

O*H*I*O Masters Swim Club Q3 Meeting

Sunday October 13, 2024 2:38-4:21p.

Middleburg Heights Library

Attendance: Kristen Bergmann, Jamie Ryan, Ashley Carey, Paul Simmons, Chuck Beatty, Bob Boyce, Chris Lewis, Molly Tolford, Kristi Tabaj

Kristen called the meeting to order at 2:38pm.

Approval of Q3 Meeting Minutes – no opposition.

Officer Reports

Treasurer – Bob Boyce

1. Report- see sent report. We made a surplus of \$1074 in September. \$860 cost to run the club. We are a 501c7 (social club) and events such as the clam bake should be noted on official submissions. Total swim meets this financial year so far is \$605 (but includes some late checks from 2023). We made a surplus of \$1438 on workout groups this quarter. We are close to breaking even at Orange (average at Orange is about 10 people per session). Forward projection for Orange as they are at a \$60/hour rate considering variable number of practices shows that the extra \$5 will cost the club about \$2400 (\$600-800 per quarter). A few extra people swimming at each practice would help to overcome the deficit. Chuck – do we pay Orange by the lane? Bob – No, we pay for the pool. It has been confirmed that we could pay by the lane. Chuck – Could it be manageable with four lanes? Paul – Yes. There are about two to a lane. Bob - In the summer there really wasn't a drop off, but the pool was closed and we were using University School. Going to University School might be cheaper, but the availability is uncertain as well as guards. Kristen – Hold open the option of reducing lanes rather than raise fees. Bob – The pool manager would be ok, but it just depends on the swimmer. Paul – People would get used to swimming in fewer lanes. It may be confusing for people who want to try a workout at Orange, the info isn't clear. Kristen – If people reach out to her she directs them to the various workout pools in the area. Paul – It may need to be further clarified on the website. Chuck – Inquiries typically go through the national website. Kristen – For trial memberships I only send info for Orange and Lakewood. There is a lot of variation in time at Orange. Communication could be improved. Ashley – Looking at the projection, are we at a point of making a decision on lanes? Bob – Let's see what it looks like next quarter. Kristen – We could decrease lanes in January. Need to inquire about the cost of four lanes. Ashley – It would be good to see who is coming into Orange per practice. Bob – Peter keeps track of who comes in. Some people pay different than what the fees are, but people still pay over. Paul – Are there any times when Lakewood loses money? Bob – Well we don't keep track, but there are sheets the coaches sign which shows how many swimmers are at Lakewood. Kristen – It would be good to see what the numbers are per practice at Lakewood. Bob – The Lakewood group has gone up to \$41 per hour (first of January). Foster is \$60/hr. We are up to date with bills at Lakewood which includes Foster. 161 swimmers have bought at least one punch pass from October 2023 to October 2024, 30 of which are at Orange. They don't have to be OHIO Masters, they can be USMS. Paul – Have we had any drop outs because of the new punch pass rates? Bob – I don't think so. Chris – If we have any changes, we'll need to do it by email since we won't have a meeting right? Others –

correct. Ashley – We are having the same conversations that we had in previous years and recommends setting some benchmarks for action. Kristen – We should look at reducing lanes at Orange in January, we can look at Lakewood numbers at the Jan meeting and April. Ashley – Should we look at getting the numbers for Tues morning and Thur night at Lakewood to help with decision making? Bob – Can work with Matt about getting the numbers. Not sure what happens with that data.

Action: Bob to talk to pool manager about reducing lanes at Orange this week.

Action: Bob to follow-up with Matt about numbers at Lakewood.

2. Venmo – as noted in the email sent, it is a cell phone app and the club doesn't have a cell phone. It can be linked to a bank account. Putting the app on one person's cell phone would be a liability. Could we have a club store? QR code for Venmo? But it is similar to paypal. Molly – Could we have a drop down menu on our website and the events page could have deck entries/swim caps? Chuck – There isn't a way to build in the button because the meet entry links to Club Assist. Bob – Club Assist does not permit deck entries. Chris – We don't need to accommodate to every platform. We should just pick one. Ashley – Would not recommend one person having the account given the prevalence of fraud. Recommendation: Paypal or Apple Pay. Chuck – How about we eliminate deck entries? Ashley – It's a burden on the meet directors. Could we do a 2025 policy of no deck entries? Kristen: Need to let membership know first. Ashley – As OHIO Masters, do we need to discuss with anyone? Need to let Mark and Dan know that deck entries will not be accepted.

