

O*H*I*O Masters Swim Club
Board Meeting
Sunday, December 2, 2018
Panera, Center Ridge Rd
Rocky River, OH

Board Members Present: Ann Marshfield, Bruce Allen, Chuck Beatty, Ashley Braniecki, Mike Ellek, E. J. Gorman, Andrew McCollister, Keith Owen, Mark Stewart, Ashley Zoeller,

Not Present: None.

Call to Order – Ann called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm. Agenda attached.

A) Minutes from the September 9th Board Meeting:

- i. Mark gave highlights from the minutes. Ann had a couple of corrections.
- ii. Ann moved to approve the minutes, and Mike seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- iii. Mark mentioned that the O*H*I*O Masters Archive, on Google Drive, was up-to-date. He would test (and did test) access to the drive by confirming the effectiveness of adding and removing a user.

B) Sunshine & Rain:

- i. Ashley reported on recent activity. Kevin Kelley will be married soon, and the club sent a card.

C) Financial Report:

- i. Keith provided a Financial Report (attached). The club has a healthy, overall surplus of funds, and we are running a surplus so far in this fiscal year.
- ii. Keith also provided a Profit and Loss Statement and a Balance Sheet in handouts (attached).
- iii. Keith noted that for the meets we sponsor, the costs are fixed, and registering a few more swimmers is the difference between profit and loss.
- iv. Ann moved that the Board receive Keith's financial report, E.J. seconded it, and all were in favor.

D) Pentathlon Meet:

- i. The meet came together well. There were 52 people at the meet, 20 more than before. Plus there were 3 heats of 500's
- ii. The after meet social and breakfast had 15 people.
- iii. Meet results are on www.swimphone.com. Select "Lake Erie" among the LMSC's, and select "Past" or "Upcoming". No registration is required.

E) Hudson Meet:

- i. The Hudson meet was upcoming, on Saturday and Sunday, December 8, 9.
- ii. Ann mentioned the need for meet volunteers. Mark will help with check in and awards on Sunday.

F) Lakewood Meet, Sunday Jan 27, 2019:

- i. Judi is looking for someone to replace her as Lakewood meet coordinator.

- ii. We reviewed the duties of the meet site coordinator.
- iii. Mike volunteered to act as meet coordinator. Mark volunteered to back him up.

G) CSU Meet, March 23/24 2019:

- i. Ann asked that we mention/advertise this meet in our workout groups.
- ii. CSU varsity swimmers will take part in the meet, probably doing only 25 yards. Consequently, this meet will be recognized by USMS, but not sanctioned.
- iii. Varsity athletes are covered by NCAA, year round, and must get permission to compete in this meet.

H) Annual Meeting, June 2019:

- i. Mark has volunteered to organize the Annual Meeting. We must hold this meeting before July 1.
- ii. It has been suggested that the annual meeting be at Dan Cox's home in Madison, near the Spire Institute. This would be held after the meet at Spire.
- iii. There was some concern that enough O*H*I*O Masters members would attend, as this is some distance from Cleveland. Further, should the Spire meet and Annual Meeting be on different days?
- iv. All agreed that the Spire Meet should be in June.
- v. Mark will work out prices and a budget and contact Dan Cox about price.
- vi. Ann suggested a Lifetime Achievement Award for John Daly and Betty Russ.

I) Swim Meet Fees:

- i. At our previous meeting, September 9, the board discussed Meet fees. The proposal was:
 - \$30 early registration,
 - \$40 within two weeks of the meet,
 - \$50 for same day/deck entry.
 - Entrants 80 years and older, are free.
- ii. On October 3, Ann indicated a change is advisable based on discussions she had with fellow swimmers. The proposed fees were
 - \$25 for O*H*I*O Masters members,
 - Others \$30,
 - Deck entries \$50,
 - Relays, any number, \$10
 - 80 years and older, free.

The rationale for this change is that swimmers are procrastinators, and will balk at signing up after the two week deadline.

- iii. Bruce indicated that we should not be giving discounts or benefits to members, as our tax-free status precludes benefits inured to members.
- iv. There was a consensus on the board that we should avoid any legal jeopardy, and O*H*I*O Masters should not provide member discounts for meet fees.
- v. A discussion was held of the rationale for 'Early Bird Discounts' and 'Late Fees'. Last minute sign-ups create issues: computer/timing setup requires some lead time, insufficient sign-ups may lead to meet cancellation or insufficient lifeguards, and we must order T-shirts two weeks before hand.

- vi. There was a consensus, that we would not cancel a meet, at the last minute.
- vii. The proposed fees for the CSU Meet were:
 - Early Bird Online: 10 days before, March 13 11:59 pm, \$25 (\$35 for both days)
 - Discount Online: 3 days before, March 20 11:59 pm, \$30 (\$40 for both days)
 - Late Online: 1 day before, March 22 6:00 pm, \$50 (\$60 for both days)
 - Deck Entry: \$50 (\$75 for both days)
 - Paper Entry: Received 3 days before, March 20, \$30 (\$40 for both days)
 - 80 years & older: Free, must use paper entry form
 - Relay Only: \$10 any number of relays, Saturday and/or Sunday, paper entry
- viii. On December 12, Mark moved that we accept these fees. The motion was seconded by Chuck. Vote was eight in favor, one against.

