

MSST Board Meeting Agenda - July 18, 2018

Call to Order at 6:05

Members present: John Cook, Tim Bristor, Jennie Hafele, Mary Ann Sweeney, Erin Otness, Kaylene Ottoson, Olga Napolilli, Jim Gower, Kjari Hart, Meadow Bailey, Gary Crowe.

Parents present: Allison Carter, Amy Bristor, Dana McCarter

The purpose of this meeting tonight is to discuss the issue of the lapse of coach Gary's required credentials to be a current USA Swimming and Alaska Swimming sanctioned coach.

Synopsis: In early June the Board was made aware that Coach Gary was not current with two items, his CPR training and Safety training. This was brought to our attention by Angela Heaphy, Registration Coordinator for Alaska Swimming. The credentials had apparently been expired for many months. It became clear this was a serious issue after further discussion with Angela. A coach who is operating with expired credentials places the team at enormous risk, jeopardizing the team's liability policy. It is also a violation of the coach's contract.

We will begin by having coach Gary explain his side of the issue, followed by discussion by the Board. We will also take comments from the team members that are in attendance. We will possibly go to executive session at the conclusion of the public Board meeting.

Coach Gary stated that he simply forgot. He was too busy with other projects. He compared himself to a MSST parent who did not have his/her car registration up-to-date. He also stated that he took care of it "as soon as he was aware that he was not current with his credentials."

The Board questioned his time line. Coach Gary was told by USA swimming that he could not be present on deck during JO's in Anchorage on April 26th. At that time, MSST had to list coach Alyssa as the head coach in order for the team to be able to compete.

The Board was not aware of any of it until John Cook, the MSST Board of Directors

president, was notified that our team would not be able to participate in the meet we were about to host due to our head coach's noncompliance. It was the middle of June, coach Gary still did not have his credentials current. At that time, one of the assistant coaches was also coaching with expired credentials.

The Board asked Gary how long it usually took for him to hear from USA swimming once everything has been submitted, Gary said that it was no more than five work days. The Board asked Gary whose responsibility it was to make sure that all MSST coaches were current on their credentials; he answered that it was his. In addition, Gary stated that he was confused on what exactly needed to be done and had a hard time finding the right class.

According to Gary, he has to renew his credentials once in 2-3 years.

The Board strongly expressed their concern that the head coach put the team at enormous risk, jeopardizing the team's liability policy and the fact that he only acted when he was told by the president that he could not be on deck.

The Board asked for parents' comments. They had none.

At that time a motion was made to move to an executive session. It was approved unanimously.

The Executive session began at 6:35 and lasted till 7:35.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

Next Board meeting: August 1st, 5:30 p.m. Hamme