

MSOA EXECUTIVE BOARD

January 24, 2010

- I. In attendance: Barry Cohen, Neal Labrecque, Sandy Labelle, Jerry Crouter, Tom Riker, Duffy Akerley, Sandy Zimmerman, Susan Tourtillotte, Lonie Brown, Rick Grant.
- II. The meeting was called to order by Barry Cohen, President, at 9:30 a.m.
- III. The minutes of the November 15, 2009 meeting were accepted, with one correction (Lonie Brown was not in attendance).
- IV. The treasurer's report for November and December, 2009 and January, 2010 were accepted.
- V. Old Business
 - A. Diving Clinics – none were held this year, mostly for logistical reasons.
 - B. Training of Local Officials by Local Chapter – if a person wants to join the organization and has not attended a clinic, the constitution provides that one may become a Probationary official (shadowing only). There was discussion of the curriculum requirements for a local chapter clinic, with further discussion deferred to the discussion of the constitution.
 - C. Confusion of Fee Schedule when Exhibition Heats exceed 10 in number – the Board interprets the fee schedule for extra heats as follows (by motion adopted unanimously):

In a meet involving boys and girls teams, there is no extra fee for 10 or fewer exhibition heats. For 11 to 15 exhibition heats, the extra fee is \$15 for the referee, \$10 for the starter, and \$5 for S&T. For 16 to 20 exhibition heats, the extra fee is \$30, \$20, and \$10, respectively. For more than 20 exhibition heats, each official receives an extra dual meet fee.
 - D. Peer Review – see below in Committee Reports.
 - E. Meet Fees for meets in which there is no Diving – Moved and seconded to maintain the status quo. Approved unanimously. The Executive Board is concerned that a differential fee schedule may cause schools to eliminate diving because of the additional officials' fee for meets with diving. In addition, officials do not control whether the facility is equipped for diving.

- F. Constitutional Amendment – discussion deferred.
- G. Web Site Update – Barry updated the Board on Tom Branch’s efforts to update the website. The website set-up has been reviewed by Board members, and Tom Branch is prepared to take the site live. The Board formed a committee to work with Tom to take the site live by June 30. Lonie Brown, Sandy Labelle and Tom Riker are on the committee.

VI. New Business

- A. [Send Note] Cancellation of Meet Due to Contamination of Pool – The decision whether a Pool is safe for conducting a meet in the event of contamination by significant amounts of blood, fecal matter, or other contaminants, rests with the facility manager. If the facility manager is not available, the referee should err on the side of not going forward with the meet.
- B. Rules Interpretation
 - 1. Number of Entrants Per Team and Scoring Method for Dual or Triangular Meets – only the first heat scores unless there is prior mutual consent to modify the scoring process.
 - 2. Failed Dive versus DQ for Stepping off the Board – A diver balks and then steps off the board. Dive is failed under Rule 9-7-5(i). Question whether diver should have been disqualified under 9-8-3(a) for failure to make a sincere attempt to perform the dive. There was disagreement among the experienced diving officials present at the meeting on how this matter should be handled, because the rules appear to be in conflict. There was agreement that this is a judgment call.
 - 3. Butterfly Finish – There was discussion of the underwater recovery issue at the finish. Sculling is an underwater discovery.
 - 4. If Same School but Different Gender Falls in Pool During an Event – A girls team member in a double dual meet jumps into the pool during a boys event. The Board considers her to be a “nonparticipating team member” and therefore all participants from that team shall be disqualified, and the girl disqualified from further competition.
 - 5. Divers and two suits – Since sports bras are permitted under suits, can a diver wear two suits? Lonie and Duffy will pose the question at the MPA Swim Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- C. Can an Official Act as a Guest Coach on a one time basis? Yes.

- D. Use of One Dive Coach as a Judge when Other Dive Coach Declines – this is fine as long as there are five on the panel
- E. Wearing of sneakers by injured diver – this diver has been informed beginning on January 9 and additional times thereafter that she must have a letter from MPA to dive with sneakers for injury accommodation.
- F. Modification of swim suit rule for religious reasons – Need MPA letter of approval.
- G. Championship Meet Season – The Meet Directors have things well in hand.
- H. Tardy or Timely Payment of Officials – There was a general discussion of payment practices among the different schools.
- I. Updating “Diving 101” – Tom Branch will provide a quote to update the Diving 101 video. Barry will email the board when he has the quote.
- J. “Quiet on the Start” – Some referees and starters prefer absolute silence, others are comfortable with some “buzz” of noise as long as the competitors are not disadvantaged, and the venue is a big factor in whether there is a noise problem.
- K. Moved and seconded to authorize \$300 for shirts and caps for Maine swimmers going to New Englands. Passed unanimously.

VII. Chapter Reports

- A. The Peer Review Committee is making progress, and will report in more detail at the next meeting.
- B. Evaluation Committee – 31 meet summary reports, with two negative, from the same meet.

VIII. The next meeting will be held on March 21, 2010 at 9:30 in Waterville.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.