

BOARD MEETING MINUTES



New England LMSC Board Meeting via Zoom
Sunday, April 11, 2021– 4:00 p.m.

1. Roll Call 6pm taken by Crystie McGrail, Chair

- a. NELMSC Board Officers Present
 - i. Crystie McGrail - Chair
 - ii. Guy Davis - Vice Chair
 - iii. Al Prescott - Treasurer
 - iv. Mike Hurd - Secretary
 - v. Douglas Sayles - Membership
 - vi. Alana Aubin - Communications
 - vii. Tara Mack - Awards
 - viii. Bob Ouellette - Coaches
 - ix. Sue Jensen - Officials
 - x. Jason Weis - Sanctions
 - xi. Jen Downing - Open Water
 - xii. Laura Dennison - Para-Athlete
 - xiii. Tracy Grilli - Hall of Fame

- b. Appointed Club Representatives Present
 - i. Todd Whitford (GBM)
 - ii. Doug Bosley (NEM)

- c. Other NELMSC Members Present
 - i. Alford Green (NEM-WAM) - SCM Championship Meet Director
 - ii. David Grilli (NEM-GSP)
 - iii. Kysa Crusco (NEM-GSP)
 - iv. Rachel Flinn (NEM)

- d. Non-NELMSC Attendees Present
 - i. N/A

- e. Board Members Absent
 - i. Kate Radville - CRSC Club Rep
 - ii. John Gillis - MESC Club Rep
 - iii. Bill Meier - At Large (Fitness)
 - iv. Jason Eaddy - Top Ten

BOARD MEETING MINUTES



1. Chair Intro - Crystie McGrail
 - a. Thank you for signing on to the call
 - b. Suggestion to kick off with some items that have emerged
2. NEKOWSA / USMS Champs Update, Jen Downing, Open Water Chair
 - a. NEKOWSA was slated to host the USMS 10-mile open water national championship this summer. NEKOWSA informed all of the 10-Mile OWNC event registrants via email that USMS revoked the sanction because it does not support NEKOWSA's vaccine requirement
 - b. The event is still scheduled, but is now unsanctioned and not a national championship
 - c. USMS issued a statement to members explaining its rationale for revoking the sanction - <https://www.usms.org/events/national-championships/open-water-national-championships/2021-open-water-national-championships/2021-ultramarathon-distance-cancellation-announcement>
 - d. Lengthy discussion about what transpired and how we can move forward. NELMSC will support the statement made by USMS and also support our members participating in the event.
3. Club Collection of Fees - Doug Bosley (NEM)
 - a. Because NEM had a financial surplus, two years ago the club's board decided to temporarily stop collecting club dues via the USMS registration system. USMS has discontinued this legacy service for all clubs. NEM is trying to determine how to reinstate collection of annual club dues from each member. Will the LMSC consider subsidizing that effort?
 - b. Crystie McGrail, Chair - The LMSC is taking in more registration revenue due to the national unified membership fee, but the past couple of years we've been working in a deficit. Moving forward the unified fee was enabling us to break even.
 - c. Doug Sayles, Membership Chair - Two issues I see and I'm not sure if we can come up with answer right now:
 - i. Registration process issue
 - ii. Equity issue - Any subsidy or service we make available for one club needs to be offered to all clubs who want it unless we have justifiable allocation criteria
 - d. Doug Sayles, Membership Chair - suggested that he and Doug Bosley (NEM) and Tracy Grilli, Hall of Fame Chair, work together on this project and report back to the board
4. Nominating Committee - Guy Davis, Vice Chair
 - a. Al Prescott, Treasurer, is leaving the treasurer position by Annual Meeting. David Grilli has volunteered to step up to this position and has been engaging with Al to get up to speed.
 - b. Alana Aubin, Communications Chair is looking to move on to new challenges and possibly a new role on board. Kysa Crusco (NEM-GSP) is interested and has volunteered to be a successor candidate.
 - c. Jason Weis, Sanctions Chair - Has had a change of plans and is now returning to the Boston area before fall. Rachel Flinn (NEM) had previously volunteered to stand for this role as Jason's successor.
 - d. Mike Hurd, Secretary - Transitioning out of role at next board meeting. Tom Phillips was identified as a prospective successor, but is flexible about the position.
 - e. So there is flexibility with the volunteer roles and Guy Davis, Vice Chair, will be figuring out what the optimal lineup will be, while trying to avoid any type of contested election

