



## Meeting of the Board of Directors of Athletics Ontario

**Date:** Friday September 10, 2010

**Start time:** 6:00 pm

**Location:** Sport Alliance of Ontario, 3 Concorde Gate, Lobby Boardroom, Toronto, ON M3C 3N7

**Present:** Bill Stephens (Chair), Roman Olszewski (staff), John Craig (staff), Suzanne Leroux, Val Sarjeant (Vice Chair) via conference call (7:43pm), Anthony Biggar (staff) (7:45pm), Harry Stantsos via conference call (7:50pm), Leslie Estwick via conference call (8:10pm)

- 1. Welcome** – Bill welcomed everyone and started the meeting before a quorum was present. We will cover items which do not require a vote. Deferred items requiring a vote were addressed once a quorum was present.

**Motion:** to ratify the acceptance of the Minutes of the April 2010 Board Meeting  
Leroux and Stephens *Carried*

- 2. Business Arising:** To be addressed as agenda items later in the meeting.

- 3. Approval of Agenda**

**Motion:** to accept the Agenda as presented.  
Sarjeant and Stephens

*Carried*

- 4. Technical Committee Motions Approval** – No Technical Meeting was held.

- 5. Staff Health, Safety & Wellness** – John mentioned that the summer students – Alyssa Giuliani and Randolph Fajardo – which the Association employed through July and August of this year were excellent, had a good rapport with staff and volunteers, and contributed a great deal to the office. He recommended that the Association hire students again next year if they are of the same quality. John thanked Anthony for the work he did on making this program happen.

John also mentioned that Anthony is now coaching the Seneca College Cross Country Team.

- 6. Awards Banquet & Hall of Fame Dinner** – Bill reported that the Banquet Hall is good; it has a small raised platform and podium and there was lots of room.

**ACTION:** Harry to ask his wife Sylvia to help coordinate some things for the banquet. We need greeters and more help at the door.

An invitation has been extended to Sultana Frizell to be our Guest Speaker. Alternative speakers were considered if Sultana can't attend.

**ACTION:** John will extend invitations to Andy Buckstein, Gabe Hayos, Brian Levine, Helen Manning, Shelly Crawford, and Rick Westwood of the MTA. John will also ask the Masters Association to provide ushers for the banquet.

While lapel pins to identify our nominees is a good idea, the expense is not within this year's budget.

Roman presented a preliminary slate of 2010 Hall of Fame Inductees for review by the Board. The Directors considered the candidates and asked that the Hall of Fame Committee reconsider four of the nominations. Reasons for the review request will be communicated to the Committee directly.

The men's 4X100m Relay Team that won the gold medal at the Atlanta Olympics is slated for induction. While four of the five members of the team were from Ontario, one member, Bruny Surin, is not (he is from Quebec). Bruny will be ineligible for induction into the Ontario Hall of Fame, but an invitation will be sent to him to be our guest at the induction ceremony.

Breakout sessions at the 2010 Annual General Meeting were discussed.

**ACTION:** John will invite Nancy Au of Pearson-Dunn to make a presentation to the AGM membership at large at the conclusion of the formal AGM. This will precede the start of the Awards Dinner.

- 7. 2011 Championship Dates** – Roman reviewed the proposed dates for indoor and outdoor championships in 2011.

**ACTION:** Roman will pursue the idea of a Dual Meet with Quebec for the Youth age group (preferred) or Midget age group.

**Motion:** to adopt the recommended dates for AO Indoor Championships as presented.  
Sarjeant and Leroux *Carried*

**Motion:** to provisionally adopt the dates for the AO Outdoor Championships as presented pending further information.  
Stephens and Stantsos *Carried*

- 8. AO Championships Hosting** – Suzanne proposed that AO staff and volunteers conduct all AO Championships in 2011. She reviewed the financial results of the meets we conducted in 2010 and believes it is in the Association's interest to host the other meets as well, especially given the budgetary constraints the association is facing. From the three Championships AO hosted in 2010, over \$15,000 (not including levies) came back to the Association. John suggested that, in accepting the extra work the Association would need to pay an honorarium to a coordinator/meet director as we can't continue to rely on Sue Wise to be our meet director, especially if we expand the workload.

**Motion:** That Athletics Ontario host a fourth Championship (the BMY outdoor meet) in 2011 and that a Meet Director be hired to handle the competitions on the Association's behalf.

Leroux and Stephens  
Opposed: Sarjeant

*Carried*

9. **OHPSI** – John provided a review of Ontario High Performance Sports Initiative (OHPSI) funding and application citing concerns over the management of the process and the results. He explained why the funding amount had come in as low as it did, and offered the suggestion that funding in the future might increase as we move toward 2015.

**10. Athlete Discipline**

**Motion:** to go 'in camera' for the next two agenda items.  
Sarjeant and Stantsos

*Carried*

**11. Staff Operations** – conducted in camera

**ACTION:** Bill to ask for some advice from Hugh Cameron

**Motion:** to come out of 'in camera' session

Sarjeant and Leroux

*Carried*

- 12. Quest for Gold Selection Criteria** – John asked for formal Board approval of the 2010 Quest for Gold selection criteria as presented. As this is a lengthy document and the Directors did not have time to read it, John will ask for a vote via email during the following week (subsequent to the Board meeting, formal approval was received via email from the Directors).

**13. Transfer Policy** – John asked for formal approval of Athlete Transfer Policy as presented by Stuart.

Friendly amendment: that the fifth paragraph in item three be changed from, "The athlete may not represent the 'new' club until the beginning of the next calendar /membership year" to "The athlete may not compete under the 'new club' name and/or colours until the beginning of the next calendar/membership year."

