

Minutes - MESI Board of Directors

April 27, 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

Present: Kristy Barry, Maddie Buck, Marcel DaPonte, Trevor Edmonds, Keli Gillespie, Holly Hatch, Stacy Kennard, Jay Morissette, Zack Mullin, Brim Peabody, Betsy Perron, Taylor Rogers, Mike Schmidt, Jim Willis, TJ Willis, Carrie Wood-Peabody,

Late arrival: Matt Montgomery (2:17PM), John Smith (2:08PM).

Guests: Ali Bragg, Emma Farnham, Mary Ellen Tynan.

Missing: Nicole Viele

Mission, vision, and values read.

Secretary Report

Motion by Jay Morissette and second by Taylor Rodgers to accept the minutes from April 20th with one correction..

Motion passed unanimously.

Review of the USA Swimming meeting:

There will be Zoom training available for Saf Sport on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 3PM. Futures, Sectionals, Nationals and Juniors have been cancelled; hoping to introduce regional meets in mid-August. Safety guidelines for re-entry coming soon. Cuts for December Juniors and US Open will be posted sometime in July; Trial cuts are still pending. Beginning May 5th, Swim Biz will offer two webinars per week. MESI will host a Town Hall on May 12th at 6 p.m. with USA swimming.. You need to register for this on the Maine Swimming website. TJ requested that we also live-stream the meeting. During reentry, teams should respect other teams and not solicit or permit transfers, especially if training together.

14 and Under All-Star Event Review:

The Elizabeth Beisel webinar went very well. She was vibrant and energetic and was an excellent presenter. The internet connection was a little glitchy for part of it. The chat was distracting, especially one chatter. The coach of this athlete has been informed. Mary Ellen Tynan will share a link so people can view the recording.

Senior Recognition Update:

The deadline to submit pictures and information for the senior recognition post is May 1st. Recognition postings will begin the week of May 3rd. Almost all teams have responded and if a swimmer does not submit a photograph or information, just their name will be included in the recognition. The committee will make one final check with the coaches before posting to make sure that no one is missing from the recognition.

College Coach Forum:

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Seven college coaches from Maine will be taking part in the forum. At least 91 athletes have registered for the meeting, which will be on Tuesday April 28th at 4 p.m.

Finance Committee:

Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by Marcel Da Ponte to approve \$12,500 to be set aside for LSC Club assistance to be used for immediate support or for re-entry from Stay At Home restrictions before September 1st.

Motion passed unanimously.

The Finance Committee will create a procedure for how this money will be allocated.

DEI Outreach Travel Reimbursement Proposal

OUTREACH ATHLETE PROPOSAL

CHAMPIONSHIP TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION SUPPORT

effective September 1, 2020

The MESI outreach athlete travel fund is established to subsidize, in whole or in part, travel expenses incurred by MESI outreach athlete members while competing at MESI hosted events. Based on the approved budget for this support, 50% will be retained for support for the MESI winter championship meet/s). The initial 50% will be distributed on a first come first serve basis. If there are extra funds, other meets may be considered for reimbursement by the Board of Directors. Disbursement of funds by the MESI Treasurer will be made under the direction of the Board.

Eligibility - In order to be eligible to apply for these funds:

- 1. A swimmer must be an MESI registered outreach athlete in good standing.*
- 2. Swimmers competing in only relay and/or time trial events are not eligible.*
- 3. In order for an athlete to receive reimbursement from the travel fund, a representative from their club team must be present at the annual HOD meeting. The reimbursement eligibility period will be the calendar year following the annual HOD.*

Outreach Travel Subsidy:

Applications - Application for reimbursement must be made on the form designated for this purpose within 30 days of the event. Outreach Athletes may receive up to the IRS per diem allotment for the location in which the meet is held.

Additional criteria: Athletes must compete in at least three individual events a day in all meets except the Bowdoin Open and the Winter Championship meet/s.

