

Minutes of the Council of Clubs for Masters Swimming WA Inc

held at the Royal Life Saving WA Training Room 1, 12 McGillvray Road, Mount Claremont on Wednesday 18th March 2020

I. INTRODUCTION

The meeting opened at 5.33pm. President Fiona Wilkins introduced board members and welcomed all members and thanked all for their time in attending the meeting.

I.1 Accreditation of Delegates

Board

President	Fiona Wilkins
Director of Finance	Lizzie O'Brien
Director Pool Competitions	Richard Hughes
Director of Technical	Lynne Duncan
Director of Coaching	Siobhan Tyndall
Director	Adam Pring
Executive Officer	Sophie Row

State Officers

Pool Meet Coordinator	Sue Pow
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Club

Armadale
Beatty Park
Belmont
Bold Park
Bunbury
Busselton
Carine
Claremont
Cockburn
Fremantle
Inglewood
Leeming
Maida Vale
Mandurah
Melville
Perth City
Riverton
Rockingham
Somerset
Stadium
Superfins
Swan Hills
Westcoast

Delegate

Rowena Burch
Marshall Flower
Linda Stenning
Lucy Stuart
Julie O'Connor
Richard George
David Davies
Graham Croft
Peter Marr
Paul Clifton (Teleconference)
Jo Stoddart (Teleconference)
Greg Bowater
Lynne Duncan
Deborah Bloor
Pam Walker
Alison Hass
Graeme Pow
Mark Jenkins (Teleconference)
Michael Millard
Peter Lyster
Robert Beckett
Debbie Cooper (Teleconference)
Mike Kerman

Delegate

Kate Baxter

Visitors:

Staff: Tarquin Bateman

Life Members: Tricia Summerfield

Apologies:

Board, State Officers; Tanya Pavez, Ian Dunican, Sandra Mutch

Life Members: Jack Busch, Lynne Malone, Glenys McDonald, Kim Tyler, Kay Cox, Jude Crawford

Clubs: Whitfords

1.2 Confirmation of Minutes from Council of Clubs 27th November 2019:

Moved by David Davies (Carine), Seconded by Julie O'Connor (Bunbury)

Accepted

1.3 Business Arising from 27th November 2019 Minutes:

Lynne Duncan provided an update in relation to the position of relays in a meet and whether they could be conducted at the beginning.

1.4 Reports from the Board of Directors:

The President requested the meeting refer to the reports in the 2019 Annual Report

2. Items for Discussion

2.1 Risk Management

SR advised that a sub-committee has been formed to review organisational risk. Should any members be interested in joining the sub-committee they should contact SR.

2.2 Advice to clubs of pool swim meets

Graeme Pow (Riverton) queried why clubs are ignoring the directive from Masters Swimming WA state office in which all pool meets should be promoted via the office rather than between clubs and asked whether this would be reviewed in the future.

SR responded that the club contacts have been removed from the website for two reasons; 1) the risk of data mining and 2) the inaccuracy of the information due to clubs not updating their contact information in a timely manner with the office.

SR also advised that unlike previously, all pool competitions are promoted widely to ALL members via the e-newsletters as well as being posted on FaceBook. Previously, the information was only sent to club contacts, where often the information may not get passed on to committees and/or members. Further, SR also advised that through promoting widely to all members, that once direct swimmer entry is introduced for all pool competitions, promoting meets to all members allowed individuals the freedom to sign up without having to go through their committee.

Username for Sports TG

Richard George (Busselton) queried why the usernames for members on STG were so complicated and could they be over-ridden. RG was advised that the member is able to log in to their own profile and update both the username and password, should they wish. Further, that if they were unable to do it, the club recorder could do this on their behalf.

SR & FW also advised that STG was not a particularly user-friendly CRM. They advised that the current contract with STG is due to expire at the end of 2020 and that MSA have been reviewing new CRMs. MSA had originally considered migrating to the same CRM used by Swimming Australia but due to technical issues, this has been deferred. In the meantime, the contract with STG has been extended a further two years for new options to be explored.