BOARD MEETING MINUTES



- f. Doug Sayles, Membership Chair, mentioned that we still need to advertise the positions to the entire membership.
5. Crystie McGrail, Chair - Annual Meetings updates
 - a. USMS annual meeting will be virtual this year, but dates have not been secured.
 - b. What is the comfort level of having our NELMSC Annual meeting in person?
 - i. Doug Sayles, Membership Chair said he is comfortable with the meeting being in person unless there is a spike or variants of the Covid-19 virus. This sentiment was echoed by several others.
 - c. Per NELMSC bylaws, the annual meeting must happen before November 15
 - d. The meeting will probably be a hybrid (in person with virtual option)
6. Officer Reports
 - a. Al Prescott, Treasurer
 - i. Registration income ranging about 65% of previous registration cycle
 - ii. Spending very little on budget items
 - iii. Main bank account is \$41,759.32 and the Hall of Fame account is \$4,758.72
 - b. Bob Ouelette, Coaches Chair - has been corresponding with Bill Meier, At Large Fitness Chair, to do a coaches clinic. Bob has identified a pool available that has a capacity of 32 people and if fully booked would be \$200-\$300 loss. Crystie mentioned that Bob has an approved budget line which is available if needed without requiring additional board approval. Bob said he would move forward and see about putting something together.
 - c. Doug Sayles, Membership Chair, emailed the board registration numbers [\(see attached\)](#)
 - i. Guy Davis, Vice Chair - there has been USMS Finance Committee discussions about projections for the next couple of years. If interested in the details, the minutes are posted on the USMS website. This is a good place to get background information.
 - ii. Doug Sayles - We are looking at a potential scenario of having half the members we had just a few years ago. Suggested subsidizing valued-added services as part of a multifaceted "comeback plan" to help boost membership as the pandemic wanes
 - iii. Crystie McGrail asked for people to reach out if you are interested in helping craft the comeback plan
 - d. Tara Mack, Awards Chair, celebrated the outgoing board members for their work and contributions made for the NE-LMSC
7. Bylaws edits - N/A
8. Meeting moved to adjourn and seconded at 5:17pm

BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Addendum 1: NELMSC Registration Statistics @ 4/11/2021 Provided by Doug Sayles, Membership Chair

NELMSC membership stats:

- 1,110 @ 4/11/2021
- 1,887 @ 4/11/2020
- 2,078 @ 4/11/2019
- 2,041 @ 4/11/2018
- 2,237 @ 4/11/2017
- 2,181 @ 4/11/2016
- 2,129 @ 4/11/2015

NELMSC @ 4/11 vs NELMSC @ YE:

- Estimated 2021 YE based on registration % at 4/11/2019: $(1,110 / 86.80) \times 100 = 1,279$ estimated members @ 10/30/2021
- Actual % from past years:
 - 2020: $1,887 / 1,958 = 96.37\%$
 - 2019: $2,078 / 2,394 = 86.80\%$
 - 2018: $2,041 / 2,363 = 86.37\%$
 - 2017: $2,237 / 2,520 = 88.77\%$
 - 2016: $2,181 / 2,518 = 86.61\%$
 - 2015: $2,129 / 2,389 = 89.11\%$

NELMSC vs USMS year-end membership stats:

- 2021 (as of 4/11) $1,110 / 35,635 = 3.11\%$
- 2020 YE: $1,958 / 51,334 = 3.81\%$
- 2019 YE: $2,394 / 59,796 = 4.00\%$
- 2018 YE: $2,363 / 60,386 = 3.91\%$
- 2017 YE: $2,520 / 64,008 = 3.74\%$
- 2016 YE: $2,518 / 65,787 = 3.83\%$
- 2015 YE: $2,389 / 63,648 = 3.75\%$

NELMSC Clubs:

- 16 registered clubs @ 4/11/2021 vs 24 in 2020
 - Most of the lapsed clubs had zero or very few members in 2020.

NEM Workout Groups:

- 35 registered workout groups @ 4/11/2021 vs 43 in 2020
 - Most of the lapsed groups had zero or very few members in 2020.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES



- Two groups that have not yet renewed had substantial USMS membership in 2020.
 - BUMS (24)
 - BASS (21)