

NEW ZEALAND MASTERS SWIMMING (INC.)

40TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Friday 12th April 2013 at Kingsgate Hotel, Dunedin

MINUTES

Meeting Commenced at 9.30am

PRESENT

President: Sue Pollard (NS1)
Vice President: Paul McStay (JP5)
Secretary/Treasurer: Mike Bodger (WH2)
Northern Region: John Fisher (WK1), John Trubnick (SC1)
Capital Region: Jean-Pierre De Raad (HC4)
Southern Region: Paul McStay (JP5), Warren Gilbertson (GG5)
Swimming Officer/Trophies Officer: Lesley Parkin (LV4)
IT Officer: Liz Davidson (NS1)
Masterscrawl Editor: Sue Pollard
Open Water Swimming: Mike Bodger

WELCOME BY PRESIDENT

Sue Pollard welcomed everyone present to the Annual General Meeting and thanked them for their attendance. Regional delegates and officers introduced.

APOLOGIES

Jan O'Donnell (National Recorder), Andrew Gabites (Webmaster), Eleanor Pinfold (District Region), Dianne Crowley (Central Region)

A MINUTES SILENCE was observed for those members who have passed away in 2012.

Bruce Bell (SC1), John Watt

After two small corrections **THE MINUTES** of the 39th Annual General Meeting held on Friday 13th April 2012 were accepted as a true and correct record.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES of 2012 AGM

NZMS clubs with 3 or less financial members or those which are inactive have received an email from the National Secretary asking them whether they wish to continue as members of NZ Master Swimming.

FINANCIAL AND SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2011 Mike Bodger

The financial review for 2012 was completed by EBA Ltd Rotorua and circulated to the executive, officers and delegates prior to the AGM. Accounting fees totalled \$1,495.00. The net surplus stood at \$686. However as \$4000 of the 2012 expenditure was for 2011 honoraria, the effective surplus for the year was \$4,686 and the surplus for 2011 then becomes a deficit).

The balance stood at \$41,733, up from \$41,047 in 2011. The cheque account balance was \$6888.24 at January 1st 2012 and \$10,329.46 at January 1st 2013. The Fast Saver account balance was \$36,093.10 at January 1st 2012 and \$37,150.25 at January 1st 2013. The balance of the Fast Saver account will be transferred to a suitable, higher interest rate term deposit. A projected budget for 2013 was presented and NZMS should be in a positive financial position at the end of the year.

For 2012, NZMS had 43 active clubs and 702 financial swimmers. Seven "inactive" clubs and clubs with 3 or less financial members for 2012 received a letter asking them about their future involvement in NZ Masters

Swimming. Three clubs responded and although they acknowledged their low membership, they indicated that they wished to remain in NZMS. The meeting decided to "Red Flag" the part of the Constitution which requires 5 or more members, Section 5, Information Manual and deal with it as a remit for AGM 2014.

A stock-take of NZMS merchandise was presented which totalled \$12,828.25. Some items are now redundant and little merchandise, such as swimming caps and badges, is bought by swimmers. A meeting decision was made to sell a package consisting of a cap, metal and cloth badges for \$5 to swimmers.

Moved by Paul McStay, seconded by John Fisher that club membership requirements be examined at AGM 2014.

MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2014

The present membership fee of \$50 covers the proposed budget for 2013 if membership numbers are stable. But any increase in the membership number of NZ Masters Swimming must come from the individual clubs themselves by way of attracting new members. It is also the responsibility of individual clubs to explain the function and attraction of NZ Masters swimming. The \$50 membership fee has remained static since 2009 and a motion was put forward by John Fisher that the membership fee be raised by \$10 to \$60 for 2014. The purpose is allow marketing to be done, placing more importance on the value of NZ Masters Swimming to potential members and emphasising the health benefits, competition, and social aspects of our organisation.

Moved by John Fisher, seconded by Paul McStay that the NZMS membership fee be increase from \$50 to \$60 for 2014. The motion was carried.

