's great to see the growth in numbers of our meets and may this trend continue! For those of you not aware, MSABC offers a \$300 grant for any member club hosting a Masters competition where electronic timing is offered and an individual is hired to manage the timing software. This grant is

to offset that cost. On a final competition note, MSABC is excited to be expanding into another area of aquatic competition and that will be dealt with later in this AGM.

As for your Board, this intensely dedicated group of volunteers meets four to five times a year to keep your association's day-to-day functionality well oiled and running smoothly. I am proud to be a member of this Board as we strive each year to always try to 'do right' by our membership and to keep this association strong and solvent now and for the future. As of this year, we are posting the date and location of our next Board meeting and the general membership is always invited to attend to get a glimpse of how your Board deals with day-to-day and not so day-to-day challenges. If you would like to attend a Board meeting (as an observer), please email president@msabc.ca and maybe by having attended a meeting or two, some of you will become inspired enough to step up and, at next year's AGM, throw your name in to become a Board member yourself!

Thank you all for putting your trust in our member Board.

Gilles Beaudin

Report from the Registrar

This year was a pretty smooth year from Registration point of view. As of April 24th there are 1,712 members registered. This number differs from the financial information from Keith as not all payments have been received as of yet. There was a consistent flow of new members joining through the year.

We have 47 clubs this year. Some clubs retired, some new clubs. This was an average year for new club additions. There were not many changes to existing club registrars so the registration process in the fall went quite smooth.

The insurance requests, out of country letters and registration system has been very smooth this year. There were of course the couple of exceptions, but heck that is to be expected. My thanks to the couple of clubs that were very patient waiting for fixes to be done for the couple of oops!

We are in conversation with MSC with the future of our registration system. I'm participating on a committee comprised of a few people from across the country. We are evaluating the registration process and registration systems used across the country. At this time I do not see any changes to our system for the near future. MSC has done some enhancements to the system that have made it quicker for me to get information out to you. The registration confirmation letters for example are now generated so it's not such a manual process.

All in all, the process is going well, I hope the swimmers and registrars find the same. IF there are every any concerns with the process or system please drop me an email! I would be happy to look into it.

Len Martel Registrar 2012-13

Communications Report

Communications Strategy Objectives:

1. Increase your understanding of the services we provide.
2. To ensure you are aware of our plans for the future.
3. Increase your involvement.
4. Promote and maintain a positive profile for MSABC.
5. Promote, and defend, the reputation Masters swimming.

New Website:

Our central hub for information.

- November 2012 • Public • 41,000+

How you can help:

- Send us links to resources you would like to see on the site.

Facebook Group:

A place where members can communicate with one another.

- May 2012 • Private • 140 members

How you can help:

- Spread the word, invite others to join

Twitter:

Used for quick updates and to broaden our profile.

- November 2012 • Public • 34 followers

How you can help:

- Follow us. Re-tweet our tweets.

Blog:

A place where members can share stories.

- October 2012 • Public • 139 followers • 23 posts
- 3,000+ views

How you can help:

- Spread the word, tell others to follow, send us your stories