2.4 Disclaimer for Membership

Richard George (Busselton) followed up on a previous query by the club in relation to the Disclaimer requested by members as they sign-up for membership through the STG portal. Currently members do not need to agree to abide by the Rules, Policies and Agreements of their club. It was recommended by Busselton that the wording should be as follows:

Rules, Policies and Agreements

I agree to follow the Constitution, Policies, Procedures, Rules and By Laws of

- Masters Swimming Australia
- Masters Swimming WA
- Busselton Masters Swimming Club Inc. (eg)

SR advised that this had previously been passed on to Masters Swimming Australia for their review and update but that it had not yet been implemented. SR to follow up with Masters Swimming Australia.

3. Items of General Business

3.1 COVID-19 situation

There was extensive discussion in relation to the situation with COVID-19 and the ongoing operations of clubs. The Masters Swimming WA Board had convened an urgent meeting on Sunday 15th March to discuss and agree a course of action based on government guidelines and the rapidly changing situation and resolved at that time to cancel all swim meets between now and 31st May. This was followed by communication to all members and clubs on Monday 16th March to advise of this update.

The following was discussed based on the current situation:

- Advice is being taken and followed from the Department of Health and any guidelines coming from Masters Swimming Australia
- At the present time, Masters Swimming WA were not mandating that clubs cease all activities, however recognised this may be forced upon clubs through

the closure of aquatic facilities. This will continue to be reviewed by the board based on government guidelines and advice.

- It was not possible to ban social activities by club members following training, however members should be encouraged to follow government guidelines around social distancing AND not participate in club activities if they at all showed any signs of cold or flu symptoms.
- It was recommended that members should not share goggles or snorkels, however the sharing of boards and pool buoys was acceptable due to the submersion in chlorinated water and the disinfecting effect this would have on the equipment.
- It was agreed that Masters Swimming WA were fully supportive of any clubs that took the decision to suspend club activities.
- It was noted that many older coaches are now no longer coaching due to their high-risk health status, meaning some clubs will struggle to continue to operate for lack of coaches.
- SR requested clubs advise the state office if their pool closes and/or the club decides to suspend club activities.
- It is recognised that many of our members are considered to be in the high-risk category if they contract the virus and the EO requested that all members be supportive of one another, keep club communications going through social media, e-news or phone to ensure members do not feel isolated.
- It was noted that many swimmers may wish to continue to swim in open water should facilities close. The insurance policy will continue to cover swimmers in this event as long as the following guidelines are met:
 - occurs within 100m of the shore
 - swimmers must in a group of two or more for the insurance to be in place
 - ideally training to take place at a patrolled beach with coach present (where possible) but understand this is not always possible as there are many non-patrolled beaches etc.
 - If we can encourage that members swim in a group with a coach this ensures we are managing risk
 - Additionally, someone (the coach or someone with surf experience) should assess the risk in relation to weather and water conditions according to the weakest swimmer in the group
- Further updates will be provided as and when they come to hand.

3.2 City of Joondalup Mullaloo Mile date review

Alison Hass (Perth City) commented on how much she had enjoyed the City of Joondalup Mullaloo Mile and how well it was run. However, expressed disappointment at the number of Masters swimmers taking part in the LiveLighter State Championships wave. AH queried whether a later date might attract more swimmers. SR advised that the summer is saturated with swims already and the benefits that the WOW Swims Series has is that our 'fixed' dates mean we can lock in dates well in advance and publish for first mover advantage. SR suggested that there was a recognition that the date might limit masters swimmers due to its timing between the Rottneest Channel Swim,

Port to Pub and on a long weekend. SR advised that a review of the date could be put to the open water swim committee for discussion.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

Meeting closed at 6.24pm

These minutes are confirmed as a true record of the meeting held on Wednesday 18th March 2020.

Signed:

Date: ___/___/2020

Fiona Wilkins – President