

NEW ENGLAND LMSC FEBRUARY 2021 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New England LMSC Board Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday, February 3rd – 6:00 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. Jason Eaddy - Top Ten
 - xiii. Laura Dennison - Para-Athlete
 - xiv. Tracy Grilli - Hall of Fame
 - xv. Bill Meier - At Large (Fitness)

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

- c. Other Board Guests Present
 - i. Leo Letendre (NEM-NMEG) - USMS delegate

- d. NELMSC Members Present
 - i. Manuel Martines (NEM-YNS)
 - ii. Stephen Carroll (NEM-GSP)
 - iii. Kysa Crusco (NEM-GSP)

- e. Non-NELMSC Attendees Present
N/A

- f. Board Members Absent
 - i. Kate Radville - CRSC Club Rep
 - ii. John Gillis - MESC Club Rep

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1. Chair Intro - Crystie McGrail
2. Adoption of minutes
 - a. Crystie asked if anyone had any corrections [2020 Annual meeting minutes](#). There were none.
3. Treasurer Report - Al Prescott, Treasurer
 - a. Recap of 2020 final numbers
 - i. \$15,243 in revenue, \$7,685 in expenses including \$4,580 for the [USMS COVID-19 Relief Program for Clubs](#). NELMSC is entitled to a \$1,890 reimbursement from USMS, which was received in January.
 - ii. For 2020 we had a surplus of \$7,558, which accounts for not spending budgeted funds for projects and events canceled during the pandemic.
 - b. [Current status of 2021 membership registrations](#) - Doug Sayles, Membership Coordinator. We currently have 961 NELMSC members. At this time in 2020 we had 1,609 members and in 2019 we had 1,765; year-end numbers for those years were 1,958 and 2,394, respectively. At this point in a regular year we usually have about 50% of the year-end total registered and over 75% by the NELMSC SCY Championship (Harvard) Meet in mid March.
 - c. Bob Ouellette, Coaches Chair, asked how this compares to national trends. Guy Davis, Vice Chair, said they are expected to be in the low 40,000's for membership registrations this year, which is a steep drop from the 60,000 members national would like to see. They are hoping this 40K projection will increase based on initiatives planned for later this year. NELMSC membership is probably a little more affected because of limited pool availability vs the south.
 - d. Crystie McGrail, Chair asked where we are financially vs where we expected we would be for income from membership dues. Al Prescott responded that we planned on a 6% hit to membership funds, which was a reasonable guess from the annual meeting. We are 40% below where we were last year with memberships at this time according to Doug Sayles. Al Prescott added we are down 30% in revenue. Crystie said before we support anything we need to see where we stand before we make any spending decisions.
 - e. Al Prescott shared that our current bank balance is \$39,353.
4. Officer/Committee Reports
 - a. Officers - Any big updates? Support needs, etc, Current plan for 2021
 - i. Alana Aubin, Communications Chair - no major updates.
 - ii. Jason Eaddy - Top 10 Recorder - reached out after the last meeting to Ed Gendreau for the NELMSC records database file but have not been able to reach him. Looking to migrate the database to a new home.
 - iii. Jason Weis, Sanctions Chair - leaving NELMSC in 60 days and moving to California so needs to resign from the board. Stephen Carroll has volunteered to take over for me as Sanctions Chair. We had one intrasquad meet (Granite State Penguins). If you are having a meet, please fill out the COVID-19 safety addendum.
 - iv. Bob Ouellette, Coaches Chair - not many organized practices currently. Would like to try to do something in the spring with open water coaches.
 - v. Sue Jensen, Officials Chair - Not much for updates, a few officials worked the Granite State Penguins' intrasquad meet.
 - vi. Tara Mack, Awards Chair - No updates but open to ideas on going back and highlighting old awards. Suggested creatively sharing accomplishments from the past.

