

**Pacific Northwest Association of Masters Swimmers
Minutes of Board Meeting via MS Teams
Monday, November 4, 2024**

Attendees: Sally Dillon, Bob Moore, Steve Peterson (in Wichita), Brent Barnes, Linda Chapman, Dave Scott, Jim Davidson, Lorraine Masse, Dan Underbrink, Bob DeWard, Kim Boggs, and Doug Jelen.

Not present: Kathy Casey.

Call to Order and Introductions: President Sally Dillon called the meeting to order at 6:48 pm.

A. Officer Reports

1. President's report: Five PNA members attended the USMS Volunteer Relay in Houston, TX, October 18-20: April Cheadle (BAM), Mason Chuang (ORCA), Jennifer Claridge (TACM), Jessi Gable (TWIM), and Linda Chapman (LWM). Coach Diana Hermanson (BERN) attended the National Coaches Clinic being held the same weekend.

Sally was saddened to hear of Tom Walker's passing. Tom was a great mentor to his TWIM teammates, also providing service to PNA by writing stories for *The WetSet* about our members for several years. Sally confirmed that Heidi Skrzypek was very interested to continue writing articles for *The WetSet*.

2. Approval of minutes: **MSA the September 9 meeting minutes as presented.**
3. Financial report: No report. Brent noted there was little activity. He asked how USMS invoices for Relay and Nationals attendance fees. Sally said she would send a reminder to those participants who have yet to request reimbursement. Steve asked about the two "Stop Payment" messages from the bank account. Brent and Linda explained that it has to do with how USMS now deals with LMSC money flow. In preferring to avoid sending money back and forth, they carry a balance that is paid periodically. So rather than returning the two checks we had sent, they destroyed them, hence our stop payment request (Bank of America waived the two \$30 fees).

Total Assets as of October 31:	\$99,127:
Checking account balance:	\$40,800
Savings account balance:	\$58,327

4. 2025 Summer Nationals: The organizing committee met via Teams in October and has since agreed to meet regularly on the second Thursday each month at 6 PM. Sally said all are welcome, just to let her know so she can send the meeting link. She has a lengthy list of responsibilities to fulfill. Already, Diana Hermanson has stepped up to say that BERN will handle Awards distribution. The awards themselves are financed and produced by the National Office. Sally requested input on award design, which could include such icons as Mt. Rainier, the ferries, and other ideas. Sally will follow up on her request to Mary Ann White to compose the final.

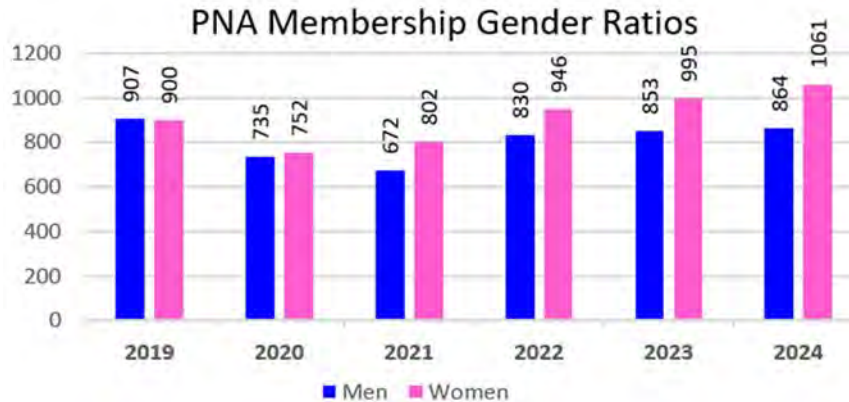
B. Coordinator/Committee Reports

1. Membership: 2024 was a record year, with **1925** (1061 women; 864 men) versus 1848 last year.

PNA MEMBERSHIP BY MONTH AND YEAR 2017-2024 Thru 11-01-2024															
YR	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	Total Year	YTD Diff	Diff %
2024	309	656	332	81	88	61	80	72	52	57	68	69	1925		
2023	312	660	283	84	85	74	69	46	57	44	63	71	1848	79	4%
2022	371	577	280	49	110	71	46	53	36	41	68	74	1776	154	9%
2021	254	432	207	52	53	54	64	64	87	56	67	84	1474	466	34%

2020	305	574	357	93	29	5	7	30	17	23	19	28	1487	397	27%
2019	335	554	331	83	86	100	66	68	36	45	61	42	1807	91	5%
2018	390	507	358	88	74	63	59	55	50	33	48	42	1767	131	8%
2017	418	550	246	95	65	68	68	44	29	52	50	53	1738	171	10%

Linda noted that post-pandemically, PNA’s female membership has outnumbered the men (55.1% v. 44.9% this year). Sally commented that BAM membership has increased greatly compared with other workout groups. Linda began looking at this but came to no conclusion. Nationally, USMS with 58,139 for 2024 was relatively even with 29,473 men and 28,666 women (50.7% v. 49.3%). Statistics by LMSC can be found on the USMS website under Volunteer Central / LMSC Resources / Bylaws, Stats, and Templates.



