

**Ontario Water Polo Association
Board Meeting Minutes - approved
Toronto Office
Sunday October 5, 2014**

Present:

Doriel Terpenka, Joanne Brown, Andrea Kennedy, Kathy Torrens, Scott Craig, Angelos Kotzambasis

Regrets:

John Krawchenko, Meighan Colterjohn

Call to Order at 10:07 am

Previous Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2014

Motion to accept the minutes of June 14th 2014 was made by Joanne Brown and seconded by Doriel Terpenka. Motion passed.

Quest for Gold 2015

Criteria for Quest for Gold must be submitted to Ontario Ministry before the end of October. The following changes are proposed and the board agreed to send this draft to club presidents and head coaches to poll their reactions and request consensus/agreement:

Proposed additions to Quest for Gold criteria:

- Applicants for Quest for Gold funding must meet the Water Polo Canada national qualification criteria for competition as defined by FINA rule GR 2.5 which states
 - **GR 2.5** When a competitor or competition official represents his/her country in a competition, he/she shall be a citizen, whether by birth or naturalisation, of the nation he/she represents, provided that a naturalised citizen shall have lived in that country for at least one year prior to that competition. Competitors, who have more than one nationality according to the laws of the respective nations must choose one “Sport Nationality” and be affiliated to one Member only.
 - Link - http://www.fina.org/H2O/docs/rules/generalrules_20132017_formatted.pdf
- Applicants must compete in the National League in the current season.

A revised criteria document will be distributed to board members for review and revisions prior to submission.

Team Ontario

The final report from Cyndie Flett is still outstanding. Quinn Fairley and Christie Bardecki submitted athlete assessments for the 2014 Team Ontario athletes. Kathy will ask Quinn and Christie if they have any objections to individual athletes receiving a copy of the assessment. If no objections, Kathy will distribute each assessment to the named athlete and the respective head coach of said athlete.

High Performance Program

The grant request to support a High Performance Director was not successful and since the position was dependent on provincial funding support, this item will not be pursued further this year. However, as part of the preparation for the grant proposal, pool bookings were tentatively requested from Scarborough pool. As pool time is always difficult to obtain, the board requested that the tentative pool bookings be investigated further with a view to using all or some of the time for Team Ontario selection camps or other possible programs. Kathy will contact the pool coordinator and verify all costs and obligations associated with the pool bookings.

National Development Centres

Water Polo Canada has cancelled the women's NDC program. There is no indication if this program will be reinstated in the future.

New Ontario Clubs

Kathy gave the following update on club registrations:

- Clarington has registered as a full service club;
- Hydra has registered as a small club;
- Windsor has registered as a full service club;
- Markham Water Polo is registered as a full service club and is currently operating under the Mavericks name. The Mavericks will mentor the new club and help with development and Markham should be operating independently in the future.

Pool Update

The opening of the Markham pool has been pushed back to November 9, 2014. The renovations at the London pool are on schedule and the anticipated re-opening is in November.

Promotion Program Update

The Promotions Committee approved grants in this fiscal year to York Mavericks, Ottawa Titans, Hamilton Aquatics and Hamilton Hammer. Each award was in the amount of \$800 and the \$200 top-up amount was not awarded to any applicant based on depleted funds in the Promotions budget.

Project Reports were received from York Mavericks and Ottawa Titans that indicated the promotion awards were useful and productive to those clubs. The Promotions Committee recommended that the OWP board consider keeping this program active through the next fiscal year and increase the budget allotment for this program.

National Leagues

Based on the registration of teams with Water Polo Canada, 11 teams will participate in the U16 and U19 categories (see Appendix 1). There may be a gap left for U16 and U19 athletes who are not participating in the National League and a corresponding lack of competition opportunities for this group as it is not likely a Provincial League will be operating at the U16 and U19 levels.

Provincial Leagues

Angelos Kotzambasis is currently working on establishing the provincial league. Water Polo Canada is to advise on the positioning of the Ottawa clubs as Gatineau Water Polo has indicated

that they will participate in the Quebec provincial league. Once this decision has been made, Angelos can set up a working schedule for PL games and locations. He is also working with Ontario clubs to gather information regarding numbers of teams and athletes.

Clubs will be polled to see if any will enter a U16 or U19 team (male or female) in a provincial league. This will provide information on the feasibility of running a provincial league for those age groups.

For clarity, any Provincial Championship tournament supported by Ontario Water Polo will be open to all OWP registered members within the age parameters of the tournament, regardless of participation in any other league.

MOTION was made by Doriel Terpenka and seconded by Joanne Brown that all OWP players are eligible to play in the Provincial Championships and any championship may be established with a minimum team entry of 4 teams. Motion passed.