J) LMSC Annual Meeting:

- i. The Lake Erie Local Masters Swimming Committee (LE LMSC) is holding its annual meeting on Sunday December 9.

K) Open Water Swim Meet Cooperation Offer:

- i. Chuck mentioned an open water swim meet, held near Sandusky, contacted him and asked for cooperation in a joint swim meet. He declined.

L) US Masters Gold Club Designation:

- i. Related to USMS annual registration, Ann mentioned some changes in how clubs register with USMS. In particular, USMS has “updated our club registration process to gather more information about your club, which will make it easier to connect current and potential members with your club.”
- ii. For O*H*I*O Masters, the issues are registering “workout groups” versus “locations” (plus registration costs), achieving “Gold Club Designation”.
- iii. The definitions “Location” and “Workout Group” are important, and they differ from our informal usage.
- iv. “Location”: an O*H*I*O Masters “Location” has swimmers who *only pay dues* to O*H*I*O Masters.
 - a. If all swimmers *must* be USMS (O*H*I*O) members to swim, the club is a “Location”. Pool fees and trial memberships are irrelevant.
 - b. *Lakewood, Orange*, would qualify. Perhaps Bay Village Open Water.
 - c. Apparently, there is no additional fee for registering a “Location” with USMS.
- v. “Workout Group”: a swimmer is *paying dues to any entity other* than O*H*I*O Masters.
 - a. If any swimmer is *not required* to be a USMS (O*H*I*O) member, the club is a “Workout Group.” Pool fees are irrelevant.
 - b. In this category would be: Akron-General, Cleveland State, Westlake Rec, Avon (I think), Solon, Warrensville Heights, Euclid High School, Canton and Salem Community Center.
 - c. Apparently, there is a \$45 fee to register each “Workout Group” with USMS. With this registration, the group is visible, listed and recognized on the USMS website, [usms.org](https://www.usms.org/clubs), in particular, they appear in club finder <https://www.usms.org/clubs> ; a “pin” appear on the club location map.

- d. If the board decides not to register a workout group, it will not be listed.
- vi. Gold Club Designation: See <https://www.usms.org/clubs> for further information. Note at the bottom of the webpage that there are explanatory links for “Gold Club Designation”, “Coach Certification”. The major hurdle appears to be ensuring USMS-certified coaches on deck (at least ‘Level 1’); all other requirements are met already or can be readily met for Lakewood, and Orange.
- vii. Note that O*H*I*O Masters is currently designated a “USMS Certified Gold Club”, with “USMS Certified Coach(es)” and “USMS Certified ALTS Instructor(s).”
- viii. In online discussions, a consensus appears to be forming that if “Workout Groups” want a pin on USMS’s Club Finder, they should pursue it with the Board. They are not USMS (O*H*I*O) members, so it is not O*H*I*O Masters’ responsibility. However, we might be able to reach an accommodation on an individual basis.

M) Drop in Fees:

- i. Drop in fees were briefly discussed.

N) Adult Learn to Swim:

- i. Judi is running an Adult Learn to Swim at the Westlake Recreation Center on April 14. Any help would be appreciated.

O) New Year’s Day Swim:

- i. The New Year’s Day swim at Spire will be held.

P) Arena Representative and Team Promotion:

- i. Ann was contacted by a representative of Arena with a new program for Masters teams.
- ii. Simply, there is a discount code for checkout at the Arena website for team members and their immediate families. The discount appears to be 40%; no minimum, \$1000 maximum per transaction, some limits on number of transactions for the team—i.e. no abuse.
- iii. No customized apparel.
- iv. Ann is asking for comments and discussion on how to proceed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Dates for Next Board/Annual Meetings:

January 2019,

April 2019,

June 2019, Annual Meeting

Post Meeting:

Ashley provided a description of our organizational structure. Her tutorial is,

With USMS registration around the corner (November 1, 2018) here's some organizational education about our club, LMSC, Zone, etc! Keep in mind as you register / reregister for 2019!

O*H*I*O Masters: The largest masters swimming club in northeast Ohio. If you are part of this group, you're likely a member - or should be! www.ohiomasters.com

Lake Erie LMSC (Local Masters Swim Committee): Governing body of masters swimming in the Northeast Ohio geographic region and made up of several swimming clubs (including O*H*I*O Masters, Cleveland Aquatics, Liquid N'Durance, Medina, PR, Shaker, etc). There are 52 LMSCs in the country! www.lelmisc.org

Great Lakes Zone: Provides oversight of masters swimming across the Great Lakes Zone - which includes Allegheny, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Lake Erie, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin LMSCs. There are six zones across the country. Fun fact - the State of Ohio includes TWO LMSC (Lake Erie and Ohio). If you are registered with O*H*I*O Masters swim club, you fall within the Lake Erie LMSC). www.greatlakeszone.com and please "like" their new facebook page (USMS Great Lakes Zone).

USMS (United States Masters Swimming): National governing body of everything masters swimming. It's governed by its house of delegates and Board of Directors, and also has a National Office of full time staff in Florida. www.usms.org - and scroll all the way to the bottom to click on links to read more!