**Motion:** to accept the new Transfer Policy as amended

Stantsos and Sarjeant

*Carried*

**14. Sexual Relations** – John provided an update, as business from the last Board of Director's Meeting, regarding sexual relationships between members of the Athletics Community. Specifically he noted that in the Code for Prohibited Conduct in Sport, as presented by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport and Coaches of Canada, says in part:

"The following conduct is expressly prohibited by an Individual:

The **Individual** shall not have sexual relations, or sexual intimacy of any description, with any other *Individual*, with any athlete the **Individual** is coaching or with any other sport participant the **Individual** has access to in the sport environment if the other *Individual*, the athlete being coached or the sport participant is 18 years of age or older and if there exists a significant imbalance of power with respect to the relationship between the other *Individual*, the athlete being coached or the sport participant and the **Individual** which could reasonably jeopardize effective decision making regarding the existence or the nature of the sexual relations or sexual intimacy with the **Individual**."

**15. Standards and Relay Meet** – Bill review a letter submitted by Mike Housley regarding the conduct of, and future of, the Relay component of our AO Championships. Bill advised that this meet is likely to change because the Top 5 Standards meet will likely have to change given changes in qualifying for the National Championships. Several options were considered about how to best position the relays so they are meaningful to the clubs and athletes.

**ACTION:** The topic is deferred to the Technical Committee for consideration.

**16. World Deaf Games** – As an information item John advised that the World Deaf Athletics Championships are coming to Toronto in 2012. Val suggested we try to get the Ontario Deaf Sports Association (ODSA) involved in officials' clinics and conferences.

**ACTION:** John will contact Rohan Smith of the ODSA to see what sort of officials they have lined up for this Championship and see if they need assistance in organizing clinics so that they are ready for the 2012 Games.

**17. VSS vs. Police Record Check** – John reviewed the difference between a Police Record Check and a Vulnerable Sector Search and asked if the current AO policy asking only for a Police Record Check was sufficient for our purposes. The Board agreed to leave the policy as is, requiring only a Police Record Check for volunteers registering with the Association.

**18. Update on Bill 65** – John provided a review of Bill 65, which is a proposed re-draft of the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act. The proposed bill, in danger of being defeated, would give more rights to Association members and would better protect directors and officers from personal liability.

**ACTION:** John to check on the Bill's status and see if the membership can support proposed amendments. Unfortunately at time of writing the amendments supported by Sport 4 Ontario (and much of the rest of the not-for-profit community) have not been accepted. The bill is now in a holding pattern for a couple of years and the sports community will seek remedy during that time.

**19. Membership:** John advised that Wendy Lee, Association registrar, has suggested that the Association eliminate the Recreational/Developmental membership category.

**Motion:** to eliminate the Recreational/Developmental membership category.

Sarjeant and Stantsos

*Carried*

**20. Work from Home** – as an update from the last meeting, John provided an update on the option to network home computers to the office computers so, in the event that staff can't get to the office, they can work from home. The new computers have recently arrived in the office and once the software has been loaded an IT company will be asked to provide the proper support.

**21. Toronto Marathon** - Bill provided background information on our interest in working with the two marathon races in Toronto. There has been a request by the managers of the ScotiaBank Toronto Waterfront Marathon to re-think our agreement regarding the ownership of the 'Toronto Marathon' wordmark (a property owned by Athletics Ontario). There may be ways of increasing our membership numbers should the ownership – or right of use - of the wordmark be renegotiated.

There was much discussion and direction from the Board was that John should determine the value of the wordmark, the opportunities available for the Association to profit from its ownership and the legal position that the Association is in with respect to the wordmark.

**22. Ranking** – Suzanne and Bill advised that the system is up and working well and a merging of results from Athletics Canada and Athletics Ontario has given us a better overall ranking list.

**ACTION:** Suzanne will put rankings on office computers. She noted that athletes must be registered with AO to show in rankings. Roman asked that there also be a supplementary list of wind assisted performances in all our rankings.

**23.Officials' Meeting** – Suzanne confirmed that the meeting between Athletics Ontario and the OOC is set for October 2, 2010.

**ACTION:** John to book a room and refreshments for the meeting.

**24.Camera Course**

**ACTION:** Suzanne to try to set up some camera courses for upcoming indoor season.

**25.Payment with Entries** – Bill asked if it is possible to require payment at the time an online entry into a competition is made. Suzanne says yes.

**ACTION:** Suzanne to implement this as soon possible – trials for indoors 2011 and full implementation for summer 2011.

**26.Seeding** – Bill and Suzanne advised that we are at a stage where seed performances are not necessary since they are dropped in form previous competitions. We need to work actively to make sure this is a viable and used option.

**27.Separation of Sanction and Insurance** – Anthony asked if we should allow a competition which is in conflict with our AO Championships the option of getting insurance from us even if we don't provide a sanction. John advised that insurance is not available for non-sanctioned events. Unsanctioned events have to get insurance elsewhere. The Board agreed that a meet could be sanctioned if it contained only age categories not in conflict with our Championship meet.

**28.Club Excellence** – Anthony explained a Club Excellence program that many associations have signed onto which provides guidelines for governance, coaching, certification and personnel. The program provides resources to assist clubs in getting their programs in order and includes an operations manual.

**ACTION:** Anthony to bring this idea back to a spring 2011 meeting to see if we can make it an Active 2010 grant application for next year.

**Motion to Adjourn**

Sarjeant

Adjournment – 10:18 p.m.