Outreach Accommodation Reimbursement:

Application for reimbursement must be made on the form designated for this purpose for approval no later than three days before the first day of the event. Approval must be received prior to the meet to guarantee reimbursement. Hotel accommodations for meets shall be reserved by the Outreach Athlete's family or team and a reimbursement check will be provided by MESI upon arrival at the meet. Hotel reimbursement rate is based on IRS allotment for hotels in the area of the event. The following is available for the Bowdoin Open and all Maine Swimming sponsored events two days in length or longer.

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Additional criteria:

- 1. Athletes must compete in at least three individual events a day in all meets except the Bowdoin Open and the Winter Championship meet/s. In the Bowdoin Open and the winter championship meet/s, swimmers must compete in all events in which they have qualified up to the maximum event limits per the meet information.***
- 2. Outreach Athlete must live at least 75 miles away from the event location.***
- 3. If a room is reserved and the swimmer does not attend the meet and the cancellation procedure is not followed, the athlete's family will be responsible for the entire cost of the hotel.***

The Finance Committee proposes setting aside \$2,500 for Outreach participation in **championship meets with another \$2,500 allocated to support attendance at other meets. At the end of the season, any extra funds earmarked for regular season meets will be rolled into the championship meet allocation.**

Motion by Zack Mullin, second by Stacy Kennard to accept the Outreach proposal.

Discussion: Holly Hatch asked for a confirmation on the IRS per diem. IRS per diem and accommodation rates are published online. Reimbursement would be based on the per diem rate not the mileage rate. Meals and incidentals would be reimbursed for 3/4 of a day for a one-day meet and for a full day for each overnight stay at a longer meet. So for a meet running Friday night - Sunday, reimbursement would be ¾ of a day for Friday and Sunday and full day for Saturday. An example of per diem and accommodation rates from the IRS sites will be included in the policy and procedure.

Motion passed unanimously.

Honorarium for Elizabeth Beisel

We had set aside \$500 for an honorarium for Elizabeth Beisel which she gracefully declined.

Motion by Taylor Rodgers, second by Mike Schmidt to make a \$250 donation to the United States Swimming Foundation in Elizabeth Beisel's honor and purchase 10 signed copies of Elizabeth's book to use for raffles or incentives at MESI events.

Motion passed unanimously.

Crisis Management Committee Update:

Creating re-entry guidance for 30, 60, and 90 days so there will not be a lag time once re-entry starts. USA Swimming will be coming up with some best practices for re-entry soon

Coach of the Year Update:

The committee will meet on Wednesday April 29th to select the Coach of the Year and Assistant Coach of the Year.

Athlete Committee Update:

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The application for membership to the athlete committee is ready to send out. Applications will be due on May 4th and the selection will be announced by May 8th. Terms for new athlete committee members will begin on that date.

Governance Committee Update:

The bylaws and policies and procedures have been reviewed and the committee will begin sharing proposed updates with the Board of Directors for discussion and approval.

Proposed policy changes regarding the bid procedure (see posted document on website):

Motion by Marcel Da Ponte, second by Taylor Rogers to divide section 600 into two items, 600 and 601.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by Marcel Da Ponte to approve changes to section 601 as written.

Motion passed unanimously

Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by John Smith to pass section 602 as written. Discussion: Proposed changes (which includes removing the “number of splashes” consideration) to section 602 give the Technical Planning Committee broader freedom in determining meet hosts.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by Holly Hatch to pass section 603.

Amendment by Taylor Rogers, second by Holly Hatch to separate section 603 into two policies creating number 603 and 604.

Motion with amendment passed unanimously.

Motion by Marcel Da Ponte, second by Taylor Rogers to pass proposed section 603.

Amendment by Taylor Rogers, second by Marcel Da Ponte to amend proposal 603 to remove “tentative event list”.

Motion with amendment passed unanimously.

Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by Mike Schmidt to approve policy 604.

Motion passed unanimously.

Keli Gillespie left the meeting.

This was the last meeting for Maddie Buck and TJ Willis. Jim Willis thanked them for their service as Athlete Representatives.

Coaches' meeting will be Thursday evening at 7 p.m. Tom Avischious and Scott Colby from USA swimming will be in attendance.

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Motion by Taylor Rogers, second by Holly Hatch to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by Betsy Perron, MESI Secretary on 5/1/2020