Referee Rates

National B & C designations are no longer recognized, so those rates are removed from consideration. Rates have been static for several years and an increase in the range of 26% to 28% was deemed appropriate. All referees paid \$500 or more in any fiscal year will receive a T4A from OWP. New referee rates are as follows:

Currently:

FULL GAMES	Regional	Provincial	National C & B	National A & International
14+U	\$ 13.75	\$ 16.50	\$ 19.25	\$ 19.25
16+U	\$ 13.75	\$ 16.50	\$ 19.25	\$ 19.25
18+U	\$ 16.50	\$ 19.25	\$ 22.00	\$ 22.00
22+U	XXX	\$ 22.00	\$ 24.75	\$ 27.50
Senior	XXX	\$ 22.00	\$ 24.75	\$ 27.50

New as at September 1, 2014

FULL GAMES	Regional	Provincial	National & International
14+U	\$ 17.50	\$ 21.00	\$ 24.50
16+U	\$ 17.50	\$ 21.00	\$ 24.50
18+U	\$ 21.00	\$ 24.50	\$ 28.00
22+U	XXX	\$ 28.00	\$ 35.00
Senior	XXX	\$ 28.00	\$ 35.00

MOTION by Scott Craig and seconded by Joanne Brown to adopt the above rates for payment to referees as of September 1, 2014. Motion passed.

Roles and Responsibilities of OWP Board Members

In view of the upcoming AGM and board elections, it was felt that this matter should be deferred to a board meeting after the AGM in November.

Technical Advisor

Cyndie Flett will not be continuing in her role as of September 1, 2014. The previous job description that was used in 2013 will be reviewed and amended by the board prior to being posted on the OWP website.

AGM Preparation

The board discussed items related to the upcoming AGM. Call for nominations to the OWP board will be sent next week.

Financial Matters

The variance report to 31 August 2014 was reviewed and no matters arose for discussion.

The 2014/2015 budget was reviewed and the following items were noted:

- The current investment portfolio has performed very well over the last few years and it has been recommended that OWP seek financial investment advice to review the portfolio.
- Since OWP has experienced surplus budgets for the past several years, it was agreed that a deficit budget was acceptable and will be presented at the AGM.
- The Promotions budget will be increased to \$10,000. Of this, \$5,000 will be reserved for Grass Roots Development grants, with the option to increase this amount to \$6,000 if funds remain available after the 3rd quarter of the 2015 fiscal year. Other promotional considerations are the participation in a national advertising program.
- It was proposed that OWP bear the cost of referee evaluations and the budget item was increased by \$1,000 to allow some travel expense reimbursements to evaluators.
- The volunteer subsidy was discussed and a majority of the board agreed that this subsidy was no longer relevant.
- Membership fees would not be increased for the 2015/2016 year.
- OWP will enforce the collection of late charges on overdue registration fees.

MOTION made by Scott Craig and seconded by Andrea Kennedy to eliminate the volunteer rebate initiative effective September 1, 2014. Motion carried.

Questions from Member Clubs

Q. Has WPC provided the detailed budgets for the “athlete pay” funded programs that were promised? If yes, can the clubs have a look? If not, is it possible for OWP to follow up on the commitment made at the Waterpolo Canada AGM?

A. This information has been requested from WPC, however, there has not yet been any information distributed to members. Kathy will follow up on expectations for a response.

Q. WPC has said they would look into the gap in insurance coverage that prevents any kind of engagement between university teams and club teams. Is it possible for OWP to follow up with WPC on this matter?

A. Kathy will follow up on this matter also and see if a response from WPC is forthcoming.

Q. Is this an acceptable mechanism for clubs to request that the OWP lobby/liaise with WPC, or is there a preferred way to receive these types of requests?

A. It is always preferable that Ontario clubs deal directly with Ontario Water Polo. When OWP approaches Waterpolo Canada, it is as a provincial sport organization that is representing all the clubs in Ontario so the responsibility of WPC is greater to the PSO than to any individual club. In turn, OWP has a responsibility to its member clubs to lobby/liaise on their behalf to WPC.

Q. When the strategy session that was discussed at the June meeting would happen?

A. OWP is currently putting together an availability request to member clubs for dates in December.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Doriel Terpenka, President

Andrea Kennedy, Secretary

APPENDIX 1

National Leagues

16U Girls - Mavericks, Capital Wave
5 east, 5 west

16U Boys - Hamilton, Golden Jets, Mavericks, Titans, Capital Wave
7 east, 6 west

19U Women - Golden Horseshoe
5 east, 4 west

19U Men - Golden Jets, Mavericks, Titans
6 east, 6 west

14U - Gatineau will not be participating in the National Capital region