

MAINE SWIMMING
Board Meeting Minutes
Spring 2007: May 19, 2007

Introductions: Chris Branch welcomed everyone for attending.

Roll Call: Chris Branch, Jim Willis, Anne Marie Rand, Beth Drew, Steve Alcaide, Star Perkins, Laura Branch, Bonnie Alcaide, Jay Morissette, Linda McCann, Steve Elwell, Jim Gravel. Brenda Oldfield, Tom Manduca

Minutes:

Minutes from last meeting that notes were taken on were emailed and available for reading. Motion to accept minutes: Passed

Positions open for appointment: (F=For, O= Opposed, A=Abstentions)

| <u>Position</u> | <u>Nominations-Votes received</u> |
|------------------------|--|
| Senior Chair | Jim Willis 1 st Steve Alcaide 2 nd Laura Branch F- 12, O- 0, A- 1 (replacing Sharron Powers – vacancy) |
| Age Group Chair | Tom Manduca 1 st Jim Willis, 2 nd Jay Morissette F- 12, O-0, A- 1 (replacing Jim Willis – vacancy) |
| Secretary | Brenda Oldfield 1 st Jim Willis, 2 nd Tom Manduca F- 11, O-0, A-3 |
| At. Large | Erin Thomas 1 st Tom Manduca, 2 nd Jay Morissette F-12, O-0, A-0 John Williams 1 st Beth Drew, 2 nd Tom Manduca F-12, O-0, A-0 (Note both athletes will also be appointed to Athlete Reprehensive) |

Jay Morissette would like to see what the National Mandate is on athletes at large. Chris explained that this was part of the Amateur Sports Act.

Membership Report: Linda McCann

Motion to Fine MMD for 6 illegal entries a fine of 10.00 per entry.

Linda explained : Entry over site is by the team registration chair & coach. Linda does not want the swimmer to be penalized for this, but the team needs to be fined. No 1st or 2nd at this time.

Discussion began with Jim Willis: would like to keep the same policies we already have in place for this and that we should follow them.

Steve Alcaide: Do we want to start fines?

Chris Branch: Last year warnings went out to every team that fines would be enforced in the coming swim season.

Jay Morissette: Would to have the MSI Board avoid selectively picking of which rules we will enforce.

Linda McCann recommended the following: **A fine of \$10.00/ entry that was in violation of our bylaws for entries, for 6 entries that were illegal entered by MMD. Total fine would be \$60.00.**

Vote: For – 12, O-0, A-2 Motion passed

New motion to change fine to 25.00 / swim for illegal entry to keep everyone more conscious of entries for meets. 1st Jay Morissette 2nd Ann Marie Rand

Discussion: David Turnage feels this is too high, Linda McCann stated that she too feels that is too high. This fine is not to be a moneymaker just a reminder that you have to follow the rules for entries. Jim Willis feels the swimmers should be able to exhibition their swims in the meet. Ann Marie Rand: For Safety and Liability issues the meet director can allow deck registration, but not at Championships. Chris

Branch there is a 15.00 extra fee for deck registration at regular meets. Jim Willis would like to see a sound policy from now on about this issue. This motion was withdrawn.

MDI and DEFY both had swimmers that also violated the policy of not having athletes registered before the meet started. MDI had an athlete swim three events and DEFY only had one event.

Motion to fine MDI and DEFY 10.00 per event swam as illegal entries. Total fine for MDI 30.00 and DEFY 10.00. 1st Linda 2nd Steve Vote: F- 7, O-6, A-0 Motion passed.

Jim Willis motion that this fine needs to be reviewed by the Board of Review.

1st Steve Alcaide 2nd Jim Willis Voted: F- 12, O-1, A-0

Steve Alcaide Motion to table this Motion to reconsider the Board of Review until policies can be reviewed. 1st Steve Alcaide 2nd Jim Willis Vote: F- 6, O-4, A-3

FYI: At the Bronze Meet the Sailfish error in allowing a swimmer to swim in the meet, that was an outside USA-S swimmer. Swimmer was removed from the meet as soon as error was noticed.