2. Meets: Lorraine received requests for one-day meet sanctions, all on Sundays: Bellevue Club, depending upon repair of the timing system (Feb 2); WWU (Feb 16); TACM, SCY or SCM TBD, (Mar 2); and PSM at Mary Wayte (March 23 or 30). **MSA to approve the four meet requests.** Brent asked about the amount due from WWU from last year. The Vikings have yet to submit their financial report. Lorraine, saying the team isn’t concerned with profitability, said she will talk to the WWU team president and let Brent know about the invoice.
3. Open Water: Jim has received date requests for expected 2025 events: the *Whidbey Adventure Swim* (June 1); *Fat Salmon* (July 26); and *Swim Defiance* (August 2). Steve said BERN is considering a course modification because of tides, though Jim said that was not mentioned. **MSA to approve these three OW dates.**
4. Newsletter and social media: Sally encouraged everyone to reach out to Lucianne to thank her for her excellent work on the latest newsletter.
5. Club & Team Development: Linda said she will be sending her Google form to coaches and team contacts to gather information for an informative directory. She hopes to have it ready for the Jan/Feb issue of *The WetSet*. It could also be put up on the website but might be challenging to keep up. Linda found out at Relay that Club Finder lists the address of the coach or club rep rather than the pool, which can be misleading if the coach or rep lives some distance away.
6. Historian: Dave said Walt has submitted updates and corrections to the Progressive Records listings.
7. Webmaster: Dave has made improvements to the board member listings, increasing efficiency and consolidating duplicate positions. All six sets of the progressive records listings are now in native-HTML format vs the prior Google-spreadsheet format. Dave tested a prototype board member bio pop-up feature should we opt for that capability, notwithstanding today’s risk of putting personal information on the Internet. Sally suggested Dave give us some templates for what information should appear.

Steve mentioned finding many “comments” on our website left by foreign and bad actors that contained links to questionable sites. Steve, Dave, and Linda periodically clear this garbage and respond to the few legitimate questions. Jim asked how comments are directed; Dave noted that users – whether

human or robot – can “Leave a comment” via that area that appears on many pages. The response shows up in the Comments area for access by site administrators.

C. Old Business

1. Survey of clubs and teams: Included in B.5 above.
2. Coach certification clinic: Dan is waiting for information from Bill Brenner on progress identifying a venue for the tentative weekend of January 25-26.
3. Bylaws review: A review is due, the bylaws last having been revised in 2014. Sally will send a copy with her proposed changes to Kathy, Jim, and Steve, who volunteered in 2023 to recommend updates. Their goal is completion in January for inclusion on the ballot to the membership for the election of officers due in March.

D. New Business

1. Nominating committee for 2025 election cycle: A minimum of 3 are required. Bob Moore, Linda Chapman, and Dave Scott volunteered to serve. Linda noted that we need to continue efforts to bring in younger people. While desirable that those who become officers should have some board experience first, this assumes that the at-large or other spots move up into the elected positions. But if that doesn't happen, then “we're just stuck.” Steve asked whether any term limits apply; Sally said she would examine our Bylaws.
2. Appoint Directors for 2025: **MSA to appoint Bob DeWard and Dan Underbrink as Appointed Directors.**
3. Approve 2025 meeting schedule: **MSA the schedule of seven 2025 meetings.** Four are on the second Mondays of January, March, July, and September via MS Teams. Two are in-person on Saturdays (at Champs in April and Sally's in May). The November meeting is also in-person, date and location to be determined. Steve will post the schedule on the website. Sally noted that the USMS Annual Meeting is in Kansas City, date to be determined.
4. Financial planning for January budget meeting: Linda did a tentative revenue forecast based on the membership numbers and OW participation. She suggested we “adopt an investment mindset where we are investing in our members” and pay attention to the 70% of our members who do not compete. She said other LMSCs, for example, encourage their fitness swimmers by logging their yardage and rewarding them with virtual long-distance challenges and/or tee shirts.

Jim suggested we review needs for Nationals, though a separate account, and asked about a budget item for fees. Linda offered that there will be so many fewer transactions in 2025 because USMS pool and OW sanction fees are gone, so all we would owe is OEVT fees, Annual Meeting and Relay registrations, Rule Book costs, and meet recognition fees. We need to budget for our \$1K per meet-day KCAC subsidy, “ideally no more than two two-day meets, for \$4K” and our \$5 per swimmer support fee. Jim suggested that the Champs banquet could be free, though Linda noted that there should be a nominal charge to minimize the number of no-shows.

E. Looking Ahead:

1. Next PNA BOD Meeting: Monday, January 13, 6:45 pm via MS Teams.

MSA to adjourn at 8:23 pm

Minutes prepared by Steve Peterson, Secretary