

BCSSGA AGM

March 6, 2019

Delta Gymnastics Society
4680 Clarence Taylor Crescent, Delta, BC

Meeting called to order 8:05 PM

1. Introductions:

- In attendance: Lucinda Donaldson, Adrian Wong, Michele Dillon, Shannon Key, Kat Van Balkom, Jenn Watts, Chris Sheremeta, Tessa Jansen, Adriana Schemel, Mia Angus, Krystyne Makortoff-Jones, Missy Preston, George Carroll, Louise Demers, Kira Hallwood, Alex Yang, Emily Bonner, Kari Brackenbury, Terry Mitruk, Elizabeth Floyd, Taylor O'Flynn, Hilary Gros, Desiree Young, Paulo Pena, Ken Holley, Tom Muirhead, Carol Garcia

2. Establish Quorum (3 members)

- Quorum established

3. Adoption of Agenda:

- Moved: Terry 2nd: Emily
Vote: Carried

4. Adoption of 2018 Minutes:

- Moved: Michele Dillon 2nd: Krystyne
Vote: Carried

5. Special Guest: Shannon Key, BCSS Manager of Sport

- Biggest thing is the new rezoning process. BCSS has gone from 7 zones to 9 zones.
- 2 committees running to find a direction for organization
 - Competitive Fairness Committee: Looks at the inequities of each sport (ie. Public vs. private, access to clubs/facilities)
 - Governance Committee: looks at structure of BCSS
- Question on how the inequities research would affect Gymnastics, as it is vastly different than other sports
 - Answer: while BCSS is the governing body of all the various sports, rules are created by BCSSGA
- Concerns about the rezoning, and how it affects certain zones in regards to qualifications for Provincials (ie. Vancouver now being included with the North Shore)

- We will have to still work within the new zoning boundaries. Suggestions included having a pre-qualifying meet for our Zone meets.

6. Commissioner's Report: Terry Mitruk

- business arising out of last year's AGM
 - transition to the new Societies Act and updating of the society's bylaws. Thank you to those who provided feedback and advice as we worked on these. In particular, Tom Muirhead, Ken Holley, and George Carroll
 - Constitution that was sent out by email is the one on file
 - proposed Bylaws includes a clause for staggered 2 year terms for directors that was discussed and tabled last year
 - district policies related to athletes traveling to provincial championships without teacher sponsor
 - districts set own policies and BCSS has no jurisdiction over these; effect changes by discussion with local administrations and school district staff
 - names used in STARS database are
- update regarding the zone structure which is changing for all BCSS Commissions next year
 - there will be 9 zones with common boundaries for all BC School Sports next year, and all athletes will be required to qualify for provincials through their zone championship
 - one competition could serve as the zone meet for multiple zones, but the results would have to be separated
 - the directors will have to come up with policy around how many people directly qualify from each zone, and how wildcards will be distributed ... this work will be done in the spring and fall
 - the zones are: Kootney, Thompson Okanagan, North Central, North West, Vancouver Island, Fraser Valley East, Fraser River South, Fraser River North, Vancouver-Whistler
- Terry received a request from the Yukon to bring a high school team(s) to our provincials next year. He checked with BCSS and this is strictly forbidden. He will engage in discussion with other Commissioners and Athletic Directors at the BCSS AGM, but for now, the only option would be for them to travel and participate in an Invitational or Zone Competition
- a hosting manual is still under development but functional; it includes a profit sharing policy that the executive is recommending be adopted:
 - **Profit Sharing Policy:** *Any profits resulting from local sponsorship obtained by the OC, shall be split 50%-50% with the BCSSGA. The proceeds that remain with the host OC shall be used to support the gymnastics program in the host school(s). Possible uses for the surplus funds include, but are not limited to:*

