

MESI BOD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 8, 2019
via Zoom

Roll Call: Kristy Barry, Maddie Buck, Marcel Da Ponte, Trevor Edmunds, Keli Gillespie, Holly Hatch, Lia Langeveld, Jay Morissette, Betsy Perron, Taylor Rogers, Mike Schmidt, Nicole Viele, Jim Willis, TJ Willis, Carrie Wood Peabody

Absent: Trevor Edmonds, Matt Montgomery, Zack Mullin, Brim Peabody, John Smith

Guests: Mary Ellen Tynan, Marie Weferling,

Mission and Vision read by Taylor Rogers.

Consent Agenda

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Jay Morissette. Approve consent agenda.
Motion passes unanimously.

Office Report:

1178 total athletes registered 2018-2019. Memberships are down by 50 swimmers from last year; reflects national trend.

MOTION by Jay Morissette, second by Taylor Rogers. Approve fines to CCSC and GPS for late payments.
Motion passes unanimously.

Four athletes attended Long Course Zones and had a successful meet.

Pebbley Clinic on September 13 had 49 signed up as of 9/8/19.

Swimposium – Our turn to host. May 16-17 possible date. Mary Ellen will reach out to USAS to find out who might be available to present and which athletes may be available to run a clinic. We should begin thinking about topics we would like to cover.

Other Business:

POLICIES TO REVISIT

Policy and Procedure manual coming soon. Need to review some policies.

Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by Marcel Da Ponte to institute a \$200 reimbursement policy for 12 & Unders who qualify and compete in individual events at the March Age Group Zone Meet. Motion passes with one opposed.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Marcel Da Ponte. Reduce athlete reimbursement for Tier 1 meets from \$600 to \$400; and Open Water Junior Nationals will be moved from Tier Two to Tier One.

Discussion:

Jim Willis - Need to curtail spending on Sectionals and allocate funds to additional developmental activities (i.e. camps).

Marcel Da Ponte – concerned that this will discourage swimmers to attend these meets.

Motion passes with 2 opposed.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Jay Morissette. In order for an athlete to receive reimbursement from the travel fund, a representative from their team must be present at the HOD meeting, effective April 15, 2020.

Discussion: The Spring 2020 HOD will be the criteria for reimbursement for April 15, 2020-April 14, 2021.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Nicole Viele. Remove Policy 19.2 requiring teams to have a properly registered official by February 15th to compete as a team at winter champs..

Discussion:

We should find a way to reward teams for sending officials to the championship meets, not penalize swimmers whose teams do not send officials.

This policy does not promote the quality of officiating and discourages teams from participating.

Motion passes with 3 opposed.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Nicole Viele. Form a task force to explore awarding LSC grants and present findings at next BOD meeting.

Discussion:

Jim suggested rewarding officials. If officials pre-register for champs they could be accounted for in team job assignments. Jim also suggested considering a financial incentive (\$50/official). But are officials an issue at champs or throughout the season? Too big an issue for address here.

If we were to award LSC grants, one of the considerations could be the number of officials. (Other considerations could include IMX standings, attendance at regular season meets, etc.)

Task force members would be Holly Hatch, Nicole Viele, Jay Morissette, TJ Willis, Mary Ellen Tynan.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Marcel Da Ponte. Make Flex Memberships permanently available.

Discussion:

MESI had offered Flex memberships for one year. They were a popular option, especially for High School prep swimmers. (approximately 54 Flex Memberships were registered 2018-19)

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Holly Hatch. Eliminate MESI mailing of membership cards.
Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Jay Morissette. Adopt the following reimbursement scale for club recognition moving forward.

Level 1 - \$400

Level 2 - \$300

Level 3 - \$200

Level 4 - \$100

Discussion:

This is retroactive, make sure you apply!

Some incentive should also be given for Safe Sport recognition.

Motion passes unanimously.

LEAP III POLICIES

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second Holly Hatch. Adopt the Lifetime Membership Award Policy, as written. (See attachments)

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second Holly Hatch. Adopt the Officials Award and Conoco Phillips Award Policies, as written. (See attachments)

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Lia Langeveld. amend Policy 25.1.

