

MSABC Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, February 8, 2014

Sandman Suites, 1160 Davie St, Vancouver, BC

Minutes

Call to Order: 10:15 am

Present: Gilles, Nancy, Glen, Rod, Mike, John, Len, Susan

Absent: Keith

A. **Adoption of Agenda:** adopted by Rod, seconded by Mike

B. **Adoption of Minutes from Nov. 30, 2013:** adopted by John, seconded by Len

C. **Old Business**

1. Update on Meet Manager Manual - Club Assistant report

Len reported that the advantages of using this American on line registering company are:

- Significant time saver to download to HyTek,
- easier to register,
- will take Canadian funds,
- will be open for all clubs to use.

The cost to MSABC will be a one time set up fee with no annual fee. Meet Managers will need to build in 2% - 3% for the credit card fee as well as \$1.50 for the Club Assistant fee when setting their entry fees for their meets.

ACTION: Len will recommend this at the AGM in his Registrar's report.

MOTION: Susan moved : To allow Len to spend up to \$1200 to open a merchant account and get it up and running. Rod seconded. **ALL APPROVED**

ACTION: Len will continue to work on the remainder of the Meet Manager Manual next year.

2. Survey on awards for Provincials - tabled until after 2014 Provincials

3. MSABC on line Store

The MSABC logo has been approved and is ready to be put on the website. Clothes, towels, bags, will be offered. NO caps or swim suits are available.

4. Contest for "Swimspiration" entries on Blog

Entries are starting to come in. After the Provincials , emphasis will be on Open Water swimmers.

5. Len has sent out an email to Registrar's to remind their club members to join the Blog.
6. Glen has offered to be the SwimBC Insurance liason. When clubs need proof of insurance, Glen will check it out, send information to Swim BC and they will return the information to Glen.
7. The new Bank of Nova Scotia account has been set up with Len, John, Rod and Keith having signing authority since they all live in Victoria..
QUESTION: Could the President get his name on as signing authority?
8. Banners - tabled until next budget
9. Gilles replied to Stephen Horton regarding liability insurance.

D. New Business

1. **Registrar's Report** - Len
1425 members
2. **Swim BC** - no report
3. **MSC Report** - Keith reported that MSC has been busy with two issues lately - the Rule books and the affiliation policy. His report is on file in the Secretary's binder.
4. **Competition report** - No report
5. **Communications Report** - Susan
Susan would like to keep a record of "Ultra" BC swimmers - Those who have swum great distances in Open Waters. They will be posted under "For Swimmers - Open Water" on the MSABC website
6. **Financial Report** - Keith
No costs noted for Dec and Jan. Full financial statements are in Secretary's binder.
7. **Review of Swimmers Code of conduct Policy and Financial Policy tabled until after Provincials**
8. **Ebbtides** request for funding for Electronics assistance - accepted
9. **Rule Books** - sent out to Mike Stamhuis, Keith and remainder to Terry to disperse. MSC has paid for them.
10. **Pool Measurements** - FINA states that a) All pools used for a sanctioned Masters met require a pool length confirmation. This is a one time requirement unless something has been done to the pool that would possibly change its length. Then a new measurement is required. b) Pool measurements can be done by a "qualified official". This official is up to your

federation, so it does not need to be done by a surveyor. C) Bulkhead pools do not require an additional measurement. Masters do not follow the FINA rule for World Records in a bulkhead pool.

A Fluke laser measurement is the most accurate tool.

Okanagan Masters wants to appoint two qualified pool measurers.

MSABC approves the two designated pool measurers who Okanagan Masters recommended.

11. Provincials

a) Banquet to consist of a variety of pasta meals. The Sponsor of the banquet will be present to give out the awards.

Agenda of the awards will be an academy awards concept.

1. Presidents speech as an opener and before we eat.
2. Acknowledgement of swimmers who have passed away with photos on the screen.
3. Meal time to reflect on the past swimmers.
4. Ted Simpson Award
5. Stan Powell Award
6. President's Award
7. Meet Managers recognition - \$50.00 gift certificate from MSABC store
8. League trophy awards

b) Annual General Meeting agenda

ACTION: Ask Sarah McDonald to MC the meeting

1. Gilles will introduce the three Directors at Large(Glen, Rod, Mike,) Secretary (Nancy) , Webmaster/Vice president (John) .
2. Treasurer (Keith), Registrar (Len), Communications (Susan) will give their reports.
3. Competition report will be given by Leon.
ACTION: Len will email Rod to contact Leon regarding attending the Provincials. If not, Rod will do Leon's report.
4. **MOTION:** Susan moved to not increase MSABC fees for 2014-2015. Gilles seconded .

Discussion on the motion took place.

After the discussion, **the motion was withdrawn.**

ACTION: Rod will talk to Keith regarding the upcoming one time only cost for Club Assistant and ask if he can project our operating costs

prior to the AGM. As a result, the Budget for next year will decide whether or not to increase MSABC fees.

Keith will be given a deadline of mid March to provide feedback to board.

ACTION: Len will organize a conference call to take place the third week in March regarding setting the fees for next year.

