

SWIMMING NELSON MARLBOROUGH INC.

Minutes of Board Meeting
7.00 pm Thursday 9 May 2013
WHK Board Room
Oxford St, Richmond

Present: Sue Malthus (from 7.18), Hamish Neill, Jim Sinner, Brent Cheyne, Stephen Fryer (chair), Susie Foster, Karen Borrell

Apologies: Phil McMath, Lynn Anderson, Jos Pattison

In attendance: Lindie Nelson (minutes)

1. **WELCOME** – Steve welcomed everyone and noted the purpose of the meeting is to discuss the draft regional constitution and SNZ's proposed process for developing the Whole of Sport Plan.

2. WHOLE OF SPORT PLAN PROCESS

Comments

- Brent: Set out his views on whole of sport plan noting it's the only mechanism that gives clubs and regions any say in the sport. Critical to engage in process and agree on what we, as a smaller region, want to see included. SNZ CEO has confirmed that we will be able to send someone to the working group, and suggested Sport NZ might facilitate the working group. Sport NZ should contribute to the process like everyone else but should not provide the facilitator at the workshop.
- Hamish: Support the concept of whole of sport plan, but it is crucial that it includes positive aspects that suit NM. We should share these ideas with other regions. The whole of sport plan will be condensed down to KPIs that regions will be expected to meet.
- Jim: Need to give regions an ability to comment on draft (at step 4) that emerges following the workshop. The WOSP is an opportunity to establish something at the national level that has been missing so far – such as supporting all swimmers, not just HP swimming.
- Others agreed with these comments.

SNM Feedback and comments on process

The following points were agreed regarding the process:

1. Sport NZ is a stakeholder in the Whole of Sport plan so they have a conflict as facilitator, but they should have an active role. SNM prefer Sport NZ to have input in the working group process rather than be the facilitator.
2. Seek confirmation that the 'working group' referred to in step 3 means the workshop attendees.
3. Step 4 should involve a request for comments on the draft from the wider swimming community membership.

Next steps

Decide who will attend the workshop and what the key points are. This will be discussed at the next meeting. It was suggested that SNM would share our key points with other regions.

3. DRAFT REGIONAL CONSTITUTION

Comments

- Brent: Set out his views noting that the draft can be made to work, but there are bits that we don't like. It is a matter of trying to fine tune the document. SNM will be bound by SNZ rules and directions. Therefore Whole of Sport plan must set out who does what. The expectation that regions will be self-financing while required to meet SNZ KPIs does not recognise the reality of smaller regions, which rely on volunteers. We do not have the luxury of separating governance and operational functions by precluding any club committee members from being Board members. Suggest we focus on the 5 most important areas that we think SNZ might move on.
- Hamish: Only big objection is 6-member Board. It increases our work load substantially. Suggest adding ex-officio members and/or operating as a Management Committee. The 6 Board members would appoint a Management Committee – including all the Board members plus 4 others—and delegate all decisions to SNM MC. (Brent noted the need to check liability insurance wrt decision-makers.) Also noted that having club committee members on the Board ensures there is a flow of information within the region.
- Jim: Noted that the constitution does not include a power to appoint extra Board members. SNZ tells regions what to do, regions must pay for it. It would be helpful if SNZ would provide a template for the charter and code of conduct, which regions could then adapt as appropriate. We will need to look at a process to extract material from our constitution and standing orders to become part of new standing orders.
- Steve: Board structure will cause work overload. Draft does not include provisions for 2 appointed members.

White board notes – to be used for preparing draft submission

1. Structure of Board
 - does not recognise reality of smaller regions, which rely exclusively on volunteers
 - Smaller regions do not have the luxury of separating board governance from those who actually do the work (operations). Hard enough to get full Board and full committee even when overlapping membership is allowed.
2. Representation at SNZ AGM
 - Who is authorised to represent region? Who are we able to appoint? 5.1(f)
 - Decided not to raise this because it's a power ('may") not an obligation.
3. Voting for the Board
 - Why limit clubs to nominating only 1 person?
 - Is it practical to allow clubs to have only 1 vote, when voting for 2 or more Board vacancies?
4. Drafting Errors
 - clause 10.2 should say 'election' rather than 'announcement'
 - Others

5. Our AGM is on 4 August, so expect to hold SGM to adopt new constitution immediately after.

Process from here

1. Prepare draft SNM submission, circulate to the Board for comment (Brent)
2. Circulate constitution to clubs, highlight key areas relevant to clubs, and note that Board has met to discuss our draft submission and will be circulating it shortly for comments by 20 May (either in writing or through club's Board representative). (Lindie)
3. Circulate draft SNM submission to clubs requesting comments by 20 May. (Lindie)
4. Discuss comments/finalise submission at next SNM Board meeting (21 May).
5. Confirmed that the AGM will be on 4 August, followed by SGM (assuming new constitution is ready). This will require a motion by the Board to convene an SGM.

Next Board meeting: 7 pm Tuesday 21 May at WHK

Agenda items

- Whole of sport plan
- Finalise submission on regional constitution
- Call for SGM

Meeting closed at 9.02 pm