Currently reads:

25.1 Maine Head Coaches who successfully complete ASCA Education Level 2 – 5 will receive a \$100 for each level. Coaches will only be eligible for one stipend of \$100/year and are able to collect the stipend in the next year(s). Present coaches or coaches from out of the LSC will receive \$50 for each level (Level 2 –5) they have already completed and are eligible to participate in any higher education. Only one coach per team will be eligible to receive the stipend,

Amend to:

25.1 All currently registered Maine Coaches in good standing who successfully complete ASCA Education Level 2 – 5 will receive a \$100 for each level. Coaches will only be eligible for one stipend of \$100/year and are able to collect the stipend in the next year(s).

Motion passes unanimously.

Staff Evaluation Form: The governance committee takes care of this responsibility.

MESI III Recap:

Coach Committee and TPC should discuss options for 2020 meet. It has previously been scheduled for July 23-25. Conflicts (Busker week @ St. John, SYOA) would prevent us from scheduling it earlier.

Tom Talk 2019 and Coach Meeting:

Coaches need to schedule a meeting to discuss cut times. Coaches propose the times for the TPC to consider/approve for 2020.

Marcel Da Ponte questioned why we don't choose cut times using a similar system to NE Senior meet – based on psych sheet, choose a cut off time according to 32nd place (or other predetermined place).

Jim Willis system we adopted for the last Quad was to bring times more in line with national standards in an attempt to raise the level of competition. Proposed we consider picking cut times based on place as long as the cut times don't get slower; try to keep the number of entrants in each event the same from year to year.

Coach meeting scheduled for 9/29 via Zoom, 7 pm.

Tom Talk to be scheduled for Swimposium.

Fall meeting with Colby College: Jim to contact Tom Burton, Colby AD and Events Manager.

Hy-tek sessions:

Beginner level needed. Tom Branch did one in Bangor last year; Mary Ellen will reach out to see if he could do one this year in early November. Would be open to any teams in Maine and high school teams.

AO Clinic:

AO Clinic 9/21 in Portland area. Would like to schedule on up north as well.

9/13 Jacob Pebley Clinic:

Still room as of 9/8 will keep registration open for an additional day. Athlete Reps will post on social media.

Swimposium/Banquet 2020:

Can we do the Swimposium at Bowdoin? Bath, Bates, KVV are also options. Taylor Rogers will reach out to all sites to determine availability.

OT Qualifier Recognition:

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by TJ Willis. Recognize all OT Qualifiers on the website. Motion passes unanimously.

Coach Awards:

MOTION by Jay Morissette, second Holly Hatch. Establish 4 Coach Awards: Coach of the Year, Assistant Coach of the Year, Coach of the Meet (Winter Champs), Coach of the Meet (MESI III)

Discussion: Coach Committee will establish criteria. COY awards should consider the entire year, not just the short course season.

Motion passes unanimously.

USAS Club Registration Fees:

Proposal for USAS HOD to increase club dues from \$70 to \$250 plus LSC fee. This may affect smaller teams, though USAS has a hardship policy. Each LSC must present any hardship issues to USAS for consideration.

Office Evaluation:

Will be responsibility of Governance Committee.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Marcel Da Ponte. Approve Mary Ellen Tynan's pay rate as reflected in the budget, voted upon at HOD. (an increase to \$25/hour from \$22/hour).

Motion passes unanimously.

Mentoring policy:

There is a contradiction between the Mentoring Policy presented to USAS and the modified version on the website. Can we modify USAS policy and send it back to them for approval? Mary Ellen will confer with the person in charge of this program when she goes to Convention.

Winter Champs site:

Holly is waiting to hear from UMaine. Not a definitive yes or no right now. Field house at UMaine will be unavailable, though we could use Hall of Fame area. Bowdoin is a definite NO for 2020.

Concussion Policy:

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Marcel Da Ponte. Accept both NHFS and CDC concussion training as acceptable for certification.

Discussion: This matches current USAS policy.

Motion passes unanimously.