Suggestion: to set a 5 year budget as a goal.

5. John, Keith, Susan and Rod are up for Election this year.

ACTION: John to post the upcoming AGM announcement on the website and in the Board Minutes.

6. MSC Draft Masters Swimmers and Club Affiliation Policy for Consultation

Discussion took place on each point and our Board's response to the following, was forwarded to MSC.

1. Every swimmer who wishes to participate in a Masters swimming programme must be registered with a Masters swimming club, which is registered with Masters Swimming Canada (MSC) and their Provincial Masters Organization (PMO.)

MSABC - agree

2. Each PMO shall create a Masters swimming club, administered by the PMO, to register swimmers that are not affiliated with any other club. MSC will consider this Masters swimming club to be an ordinary club as defined in the MSC bylaws.

MSABC - agree (potential name - Dogwood Masters Swim Club - as we feel the name - MSBC - would have too much 'baggage' attached)

3. Every Masters swimming club, including Masters swimming club administered by provinces, must have at least two (2) registered Masters swimmers.

MSABC - disagrees / in general, we agree with Saskatchewan's response. BC has many remote communities. If a single swimmer wants to create a Masters Club with the hope of eventually attracting other swimmers in his area, we do not want to discourage that effort. Placing this single swimmer into the PMO's team would, we feel, be counter to our efforts to spread Masters Swimming to all corners of the Province. Even the Olympics allow 1 person to represent their Country. What is the rationale to there having to be '2' members?

4. A Masters swimmer can be a member of more than one Masters swimming club at one time provided that, for *each* Masters swimming club, the swimmer pays any required MSC, PMO and club fees. The MSC fee is equal to the MSC component of the regular swimmer registration fee. A swimmer may only swim for one club in any given competition.

MSABC - disagrees / a Masters swimmer may swim with more than one club (i.e. pay their drop in fees) but can be a registered member of only one Masters Club.

We feel that this policy point is an attempt to legitimize, in the eyes of FINA, the creation of 'Super Teams' .. MSABC, even though the intent behind it's creation of MSBC

was to give swimmers who did not have enough other members going to an 'out-of-province' competition the possibility to swim in relays, is willing to eliminate its 'Super Team' in order to 'level the playing field' and remove this area of discontent within the Canadian Master's Community. The proposed 'Dogwood Masters Swim Club (DMSC)' would not be a 'Super Team' but only a vehicle to eliminate the term 'unattached' which is not recognised by FINA. We would discourage the last minute transfer of already registered swimmers from other MSABC clubs to DMSC with the intent of creating a 'Super Club'.

5. Registering with the provincially administered Masters swimming club will allow Masters swimmers from smaller Masters swimming clubs or Masters swimming clubs with few swimmers attending a given competition event, to participate in relays.

MSABC - disagree / given our response to point #4, this point becomes moot.

6. A swimmer may only register to swim for a master swim club at a competition if the swimmer is registered with that club at the time of registering for the competition.

MSABC - agree

7. Relay records set by a master swim club administered by the province will be recorded in the "open" category while records from all other master swim clubs will be recorded in the "club" category.

MSABC - disagree / given our response to point #4, this point also becomes moot.

Because DMSC would be created to appease FINA, members of this club should not be 'penalised' by making them '2nd Class' Masters swimmers at 'out-of-province' competitions.

8. The Canadian Forces Team will compete in the "open" category with Masters swimming clubs administered by the provinces.

MSABC - disagree / given our response to point #4, this point also becomes moot. We feel that the 'raison d'etre' of this club is unique in Masters swimming - having been an 'Air Force brat' in my youth, I have lived through many base transfers so I relate to their predicament (i.e. we moved 5 times when I was in Grade 5 and thus I attended 5 different schools in that 1 year) .. the members of our Armed Forces are constantly on the move and having to find the time & let alone a team in your new area with which to register with, can be a detriment to participation. If knowing that they have a Masters Club that they can be registered with - Canadian Forces Team - no matter where in the world they are being transferred to, would encourage them to participate in Masters meets, then we @ MSABC fully support them. Masters Swimming is all about inclusion - not exclusion. As for the creation of an 'Open' category, if we eliminate MSBC - if MSO eliminates TOMS - if registered teams cease 'poaching' out-of-province swimmers with the goal of creating a 'Super Team', we feel that the creation of an 'Open' category is also mute.

9. Master swim clubs administered by the province are not eligible to win club banners at the Canadian Masters Swimming Championships (CMSC).

MSABC - disagree / given our response to points 4, 5, 7 & 8.

10. For provincial championships and local events, provinces and local meet organizers

may set their own policy.

MSABC - agree

ACTION: Once we receive a response from MSC, Gilles will post our opinion on the website regarding a MSBC swim team.

- E. **ACTION:** All board members to actively recruit for Board positions and nominations for awards.
- F. Gilles adjourned the meeting at 4:30, Rod seconded.
Next meeting: Conference call third week in March. Len will set it up. To discuss MSABC fees for next year.

Nancy Ryan, Secretary

Gilles Beaudin, President