



MAINE SWIMMING, INC. | Board of Directors - EMERGENCY Meeting Minutes

Date: November 6, 2020 at 8PM

Location: Zoom

MISSION | Create opportunities and provide resources to promote excellence in Maine swimming.

VISION | Maine Swimming: You CAN get there from here!.

CORE VALUES | Sportsmanship. Excellence. Leadership. Fun.

<p>✓ Taylor Rogers <i>General Chair</i></p>	<p>Call to Order & Reading of Mission, Vision & Core Values a. MISSION: Create opportunities and provide resources to promote excellence in Maine swimming. b. VISION: Maine Swimming - You CAN get there from here! c. CORE VALUES: Sportsmanship. Excellence. Leadership. Fun.</p>
<p>✓ Brian Savage <i>Administrative Vice-Chair</i></p>	<p>Roll Call: Sheri Bragg (PPSC), Hodding Carter (PBAY), Kevin Desmond (SSC), Stephanie Desmond (SSC), Rob Hale (SSC), McKayla Kendall (CCSC), Lia Langeveld (CMA), Lori LaPonte (WCCU), Mike Mahoney (CMA), Paul Monyok (BYB), Leanne Pedro (SMAC- 8:35PM)), Mia Pollis (KVY), Jennie Pillsbury (SEAL), Marcy Scharf (SEAL), Morgan Schreiber (PBAY), Tate Warden (MMD), TJ Willis (MDIY), Aaron Winslow (WCY) Sadie Woodruff (PBAY)</p>
<p>✓ Mike Schmidt <i>Senior Vice-Chair</i></p>	<p><i>Taylor - overview of new Maine Community Sports Guidelines updated today 11/6 (presentation posted on the website)</i></p>
<p>○ Matt Baxter <i>Age Group Vice-Chair</i></p>	<p>December 7th - dryands December 14th - return to pool Jan 2021 - within county competition</p>
<p>✓ Holly Hatch <i>Finance Vice-Chair</i></p>	<p>Violation - Class E: 6 months prison, \$1,000</p>
<p>✓ Stacy Kennard <i>Treasurer</i></p>	<p>If do not follow guidelines, then insurance is void from USA Swimming</p>
<p>✓ Carrie Wood Peabody <i>Secretary</i></p>	<p>Goal: seek reclassification from moderate to low risk How? Letters to Governor and Commissioner Highlights for letters: Been in water since June without any outbreaks</p>
<p>✓ Henry Clauson <i>Officials Chair</i></p>	<p>Include that our neighbors in Vermont, with similar COVID rates, classify swimming as low risk Henry Clauson: State is aligning HS sports with Club sports. Same dates Dec 7 and Dec 14</p>
<p>✓ Puranjot Kaur <i>DE&I Chair</i></p>	<p>Once swimming resumes again, Taylor noted if the county is yellow, swimming is not allowed. Question posed: if a swimmer lives in yellow county but swims in a green county, is this allowed? We need clarification from the State.</p>
<p>✓ Kyle Bauer <i>Operational Risk Chair</i></p>	<p>Sponge: Why does MPA have more of a voice? Since June, no COVID. YMCAs won't survive this.</p>
	<p>Jay - MPA since 1930s - HS swim is a byproduct of club age group swimmers.</p>
<p>✓ Matt Montgomery <i>Safe Sport Chair</i></p>	<p>The main general question: how can we all help? How to get our voices heard. Best way is letters from Club Boards, Athletes, parents and medical professionals. Mike Mahoney noted that the best plan is volume and from all over the state. If Taylor could share her</p>



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<p>✓ Kristy Barry <i>Senior Athlete Representative</i></p>	<p>letter to everyone as a template that would be great. Athlete’s Committee should also send an email and address the mental and social aspects. Mary Ellen is sharing the aquatics coalition tool kit from USA-S and feel free to use any items from that. Sponge does not want to align with other sports. He wants to work on swimming getting classified as low risk. Sponge asks if it is better to work with local representatives or to send in letters directly to the Governor? Taylor is hopeful we can get a lot of letters in quickly. Henry noted it is the cross community coming together that seems to be the big issue. Is there a model that will address that? Sponge asks why that is the sticking point and it appears to be the schools.</p>
<p>✓ Ali Bragg <i>Junior Athlete Representative</i></p>	<p>Brim - Athlete reps have been chatting offline. We will organize and write letters behind one message.</p>
<p>✓ Brim Peabody <i>Athlete At-Large</i></p>	<p>Kevin - His facility is district owned so had to jump through many hoops and one of the biggest advocates was the district physicians. We are not like hockey. We are physically distanced and in disinfectant. The district physician really helped cement their argument. Taylor asked if the physician would be willing to work with us. Mental health of the swimmers is of the utmost importance and need advocates for that. We have the track record and a compelling argument.</p>
<p>✓ Emma Farnham <i>Athlete At-Large</i></p>	<p>Jim - Agrees with Sponge on the work alone. Hockey and basketball were going on as if nothing happening. State is trying to take control over things. They are treating it like everything is a high school sport. Jim said the state does not want to work with clubs, they want to work with the MPA</p>
<p>✓ Jim Willis (non-voting) <i>Ex-Officio</i></p>	<p>Sheri asked that Taylor provide contact info for those she wants contacted.</p>
<p>✓ Mary Ellen Tynan <i>Office Administrator</i></p>	<p>Marcel noted that Masters is allowed to continue. This is a schools thing and that is MPA. Taylor noted that the guidelines specifically state adult organizations.</p> <p>Henry noted that the dates are straight out of the MPA winter season starts.</p> <p>Sponge said we need to find out who is feeding the state information. Definitely from the MPA. Is it just high school swimming or high school sports in general. This is going to affect a lot of athletes in the state. We need to be their advocates. Sponge said he cannot rent to the three area high schools into his pools because he needs to schedule his own groups. It’s a six week program in comparison to a nine month program. How do we get voices heard. We are doing things safely. We all need to send letters showing how we can do things safely.</p> <p>Kevin asked if people have reached out to the MPA. Taylor said yes, she has reached out and Jim has reached out and no response so we have to move on without them. Henry said the DHHS Commissioner noted “closing the loophole” trying to create a single set of guidelines.</p> <p>TJ noted the athletes have been talking and would like to meet tomorrow and Sunday. Taylor said a letter by Sunday would be great. Taylor will make sure Kristy has all the info</p> <p>Jay left the meeting.</p>



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Most guests left the meeting. Continues as formal Board meeting.

Taylor recommends cancelling D1. Sponge motion Marcel second. Holly asks if we can reschedule. Jim noted our season is probably going to go a lot longer. We need to extend our season somehow. Motion passes unanimously.

Taylor is very proud of our athlete reps and the athletes need to know we are fighting for them. Sponge wants to know how we get our voices heard. How do we get a say and do it quickly so our kids don't suffer. Maine winters are brutal. The kids need their sport. Paul Monyok reaching out to a physician on his team. Taylor has another contact and she will connect with them. Clubs need to find these people to support us. Holly said we should contact the sports media. We need to act quickly and with many voices.

Mike said he has worked with lobbyists and he knows how it works. They have people working with the legislature all the time. We may be too small for lobbyists but we need to find someone who knows someone with leverage. That can help a lot.

Holly motion to adjourn second by Mike..

Next BOD Meeting is Monday November 9.

Respectfully submitted by Carrie Wood Peabody