Committees:

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Holly Hatch. Accept the following Officials Committee: Nicole Viele, Tom Gagnon, Henry Clauson, Brimwin Peabody.

Passes unanimously.

MOTION by Marcel Da Ponte, second by Taylor Rogers. Accept the following Senior Committee:

Mike Schmidt, Jack Pillsbury, Matt Baxter, Emily Ecker, John Smith, Marcel Da Ponte, Paul Monyok.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION by Taylor Rogers, second by Mike Schmidt. Accept the TPC as follows: Marcel Da Ponte, John Smith, Matt Baxter, Brian Savage, Kristy Barry, Marie Weferling, Mike Schmidt, Caroline Mahoney.

Motion passes unanimously.

Chairs are still establishing the AGE GROUP and SAFE SPORT committees at this time.

Mary Ellen Tynan will post committees to the web site.

Taylor Rogers: we need to evaluate gaps and the diversity of the BOD and committees.

Jim Willis: new members should watch the leadership training video on the USAS site. Thank you for attending the Jane Grosser workshop.

Next meeting:

11/3/19 at 7 pm via ZOOM.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Betsy Perron, MESI Secretary. October 3, 2019.

ATTACHMENTS:

Life Membership Award:

A Life Member is an individual who is a life member of USA SWIMMING and who resides, formerly resided or participated in the sport of swimming in the geographic territory of Maine Swimming and who is in good standing as a member of Maine Swimming Inc. and USA SWIMMING. Life membership awards are presented annually at the USA Swimming Convention to recognize individuals who have demonstrated outstanding service to the sport.

The Maine Swimming Board of Directors will consider candidates each year for this award using the following qualifications and procedures: Eligibility Rules, Regulations and Selection Process

- a. The prestigious award may be given based upon consideration of the following criteria: length and quality of service on MESI or USA Swimming BOD, committees, as an official, or as meet support for MESI and/or national events and championships.
- b. Award nomination will be solicited each spring to identify potential candidates.
- c. Maximum of one such award may be presented annually. In any given year the award does not have to be presented.
- d. To be eligible the recipient must be a long-time member of Maine Swimming, serving the swimming community at the LSC and/or national levels a minimum of 10 years.
- e. During recipient's tenure s/he must have held or currently hold a position in at least one of the following areas of leadership within Maine and/or USA Swimming: Board of Director member or Committee Chair/Coordinator.
- f. The BOD has the discretion to waive any of the requirements for exceptional candidates.
- g. The Board of Directors will decide on award recipient by virtue of 2/3 vote and shall vote on Life memberships prior to USAS convention deadline.

Conoco- Phillips Award: The award is presented to a volunteer in recognition of service to swimming. Criteria for selection should include the quality, level, and years of service to swimming in an elected or appointed position. Selected from nominations. A maximum of one award a year will be presented. This award will be determined by a vote of the BOD.

Official's Award: The award is given to the official who has demonstrated the ability to interpret the rules and regulations in accordance with the essence for which these rules are devised. They function solely for the sport and its participants. This is determined by nominations from USA Swimming clubs. A maximum of one award a year will be presented. This award will be determined by a vote of the BOD.

TO DO:

Keli Gillespie, Matt Montgomery: Establish Age Group and Safe Sport committees for approval at 11/3 BOD

Mary Ellen Tynan:

update policies and post committees on web site;
confer with USAS mentoring program about the policy;
reach out to Tom Branch re: hy-tek clinic

New BOD members: watch USAS leadership video.

Holly Hatch: confirm site of 2020 Winter Champs.

Coach Committee:

establish criteria for awards
cut times 2020
Tom Talk

Coach Committee/TPC:

Cut times, MESI III date

Taylor Rogers/Jim Willis: explore dates and location for Swimposium

Nicole Viele: schedule northern AO clinic

LSC Grant Task Force (Holly Hatch, Nicole Viele, Jay Morissette, TJ Willis, Mary Ellen Tynan):
explore possibilities/ application/criteria for LSC grants and report back to BOD.

All Coaches: If you earned team recognition but did not collect your reimbursement, please do so!