

## **Pictou County Mariners CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**

### **Definitions**

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:

- a) “*Conflict of Interest*” – A situation where an individual, or the organization representing an individual, has a real, potential or perceived direct or indirect interest competing with PCM’s interests, resulting in a real or seeming incompatibility between one’s private interests and one’s fiduciary duties to PCM.
- b) “*Member*”- All categories of membership defined in the PCM Bylaws, as well as all individuals engaged in activities with PCM, including but not limited to, directors, officers, committee members, coaches, officials, volunteers, and administrators.
- c) “*Non-Pecuniary Interest*” – An interest that an individual may have in a matter which may involve family relationships, friendships, volunteer positions or other interests that do not involve the potential for financial gain or loss.
- d) “*Pecuniary Interest*” - An interest that an individual, or an organization represented by an individual may have in a matter because of the reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain or loss for that individual or organization, or another person with whom that individual is associated.
- e) “*Perceived Conflict of Interest*” – A perception by an informed person that a conflict of interest exists or may exist.
- f) “*Person*” – Any PCM Member, family member, friend, customer, client, sponsor, colleague, legal person or organization.
- g) “*PCM*” – Pictou County Mariners.

### **Purpose and Application**

2. The purpose of this Policy is to describe how Members will conduct themselves in matters relating to

real or perceived conflicts of interests, and to clarify how PCM will make decisions in situations where conflicts of interest exist or may exist.

3. This Policy applies to all Members.

### **Obligations**

4. Members will fulfill the requirements of this policy. Members **will not**:

- a) Engage in any business or transaction, or have a financial or other personal interest that is incompatible with their official duties with PCM;
- b) Knowingly place themselves in a position where they are under obligation to any Person who might benefit from special consideration, or who might seek, in any way, preferential treatment;
- c) In the performance of their official duties, accord preferential treatment to any Person in which Members have an interest, financial or otherwise;
- d) Derive personal benefit from information that they have acquired during the course of fulfilling their official duties with PCM, where such information is confidential or is not generally available to the public;
- e) Engage in any outside work, activity or business or professional undertaking that conflicts or appears to conflict with their official duties as a representative of PCM, or in which they have an advantage or appear to have an advantage on the basis of their association with PCM;
- f) Use PCM property, equipment, supplies or services for activities not associated with the performance of official duties with PCM without the permission of PCM;

- g) Place themselves in positions where they could, by virtue of being a Member, influence decisions or contracts from which they could derive any direct or indirect benefit or interest; or
- h) Accept any gift or favor that could be construed as being given in anticipation of, or in recognition for, any special consideration granted by virtue of being a Member.

#### **Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

5. On an annual basis, all Members will complete a written statement disclosing any real or perceived conflicts that they might have to the Executive Director immediately following the Annual General Meeting.
6. At any time that a Member becomes aware that there may exist a real or perceived conflict of interest, they will disclose this conflict to the Board of Directors immediately.

#### **Reporting a Conflict of Interest**

7. Any Member who is of the view that another Member may be in a position of conflict of interest may report this matter to the Board of Directors. Such a complaint must be signed and in writing. Anonymous complaints may be accepted upon the sole discretion of the Board of Directors.

#### **Resolving Complaints of a Real or Perceived Conflict of Interest**

8. Upon receipt of a complaint, the Board of Directors will determine whether or not a conflict of interest exists provided the Member alleged to have or be in conflict has been given notice of and the opportunity to submit evidence and to be heard at such meeting.
9. After hearing the matter, the Board of Directors will determine whether a real or perceived conflict of interest exists and if so what appropriate actions shall be imposed.
10. Where the Member alleged to be in a real or perceived conflict of interest acknowledges the facts, he or she may waive the meeting, in which case the Board of Directors will determine the appropriate actions.
11. If the Member accused of being in a real or perceived conflict of interest chooses not to participate in the meeting, the meeting will proceed in any event.
12. The Board of Directors may apply the following actions singly or in combination for real or perceived conflicts of interest:
- a) Removal or temporary suspension of certain responsibilities or decision making authority of the Member;
  - b) Removal or temporary suspension of the Member from a designated position;
  - c) Removal or temporary suspension from certain PCM teams, events and/or activities;
  - d) Expulsion of the Member from PCM;
  - e) Other actions as may be considered appropriate for the real or perceived conflict of interest.
13. Failure to comply with an action as determined by the Board of Directors will result in the Member automatically suspended from membership in PCM until such time as compliance occurs.

14. The Board of Directors may determine that an alleged real or perceived conflict of interest is of such seriousness as to warrant suspension of designated activities pending a meeting and a decision of the Board of Directors.

### **Resolving Conflicts in Decision-making**

15. Decisions or transactions that involve a real or perceived conflict of interest that have been disclosed by a Member may be considered and decided upon by PCM Board of Directors provided that:

- a) The nature and extent of the Member's interest has been fully disclosed to the body that is considering or making the decision, and this disclosure is recorded in the minutes;
- b) The Member does not participate in discussion on the matter giving rise to the conflict of interest;
- c) The Member abstains from voting on the proposed decision or transaction;
- d) The Member is not included in the determination of quorum for the proposed decision or transaction; and
- e) The decision or transaction is in the best interests of PCM.

### **Decision-Makers**

16. Members wishing to obtain a position as a decision-maker (Director, Officer, and Committee Member) within PCM must declare their professional interests and any potential conflict of interests prior to being declared eligible by the Board of Directors for a position as a decision-maker within PCM to the Executive Director.

17. In the event that a Member neglects to disclose a professional interest or any potential conflicts of interest, the Board may consider such failure and may determine, in its sole discretion, any sanction pursuant to this Policy.

### **Decision Final and Binding**

18. Any decision of the Board of Directors in accordance with this Policy may be appealed in accordance with the PCM's Appeal Policy. Declaration regarding Conflict of Interest I have read the Swim Nova Scotia Conflict of Interest Policy, I agree to be bound by the obligations contained therein, and I commit to avoid any real or perceived conflict of interest. I also commit to disclosing the existence of any real or perceived conflict of interest to the Board of Directors, as soon as it is known to me.