

Minutes MESI Crisis Management

October 8, 2020 at 8PM via 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

Attendees: Kristy Barry, Kyle Bauer, Henry Clauson, Holly Hatch, Taylor Rogers, Brian Savage, Jim Willis

Absent: Maddie Buck, Marcel Da Ponte,

Guest: Mary Ellen Tynan

Taylor calls to order at 8:05PM. Mission, vision and core values read.

Review of USA Swimming Leaders Meeting:

1. Videography during meets
2. Insurance
3. Top times leader board for unsanctioned meets

Taylor met with Executive Director for Alliance and the lawyer. Reviewed sanctioning guidelines. They had some considerations. They want a letter outlining what we will be doing, what our policies will be and where else in the country things have been happening without incident. Clubs will need to sign off and Y league too. Maine is not very trusting of most states so they only want to know what is happening in Vermont and the standards they are being held to there. Taylor trying to pull information. Another concern is they believe the state will require every other lane to keep 14 ft distance to allow us to compete. They are also worried about timers. Focus on keeping them safe. Other sports like cross country and soccer are happening and we can be even safer. MPA is not responding. Sponge makes a motion to move on without MPA second by Kyle. Sponge says we have never worked with MPA but Jim says now is the time to start as all of the pools will be under the same guidelines. Want to be consistent for everyone statewide. Taylor said she will keep moving forward and just keep MPA informed of where we are in the process. Many other states and LSCs have run safe meets. MPA falls under education and may not have to follow community sports guideline, but need to be consistent for the athletes. Henry states he doesn't feel the state will ever directly say what swimming can and cannot do specifically. We just need to present our guidelines and hopefully get a response that we qualify for individual swimming as opposed to team. We want everyone to be on the same page. We have had reports of social media posts that do not show appropriate social distancing. We are working to inform the right people and try to keep everyone safe. Henry feels we should be able to host dual meets with soccer having games across distance cohorts.

Jim is with Sponge that we move on without involvement of the MPA. We want to work with them. Motion passes.

Henry asked if the guidelines need to be update and yes and make sure all the benchmarks are being addressed. Remove dual meets and make it more conservative. Mary Ellen suggested to Taylor to reach out to Mary Gentry from UVAC. Taylor concerned facilities are not really sticking to their guidelines. Henry and Mary Ellen report that is not our job to police it. That is up to the facilities.

Discussion about dual meets. Sponge stated no other teams will be allowed in their facility until January at the earliest. What is the responsible decision for us at this point? Jim says he is not swimming away or have teams come to him until January. Kyle confirmed the same. Sponge said they are expecting 5000 new cases in 45 days. Taylor suggested we continue with no dual meets at this time. We can evaluate in two weeks and see how it is going. Henry agrees to remove dual meets right now and be more conservation. Easier to make it lax.

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May come up at Board meeting about moving indoor. Seated indoor activities have moved to 100 but not for activity. We need to remind clubs of that. Kyle will send out email he sent to his task force.

Social media posts: Mary Ellen still seeing inappropriate posts. The athletes have talked about doing a social media push for social distancing, masks. Kristy said they want to get the team athlete reps involved. They will be meeting on this. Need to get updated athlete reps. Taylor suggested to Kristy to really push the athletes to bring incidents of inappropriate posts to Mary Ellen and have someone take care of it. We need to make it known we will not put up with it. Seems to work best on a case by case basis. Person with best relationship best to handle.

Henry motion to adjourn. Second by Sponge. Motion passes

Respectfully submitted, Mary Ellen Tynan