APPROVAL OF ALLOWANCES AND HONORARIA

The honorarium is strictly seen as an acknowledgement of services and is not a salary. The following payments are made annually to recipients.

Secretary/Treasurer	\$15000
National Recorder	\$3000 (of which 33% is expenses)
Computer Officer	\$2000
Webmaster	\$3000
Swim Officer	\$1500

These were approved by the meeting and will remain unchanged.

Moved by John Fisher, seconded by Jean-Pierre De Raad that the honoraria payments remain unchanged for 2013. Carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT Sue Pollard

The report from Sue was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

With Sue's term as President coming to an end she highlighted several positive developments including our financial viability, improvement to our IT infrastructure, and our continued good relationship with Swimming NZ and commercial open water operators, our written history and the continued support from clubs. Not everything is perfect in an organisation like ours and there is the disappointment of falling membership, the difficulties of securing sponsorship and securing volunteers with editorial, marketing and fundraising expertise.

The appeal of Masterscrawl as a medium for communication is on the decline as other forms of communication through social media become more popular.

Sue Pollard moved that her report be accepted. This was seconded by which John

COMPUTER OFFICER'S REPORT Liz Davidson

The report from Liz was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

A move towards a centralised system for the membership database is the first priority. This would require individual clubs to enter their own membership details on line. At the present time all data entry is done by the National Secretary. But a challenging problem would be how to manage a geographically dispersed group of volunteers to organise and maintain the membership database. An advantage to clubs is that they would have a detailed record of their club members and alterations could be done on line. NZ Masters would provide guidelines on how membership data would be entered. This could also include information on social memberships and provide a means to market to them in the hope that they might join NZ Masters Swimming. Costs for these improvements were not endorsed at the meeting but will be a decision made by the new executive.

Liz was congratulated for her speedy completion of the Top Ten Rankings for 2012.

WEBMASTER'S REPORT Andrew Gabites

The report from Andrew was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. In the absence of Andrew his report was taken as read. There was agreement for a centralised database for memberships.

Many swimmers experience difficulty with the website log in procedure. Most of the website is available without a log in and since little benefit is gained with logging in, the meeting decided to delete this requirement and give full access to viewers. In the event of a centralised database/website the access will be reviewed.

MASTERSCRAWL EDITOR'S REPORT Sue Pollard

The report from Sue was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

The proposals were

1. That Masterscrawl, in its present form, should be discontinued and that we should communicate more regularly to targeted audiences using e-news, Facebook and Twitter.
2. To set up an editorial group, headed by an Editor to develop and manage an annual communication plan

It was agreed the present operation of Facebook should be changed to allow swimmers to write directly into Facebook. The term Masterscrawl was deemed to be a good word and recommendation was made to buy the domain name.

The motion to accept these proposals was moved by Sue Pollard and seconded by Warren Gilbertson. Carried unanimously.

SWIMMING OFFICER'S REPORT Lesley Parkin

The report from Lesley was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

Only three sanctioned meetings were held in 2012; The NZMS Long Course Championships, the Roskill Short Course Auckland Championships and the North Island Short Course Championships. Unfortunately the scheduled South Island Short Course Championships in Greymouth was cancelled due to lack of sufficient entries. Also the annual Cambridge Long Course meeting in February and the Hamilton Mid-Winter meeting in July were cancelled due to administration and operational problems.

More encouragement is required to persuade Masters clubs to host North Island and South Island Short Course Championships. For 2013 the SISC will be hosted by Jasi Masters Club in Christchurch and the NISC will be hosted by South City Masters club in Auckland.

It was moved by Paul McStay and seconded by John Fisher that host clubs be given information of available swimming officials for future swim meets.

OPEN WATER SWIMMING REPORT Mike Bodger

The report from Mike was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

Tasman Gold in Nelson hosted the Masters open water swim championship in February which was attended by a small number of swimmers. Masters swimmers continue to support the State Oceanswim series in large numbers. More commercially operated openwater swims are being added to the swimming calendar each year.