Athlete Repetitive:

20 % on the Board, Do we need to take any action by the board? Chris Branch stated 3 is minim needed for our group.

Suggested that MSI needs to review the Bylaws we operate under. For today we will be operating under our present Bylaws and a committee needs to be set up to review the bylaws for MSI with using a suggest bylaws from USA-S.

Motion to recommend to HOD that a review of the current MSI bylaws be undertaken and compare them to the recommendations from USA-S and a committee be appointed to do this. 1st Tom Manduca, 2nd Jay Morissette Vote: F- 9, O-1, A-1

Comment: Jim Willis would like to see new bylaws by next board meeting.

Membership expirations: Two MSI Board members had their memberships expire while on the MSI board. According to article, 3.5 Board members have to keep their membership to USA-S current in order to be on the MSI Board.

Ann Marie Rand and Star Perkins sent a protest to the Board of Review over this matter. Chris Branch wants to reinstate them to their positions after memberships have been paid.

Questions:

How long is too long of a void in between expired membership and being a member on the MSI Board?

How much elapsed time of time should we allow for a board member?

Should we allow a different time for individuals vs. teams vs. Board members, HOD and coaches?

Can a MSI board member be allowed back on the board if expired by 1 January Deadline?

Steve Alcaide pointed out the liability issue and that is why people need to keep their membership up to date.

Chris Branch pointed out that MSI bylaws state the Board member, HOD have no vote and can not participate in HOD until membership is paid.

Steve Alcaide suggested MSI Board members have 60 days to be paid up, by 1 March.

Steve E. suggested that MSI pay for the Board members membership for their services.

Chris Branched suggested that this topic be given to the bylaws review committee.

Election Committee: Jay and Beth need a third person for this committee.

Suggestions: HOD needs to select 3rd member.

Question: What is the job of the election committee? Chris Branch said to oversee the voting process of elections.

At March 17th Board meeting the Treasure position was suggested to be replaced. There was to be an interim treasure until elections could take place. There has been a protest against this suggestion sent to Nationals.

Steve Alcaide suggested there be a closed discussion about this matter until the protest has been delivered to the MSI Board.

Motion to audit the financial books of MSI every year and to start within 30 days of the close of a year by a CPA.

1st Steve E, 2nd Jim Willis

Discussion:

Steve A: What type of audit do you want?

Ann Marie: You need to go to a CPA with experience in dealing with non-Profit groups and tell them what you want them to do for you, for example if it is for taxes or just a review of the books.

Jim Gravel: explained process of what the audit would involve.

Chris: Suggested use CPA- non-profit , ask for a detailed proposal and what the fees cover.

Estimated cost is around 3,000.00 for this kind of audit.

Jim G: Suggest the audit is in the best interest of MSI and that the CPA should have no affiliation with MSI.

Amendment to the motion by Steve Alcaide and seconded by Jim Willis: **Motion to recommend to HOD that an independent firm conduct an audit of the MSI finances. The treasure will get three different Certified Public Accountant Firms within 30 days of this meeting to recommend to the MSI board for the audit of MSI finances. These CPA's will have no affiliation with MSI. The MSI board will review these recommendations. Then proceed with and audit upon approval of the MSI Board.**

Vote: F-14, O-0, A-0 Motion passed.

Approved motion as amended 14-0-0

Motion for a one-time increase in stipend for sectional reimbursements from 250.00 to 300.00 for Hotel cost for the Meet Director and Referees that travel more than 50 miles. 1st Steve E, 2nd Jay Morissette

Motioned to table this subject until next board meeting and after review of bylaws. 1st Linda 2nd Steve Alcaide **Vote:** F- 7, O-4, A-2 Motion Passed

Motion to increase the reimbursements from 250.00 to 300.00 for spring and summer sectionals in 2007 season. 1st Jim Willis, 2nd Jay Morissette

Motioned to table this subject until next board meeting and after review of bylaws. 1st Steve Alcaide, 2nd Laura Branch **Vote:** F- 8, O-0, A-3 Motion Passed

Next Meeting: Augusta Date TBA

Adjournment: 1st Jay Morissette, 2nd Steve E. **Vote:** F- 14, O-0, A-0 Motion Passed