

MSOA EXECUTIVE BOARD

November 15, 2009

- I. In attendance: Barry Cohen, Neal Labrecque, Sandy Labelle, Jerry Crouter, Tom Riker, Duffy Akerley, Sandy Zimmerman, Lonie Brown, Beth Drew, Rick Grant, Scott Morrison (by phone in part).
- II. The meeting was called to order by Neal Labrecque, Vice President, at 9:38 a.m.
- III. The minutes of the October 4, 2009 meeting and the annual business meetings were accepted.
- IV. The treasurer's report for October and November, 2009 were accepted.
- V. Old Business – none.
- VI. New Business
 - A. Feedback on clinics:
 1. There was not enough time for the strokes and turns session with new officials.
 2. We need to be clearer on the schedule if one group is expected to run long.
 3. Comments were positive about diving and rules interpretation. Generally the comments were that the clinic was among the best ever.
 4. There was discussion of trying to schedule two diving clinics if possible. Sandy Zimmerman and Barry Cohen will contact the respective coaches to see they can be scheduled.
 - B. There was discussion of a Saturday clinic next year, but the sentiment is that MSOA members prefer Sunday clinics.
 - C. Donations have been made to fundraisers at Portland and Belfast. Jerry will send thank you notes to Portland and Belfast, and also to Bates for offering the facility.
 - D. Mileage reimbursement will be offered to officials who worked both clinics.
 - E. Is there a method of training *new* officials this season who missed the clinic? The Constitution states that a new probationary official may be certified by either a state clinic or a chapter clinic, plus dues payment and passage of the open book test.

The board discussed whether the local chapter or the executive board determines the agenda for a local chapter clinic to certify a probationary official who does not attend the state clinic.

- F. Scott Morrison reported on the MPA swim committee and coaches meetings.
 - 1. All meets will be considered to be a boys and girls meet for purposes of qualifying times for state meets, unless the meet is otherwise specified.
 - 2. The exhibition event scheduling for determining fees is that the total number of exhibition heats is what matters, not whether the exhibitions are boys or girls. The board discussed the issue. There was some concern that this could be abused in the case of, for example, a girls meet where there is a full slate of boys exhibition swims, the board agreed on motion unanimously to that exhibitions will be determined by the number of heats, not whether the heats consist of boys or girls, as requested by MPA swim committee.
 - 3. MPA proposes that meet fees be less for meets in which there is no diving. The board will discuss this in a future meeting and provide comment to MPA before its spring meeting.
 - 4. Coaches requested that the executive board discuss a process for evaluation of officials. The board discussed possible options for evaluating officials. Jerry Crouter (Chair), Duffy Akerley and Tom Riker will form an evaluation committee to make a proposal by the next executive board meeting.
- G. Discussion of notifying officials of availability of inactive status. We will next year include notice in the annual dues reminder.
- H. The board reviewed the officials who have not completed their test and are therefore not in good standing. Chapter reps will follow up.
- I. Constitutional Amendment. The board considered and discussed amendments to the MSOA Constitution. Moved and seconded to recommend amendments to the Constitution to the membership, addressing transferability of YMCA and USA certification to MSOA, changing the closed book to open book for Level II MSOA, and making technical corrections. Approved unanimously. In connection therewith, five members requested a special meeting of the membership to discuss and vote upon the amendments, with the special meeting to be held at the next executive board meeting.

- J. Moved, seconded and approved unanimously to authorize Barry Cohen and Jerry Crouter to finalize and approve for execution by Barry Cohen the website management contract with Tom Branch.
- K. There was a brief discussion of test questions.
- VII. The board heard chapter reports and other chapter reports. On rules interpretation, the MPA as a state association matter has ruled that a sports bra in white, black or the same color as the suit is not a second suit. The executive board concluded that male athletic supporters are not considered to be a second suit. The secretary will send a rules interpretation email to all members.
- VIII. The next meeting will be held on January 24, 2010 at 9:30 in Waterville.
- IX. The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.