

**Minutes MESI Crisis Management**  
November 2, 2020 at 2PM 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: Kyle Bauer, Henry Clauson, Marcel Da Ponte, Holly Hatch, Taylor Rogers, Brian Savage (joined at 2:42PM), Jim Willis

Absent: Kristy Barry, Maddie Buck

Guest: Mary Ellen Tynan

Taylor calls to order at 2:05 PM.

Sanctioning Guidelines – new rollback of guidelines does not really effect swimming. Can't go up to 100 people. Still discourage locker room use. Henry believes there will be additional restrictions this week after the election. Henry anticipates if the numbers stay the same we will see additional restrictions.

MESI Winter Classic – Marcel concerned about whether or not this will be achievable. At this point we will be lucky if we can have it. Henry is hopeful we can continue with virtual. Suggested we put off discussing this meet for two weeks to see what happens. Taylor suggested we continue planning including for a Winter Championship Meet. Henry points out that the state has delayed a decision on high school sports and probably starting competition in January. That impacts pools and other sports. Also, the state has announced that it will be aligning high school sports with community sports. Also trying to stop mixing of kids from different schools.

Marcel noted that the MPA has noted that if they cannot compete, then club organizations should not be allowed to and MPA is working with the state. Taylor has a letter ready to go to the state but Taylor has been told to maybe work with MPA so she emailed them again. Her letter just wants clarification in writing that we are an individual sport. Jim having a meeting with his athlete director from his high school and he is head of the high school athletic director association. If we have any questions Jim willing to ask. Marcel asked if high schools can run swimming as a intramural? Jim said they really want to push the high school program there.

Discussion on relays which are considered team swimming. We have already voted we are not allowing relays right now. Taylor asked Jim to see if he can elicit a response form Mike Bisson from MPA who has not responded to Taylor. Jim expects to get clarification on Wednesday. Jim said we have to get our guidelines to the state so they might be more likely to use it. Henry noted other states are having swimming and they have many more COVID cases then us. Taylor has been told to mention Vermont because they are doing well with COVID. State does not want to hear about places doing worse. Marcel reports if they are operating swimming in Texas with the highest COVID rate and they are not getting transmission at the pools, we should be able to handle that.

Mary Ellen brought up the fact they loosened the locker room guidelines in the Community Sports Guidelines but not the CDC guidelines. What does this committee feel we should do? Taylor would prefer we keep locker rooms closed for sanctioned MESI events. MMD does not allow locker room use. CMA not allowing locker room use. Jim agrees that for swim meets much safer to keep them closed.

Taylor left meeting at 2:35 due to power outage.

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Marcel asked more about locker rooms but Henry notes the state guidelines are becoming more and more vague. If you have a COVID outbreak they will come in and give it a much greater level of attention. Federal CDC does not want locker rooms open. Maine backtracking a little.

Holly left with power outage at 2:38.

D1 meet – Mary Ellen has 8 or 9 teams participation with 3 unsanctioned. Mary Ellen asked if the YMCAs have attestation forms. The YMCAs do a form every day people enter the facility. Marcel asked to clarify forms. COVID form just once, affirmation form every meet. Jim working on a return to competition plan. We are good on just about all officials for all the meets. Everything should be moving ahead. Mary Ellen asked about steps for December meet. Mary Ellen will do the meet information.

Officials Committee has been working hard and people are getting interested. With COVID, local clubs have to recruit. Now it is easy to get certified as far as virtual clinics. We will do shadowing at D1 meet and it is coming together. There will be a request to shadow form to get shadows approved before they occur.

Next meeting in 2 weeks at 2PM.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Ellen Tynan