

IN ATTENDANCE:

Doug Smith, Norm Creen, Bill Pearson, Mirco Graenert, Peter Zowkewych, Lily Whalen, Jay Yakabowich

UNABLE TO ATTEND:

Lynn Bourque, Dan Fiorini

NOTE: For clarification of minutes, Ontario Masters Athletics (OMA) Board of Directors (BOD) are referred to as 'Members' vs. general membership to OMA are referred to as 'Membership.'

Doug Welcomed participating Members and reviewed agenda. Jay took roll-call and advised he will do minutes and distribute to Members for approval; Doug will post on OMA website for Membership to have access to once approved by Members.

BOD structure and bylaws: Doug let Members on brief discussion; Members agreed it would be a good idea to participate in a not-for-profit (NFP) specific seminar after Annual General Meeting (AGM); Athletics Ontario (AO) BOD did and recommend OMA do same.

Jay reported that we have five applicants to the OMA BOD; Jay will build and distribute a formal summary / vetting report to Nominations Committee shortly. Nominations Committee: Jay (Chair), Doug, Lily & Dan.

Officials payment structure (first discussion): Doug and Bill led a lengthy discussion on past, current and possible policy changes. Questions arises as to who sets and governs this policy: OMA or Local Operations Committee (LOC). More discussion and a resolution needs to take place – have agreed to take this off-line.

Meet fees process and authority for setting same: Members all agreed that all fees are set and approved by members well in advance of meets. Doug will inform AO and LOCs of set policy.

Contact us portal: Now tested and live on OMA website. As inquiries come in, Doug to vet, respond and where necessary, involve Members and/or meet staff on matters as needed prior to a formal response on behalf of OMA. Response time: strive to respond as soon as possible and same day; have agreed no later than 48 hours. 'Contact us' button on website needs to be highly accessible on website and in perhaps multiple spots – Doug to review. Doug to promote in next OMA membership eBlast Newsletter.

Mini Meet #1: Outside of a few logistical hurdles that have been identified by meet participants, Members believe it was a success. Issue with 'martialing' the younger Participants – while we wish to resolve at the next mini meet, believe this will take time and education to resolve; will work with AO. Members agreed to fully review future involvement of Youth athletes after mini meet #3. Jay reminded Members OMAs' commitment to the 'cradle-2-grave' philosophy we share with AO.

AO now has all equipment needed to run indoor meets less OMA branded items. Members agree important to maintain full transparency to membership. Large turnout of youth participants this year – much favourable feedback from this demographic. Entry fees have been set at \$10 for U16 AO youth athletes.

Doug and Norm further discussed mini meet financial results. Believe we are in a surplus; Norm to provide full accounting to Members shortly.

Prep Meet Concept: AO is considering a Prep Meet on the Saturday's prior to the OMA Mini Meets. Believe this may increase overall participation of indoor season. This could be bundled as a weekend-combined-event. This is in discussions only at this point.

2019 Road Race (RR) Series: Combined AO – OMA 'Trillium' concept is running behind plan; more discussion required on next steps and timing – taking off-line as Lynn not in this call. First OMA RR event is 27 Jan 2019. We will use current OMA medals for this and future OMA RR events until plans are better defined and agreed upon between OMA and AO.

New 2019 OMA Medal: Jay reported that new medal prototype was approved in December; production in final stages; delivery of new design by end of January. Will be introduced at the OMA Indoor T & F Championships 24 February 2019. With RR Series using up most of old design waste will be minimal.

Membership Report: Doug reported we continue to track well ahead of YTD last year; believes we will have over 1,000 members this year. Member believe price increase this year is proving to have no impact / sensitivity on retention and growth.

AO Payments: Norm reported that first payment to AO \$10K complete; second payment is scheduled for 31 March 2019. Norm believes we are in good financial shape with a current cash balance of approximately \$7K; not worried about cash-flow for FY. Independent audit will be done late February in time for OMA AGM 17 March 2019.

Officials payment structure (second discussion): Bill felt subject needed more discussion and resolution; led Members in discussion: Mini Meet rate is now \$25 to each official via VISA Gift Card vs. standard of \$40 and not sure why. Doug reported that there is much discussion between OMA and AO for future policy. All agree there are some issues that need to be resolved. This may not be fully resolve until end of Mini Meet #3. Members all agreed that current rate is not sensible given the time and personal expense commitment by officials. Members believe they need to take a stand on this issue to preserve the quality of OMA's meets.

Motion by Norm, seconded by Bill: OMA to advise AO to revisit entire official compensation package / policy. Motion passed. Doug to communicate same to AO and seek timely resolution.

Motion to adjourn by Bill, seconded by Lily; motion passed. Meeting adjourned @ 2020hrs.

Minutes by Jay Yakabowich, 19 January 2019