

METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, August 20, 2020

ZOOM Meeting

PRESENT: Eric Fisher, Mary Fleckenstein, Monique Grayson, Dom Boccio, Allen Wone, John Yearwood, Kate Hallex, Dylan Cellamare, John McIlhargy, John Alaimo, David Ellinghaus, Thomas Cho, Brian Hansbury, and Jim Wargo.

ABSENT: Robert Frawley, BJ Reynoso, Stanley Wong

GUEST: Brendan Hansen

1. **WELCOME/ROLL CALL:** Eric Fisher welcomed everyone present at this virtual meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. Eric thanked all those in attendance.

2. **ACCEPTANCE/CORRECTIONS OF MINUTES:**

A motion to accept the minutes of the July 29, 2020 BOD meeting was made, seconded, and approved by all. **Motion carries.**

3. **GENERAL CHAIR:** Eric Fisher

a. **Congratulations** – Eric congratulated John Alaimo on the birth of his baby son Cole Thomas Alaimo, born August 13, 2020 –congratulations from all in attendance.

b. **Guest** – Eric introduced our guest, Brendan Hansen, Eastern Zone Sport Development Consultant for USA Swimming.

c. **Sanctions** – Discussion following chain of emails between Eric Fisher, Mary Fleckenstein, David Ellinghaus, Dave Ferris, and Ginny Nussbaum regarding sanctions. LIAC is requesting a regular meet sanction for an invitational at the end of August, for 2 teams only, over 4 days. The Board had previously suspended approving all “meet sanctions” through the end of August, while allowing time trials starting August 1, 2020.

At the BOD of April 29, 2020, the Board voted on cancelling the LCM meet schedule: ***A motion was made to cancel all the scheduled long course meets with the caveat to keep a door open for teams to run some time trials, virtual meets or mini meets once the LSC can give sanctions again. The motion was seconded and approved by all.***

At the BOD of July 1, 2020, the Board gave more information on sanctions: ***Additional meet sanction information was emailed to all. This will need to be filled out along with a regular sanction form until further notice. No sanctions will be given unless all the necessary documentation is included for each sanction. It must be complete, legible, and sent in a minimum of one week prior to the event so documents can be fully evaluated. This includes time trials. If a request is submitted within a week will be denied. NO last-minute sanctions will be given. Reminder that any meets held during July - and possibly further - times can only be used for LSC level standards and below.***

Brendan Hansen gave information on number of meets that had been sanctioned in the USA for the month of August.

Question came up about whether this meet would count towards the 6 meets requirements for Metro stipend or not. Question on whether to open sanctions in August, and if yes, would it be for Time Trials and/or Meets? Long discussion followed.

A motion was made to open up the normal Metropolitan Swimming sanctioning process for time trials retroactively to August 1, 2020, and moving forward for all other kinds of sanctions, providing all facility, local, state, federal and USA Swimming health and safety guidelines are followed. The motion was seconded. The question was open for more discussion. (regular sanction forms, plus the additional return to competition sanction form and proper paperwork must be submitted no later than one week prior). The question was called. Vote took place – results were 8 yes, 1 no and 2 abstentions. **Motion carries.**

- d. **Legal Matter** – We received a letter from an attorney representing a club in Metro. The letter was forwarded to Mr. Hansbury who has been in contact with the club’s attorney. Every board member will receive a new “confidentiality agreement” to be signed and returned to the Metro office for records.
- e. **Registrations 2021** – Some clubs are no longer in existence and some will not be able to start again until January 2021. Some swimmers followed their coach to another LSC. Some teams are not doing well at all. How are we going to bill the clubs for USA Swimming Club Due?
A motion was made that we charge every existing Metro Team for the required USA-Swimming portion of the club registration fee, and that we hold off with the team size fees and the Covid-19 surcharge until January 2021. The numbers for those fees will be decided specifically for the 2020-21 year on each team’s athletes’ registrations as of January 15, 2021 for this year only, and to be billed by January 30, 2021. The motion was seconded; discussion followed. Question was called. All in favor. **Motion carries.**
- f. **Covid-19 Surcharge** – we may need to re-evaluate this at some point. The Metro Board can pause the P&P and make changes if necessary, for the survival of the LSC. We are looking at a very bleak season, especially in the Eastern Zone.
- g. **Town Hall Meeting** – discussion on whether to host a Town Hall Meeting before the HOD. This would be limited to one coach and one team board member. Open forum to answer questions. This could be added on the calendar every 2 months or so. Another meeting might be added in September for an athletes’ forum.
- h. **New Business** - none

Next Meeting – BOD - Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 7:00pm
Town Hall Meeting – Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 7:00pm
HOD - Saturday, September 12, 2020 at 1:00pm

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and approved by all. **Motion carries.** Meeting adjourned at 8:26pm.

Respectfully submitted by Monique Grayson.
August 26, 2020