Action: Kristen to let Mark and Dan know that deck entries will not be accepted starting January.

3. Redemption of credit card points – We are going to redeem the credit card points for cash. Bob – no credit card came into the mail. Ashley – OHIO Masters Swim Outlet store – do we need to look at points to redeem?

Action: Chuck to look at Swim Outlet point balance (amounts/balance).

President – Kristen Bergmann

1. Did receive constant contact for the club. We had 26 new members, a couple of transfers. Will send out the monthly email. About 75% of members open it. Maybe share via social media that a newsletter was sent out. The club has a max of 500 email addresses before the price of the platform goes up. Bob – need to check in with Sara about another email that we are still paying on (info OHIO Masters). They are \$6/7 per month. Need to find out how to cancel.
2. Cavs swimmer night – a few days left to purchase tickets.
3. Club registration – LMSC covered the club sanction registration fee (new LMSC policy as of this year). Every club registered nationally needs to pay \$75 to register and the LMSC has a policy that they will pay.
4. State Meet update – March 23 at CSU for the meet. Viking Masters will be the host team.

5. Adding a new member half hour practice in January – for several years Judi Norton has wanted to add a half hour on Mondays before practice to come and work on stroke technique. One idea was to do a trial in January. Paul – Are there places where coaches don't give stroke advice? Molly – It can be difficult in a place like Lakewood where there can be 30 people at a practice. Received several inquiries via IG. Bob – What's available at Lakewood? Kristen – Judi Norton was going to ask Matt. Jamie – What about running a trial for two months? Molly – We would need just a few lanes. Chuck – How do we get the word out? Molly – I have a few people asking about it via social media. Kristen – Some people ask through "try USMS." Chris – We need to clarify the actual purpose (aka this is not to get extra yardage. Ashley – Would this be covered by the punch? Kristen – It would be one punch for the half hour and the workout. Ashley – From a contract perspective, is there an issue to get extra lanes? Kristen – We have not signed a contract. Judi Norton figured out the pool isn't used much during that time. Jamie – We may run into time constraints with USA Club.

Action: Kristen to follow-up with Judi Norton.

Committee Reports

Meet chair – Jamie

1. Everything is looking good for the meets. One question, are donations to the high school teams \$300? Molly – Yes. Ashley – Are we doing a social afterwards? Chuck – Yes at Garret Mill. Jamie – As of Friday afternoon, 13 people signed up for the Pentathlon and 1 person for Hudson. Molly – Jolyn will be a Sunday at Hudson and at Lakewood as well. We will get 10% of what is sold.

2024 Brogan Open Water – Chuck

1. Metroparks has changed their sign up system and so we are in a holding pattern. The three dates we are looking at are July 12, 19, 26.

Website

1. Chuck looking to review and update as needed.

Unfinished Business

1. Awards (phased out coupons, any comments from meets) – Molly, we have a lot of Penthalon award, no first place ribbons.

New Business

1. Plaque recognizing national records from Avon meet (cost is \$608, maybe the club contributes \$100-\$200, good community relations) – Kristen – would we consider contributing? We made \$419 on the meet. Not sure if they will want to do it from 2018. Chris – What is special about Avon compared to other pools? Kristen – no significance, but would this set a precedent for? The mayor sounded flexible. The template does have OHIO Masters on the plaque along with the record breaker. Ashley – The LMSC could also contribute. Kristen – Do we want to do \$100/\$200? Chuck – move that we offer \$200.

Action: Kristen to inform Avon that OHIO Masters will contribute \$200.

2. Decide on case-by-case basis for sending sympathy cards.
3. Need to have a weekend option day for practice during the Hudson Meet.
Action: Kristen to send out email about upcoming practice cancellations.
4. Planning a New Year's Day swim in the morning
5. Next meeting– Sunday, January 19
6. Unattached swimmers - Chuck - why wouldn't we try to recruit? Jamie – Outdoor practices were fun and if one wanted to do relays, needed to join to swim on a relay. Ashley – can send an email out.

Meeting adjourned at 4:21p.