NATIONAL RECORDER REPORT Jan O'Donnell

The report from Jan was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. Jan did not attend the meeting and her report was taken as read. National records set for 2012 were up on 2011 and partly due to fine performances by Masters swimmers at the FINA World masters Championships in Italy.

Sue Pollard congratulated Jan for her continuous service to NZMS.

TROPHIES OFFICER REPORT Lesley Parkin

The report from Lesley was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

Two new trophies were donated by Foveaux Masters club for the fastest Men's and Women's 50m Freestyle at the National Long Course Championships.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Sue Pollard had previously told the executive of her plans to stand down as President of NZMS and indicated this in the March 2013 edition of Masterscrawl.

Paul McStay of Jasi Masters club was nominated for President by John Fisher and elected unopposed. The nomination was seconded by Warren Gilbertson.

John Fisher of Waitakere masters club was nominated for Vice President by John Trubnick and elected unopposed. The nomination was seconded by Paul McStay.

Sue was thanked by Paul McStay and Mike Bodger for her outstanding leadership for 2011/2012 and a presentation was made to Sue.

APPOINTMENTS

The current officer's positions were endorsed.

National Secretary/Treasurer – Mike Bodger

Webmaster - Andrew Gabites

Swimming Officer – Lesley Parkin

National Recorder – Jan O'Donnell

Computer/IT Officer – Liz Davidson

Geoff Carter, who operates Auckland Central Masters openwater swim series, has agreed to take on the role of NZMS openwater officer.

A motion to endorse this appointment was moved by Mike Bodger and seconded by Jean-Pierre De Raad. It was agreed no honorarium would be offered for the open water Officer's position.

HISTORY OF NZ MASTERS SWIMMING Roger Eagles

Roger Eagles attended the meeting to update progress on his book "A History of New Masters Swimming". He is working with Uniprint, University of Otago to publish the book and quotes have been obtained depending on number printed and page size. The book will probably sell for approximately \$20. The motion to spend up to \$2500 on publishing costs was moved by Lesley Parkin and seconded by Liz Davidson. The executive and delegates were all in agreement.

SWIMMER OF THE YEAR 2012

Swimmer of the Year: Kath Johnstone (NS1) and swimming in the 90-94 years age group. The NZ Masters Swimmer of the Year 2012 had previously been announced at the Swimming NZ awards ceremony on 16th March 2013.

Darryl Follows (RK1) was awarded Nearest to a World Record for 2012.

Certificates of Achievement for 2012 were awarded to Julie Gunthorp (NS1) and Fritz Bohme (NL1).

ENDORSEMENT OF OFFICERS

National Secretary/Treasurer – Mike Bodger

Webmaster - Andrew Gabites

Swimming Officer – Lesley Parkin

National Recorder – Jan O'Donnell

Computer/IT Officer – Liz Davidson

Sue Pollard will continue as Editor of Masterscrawl for the final edition, to be published in June 2013.

NZMS CHAMPIONSHIPS: HOSTING 2013-2014

South Island Short Course – Jasi Masters, Christchurch

North Island Short Course - South City Masters, Auckland, 26th/27th October.

National Long Course Championships 2014.No host club as yet.

LIFE AND SERVICE AWARDS

In 2012 South City Masters nominated John Trubnick for a life membership award. After viewing John's history and role in Masters Swimming and his curriculum vitae the NZMS executive made a recommendation to the meeting that John be bestowed Life Membership and this was endorsed by other officers and delegates at the meeting.

Leading up to the meeting the criteria for Life membership had been discussed by the executive and one worrying aspect was the lack of confidentiality surrounding the nominations. Two new clauses were suggested to Section 10, Clause 4 of the Information Manual.

- Clubs or individuals making nominations for life membership are advised to keep this confidential, especially from the person being nominated, to avoid disappointment.
- In the event a nomination is deemed by the Executive to not meet the criteria for making a recommendation to the Council to bestow life membership, the nominator will be notified prior to the AGM.

The meeting closed at 3pm