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- vii. Tracy Grilli, Hall of Fame Chair - Hoping if the Jenny Thompson meet happens in July we may piggyback the -postponed HOF induction ceremony.
 - viii. Bill Meier, At Large Fitness Chair - trying to find pool space, doing some adult lessons but in his own pool. Slated to do four national ALTS programs in the fall, pending what happens with Covid-19.
 - ix. Laura Dennison - Para-Athlete Chair - Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee (D&I) had a group meeting to get discussion going. Visibility, education of members and recruitment are the three focus areas. Action items: create a Google doc survey to members and board; also working on what the D&I subcommittee will look like, including discussion of board member ideas.
- b. Covid Relief subcommittee - Guy Davis, Vice Chair
- i. Thanked Doug Sayles, Tracy Grilli, Leo Letendre and Al Prescott for their work on the USMS COVID-19 Relief Program.
 - ii. Doug Sayles shared numbers from NELMSC relief grants - 4 teams (all NEM workout groups) requested and received grants ranging from \$600 to \$2,300 depending on what they were eligible for. NELMSC distributed \$4,580, which includes partial USMS matching grant funds.
- c. Nominating Committee Update - Guy Davis, Vice Chair
- i. Nominations Subcommittee (Guy Davis, Jessica Stokes) looking for one more subcommittee member - not from GBM or NEM per NELMSC bylaws.
 - ii. Discussed potential successors identified to date for Communications, Pool Sanctions, Secretary, and Treasurer board positions - We have spoken to several potential successors and several have sat in on meetings.
 - iii. We are to distribute and publish the pre-election slate of officer (board) candidates no later than 15 days before the NELMSC Annual General Meeting.
- d. Open Water Sanctions and Natl Championships Subcommittee Update by Jen Downing, Open Water Chair
- i. Sanctioned two open water events in 2021 to date
 - 1. Glen Lake August 15
 - 2. USMS ultra marathon at Lake Mentatagog on July 24
 - ii. At the NELMSC Annual Meeting in October, Alana Aubin, Jen Downing and Sue Jensen were appointed to an Open Water subcommittee to discuss how the LMSC can help support open water events.
5. Unfinished Business
- a. Edits to [NELMSC Bylaws](#) Article 6 Parts E & F - Crystie McGrail will follow up with Homer Lane & Leo Letendre.
6. New Business - Crystie McGrail, Chair
- a. Call for USMS rule amendments - Crystie said to please connect with Doug Sayles if anyone has any ideas.
 - b. Proposals / Other - None were presented.
7. Motion for meeting to adjourn, moved and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

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Doug Sayles, Membership Chair - Just to add context, here are some registration and membership data that were discussed during this evening's NELMSC board meeting, and some that were not discussed:

NELMSC membership stats:

- 961 @ 2/3/2021
- 1,609 @ 2/3/2020
- 1,765 @ 2/3/2019
- 1,723 @ 2/3/2018
- 1,926 @ 2/3/2017
- 1,847 @ 2/3/2016
- 1,858 @ 2/3/2015

NELMSC vs USMS year-end membership stats:

- 2021 (as of 2/3): 961 vs 30,618
- 2020 YE: 1,958 vs 51,334
- 2019 YE: 2,394 vs 59,796
- 2018 YE: 2,363 vs 60,386
- 2017 YE: 2,520 vs 64,008
- 2016 YE: 2,518 vs 65,787
- 2015 YE: 2,389 vs 63,648

NELMSC Clubs:

- 16 registered clubs @ 2/3/2021 vs 24 in 2020
 - Most of the lapsed clubs had zero or very few members in 2020.

NEM Workout Groups:

- 32 registered workout groups @ 2/3/2021 vs 24 in 2020
 - Most of the lapsed groups had zero or very few members in 2020.
 - Four groups that have not yet renewed had substantial USMS membership in 2020.
 - YNS (40)
 - PATS (27) – created in mid 2020 to replace the now-defunct but once-thriving MAMA program
 - BUMS (24)
 - BASS (21)

NELMSC COVID-19 Relief Fund Grants:

- NELMSC paid out a total of \$4,580 to the four NEM workout groups that applied -- \$1,890 came from USMS matching grants and \$2,690 came from the NELMSC. The individual grants ranged from \$600 to \$2,320 based on the number of affiliated USMS members the WG had as of May 31, 2020. No NELMSC local clubs applied for relief funds.

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NELMSC Club & Workout Group Registration Reimbursements:

- 11 clubs and 30 NEM workout groups qualified to receive NELMSC reimbursement of their \$60 USMS club/WG registration fee for 2021.
 - To date 26 of the eligible 41 teams have requested the \$60 reimbursement, which is in process (total = \$1,560).
 - One eligible workout group waived reimbursement.
 - The remaining 14 teams have not responded.
 - The reimbursement eligibility criteria were that the team was USMS-registered in 2020 with at least one affiliated USMS member.