- Revenue was \$22 955.00 Expenses were \$26 836.12
- Net Loss of \$3881.12
- the society has negligible reserve funds at this time, in part a result of deliberate deficit budgets because we had built up a sizeable reserve fund that we were feeling pressure to eliminate (real or perceived), and the money spent (well spent) in taking the championships to PG two years ago
- we sought, and received approval from BCSS to increase the registration cost for BC's this year; having accurate financial information from previous years was essential for this
- if we take the event out of the lower mainland next year, the registration fee will need to be sufficient to cover the extra transportation cost, and travel/accommodation expenses
- we are paying a lot in service charges for our account with ScotiaBank

8. Provincials Report - Jenn Watts

- Biggest challenge: communication with school
- There were issues with booking a venue for the banquet, with last minute cancellations and required venue size
- Motion: That the organizing committee have, as an option going forward, to not have a banquet, but just provide a social that starts a little bit later as an activity for the participants.
Moved by: Terry Mitruk Seconded: Louise
Vote: Carried

9. Boys Code Report - Chris Sheremeta

- As boys meet hasn't happened yet, goal is to make things more clear for the coaches and for the judges on what the code is supposed to say, and to lead the athletes to more modern gymnastics.

10. Girls - Alex Yang

- Alex is stepping down
- his main goal was to bring as much of the JO code into our high school code, for the benefit of coaches who do not have access to the JO code.

11. Members At Large Reports:

- New Teams: Krystyne
 - Zone has grown!
- Judging: Adrianna
 - Had to turn 4 judges away due to already having enough judges. Judges want to come to our Championships; they like the atmosphere of the competition and the camaraderie of the athletes and coaches.

12. Future Hosts:

- 2020: 2021: 2022:
- Esquimalt, Timberline, and Kamloops are all interested in hosting next year, and Sutherland in North Van is also willing. Representatives will go back to their communities, put together an organizing committee and determine when they are ready to host. The directors will make a final decision on host at their spring meeting.
- Provincials Dates for 2020: March 12-14

13. Other Business:

- **Special Resolutions to the Annual General Meeting**

1a: Moved by Terry Mitruk

Seconded by: Adrianna Schemel

Motion : The BCSSGA membership replace its current Bylaws with the new proposed Bylaws that are in the attached document.

Rationale: Refer to the attached Document, Summary of Proposed Changes.

In bringing the Constitution and Bylaws into compliance with the new Societies Act, I became aware of inconsistencies between the current practice of the BCSSGA and its Bylaws. Some changes are intended to better reflect our current practice. Other changes are to clarify language, improve the readability of the Bylaws and more closely reflect the new model bylaws provided to assist societies with the transition.

The document "Significant Changes to the Bylaws" that was provided to members with the notice of the AGM, was thoroughly reviewed at the meeting, clause by clause.

Vote : Carried

#1b: moved by : Terry

Seconded by : Tom Muirhead

Motion: The BCSSGA membership replace clause 2.2 of the Proposed Bylaws with the following, and adjust the numbering of the remaining clauses accordingly:

- 2.2 Each member is entitled to representation at general meetings by individuals affiliated with the school team and endorsed by the school principal.
- 2.3 Each member is entitled to one vote by a representative designated by the school principal.
- 2.4 Eligibility of persons or groups wishing to address the Society at a general meeting are described in sections a) and b) below. These persons shall submit their request to the Directors a minimum of four weeks before a general meeting. The Directors shall review the request and determine if it shall be considered at a general meeting. The Directors will consider the presentations according to relevance,

resources, and available time., No person in sections a) or b) shall have any membership or voting rights.,

a) Representative(s) of the following departments or organizations:

- i. B. C. Ministry of Education;
- ii. B. C. School Trustees Association;
- iii. Sport B.C.;
- iv. Gymnastics B.C.;
- v. B.C. Teachers' Federation;
- vi. B.C. School Sports.

b) Individuals not otherwise officially associated with a member school who are acting in an official or sanctioned capacity, including but not limited to:

- i. coaches not part of a members' team;
- ii. judges;
- iii. administrative officials for a Zone or Provincial Championship;
- iv. other persons who wish to make a presentation directly relevant to the conduct, operations, or aims of the Society.

Rationale: the term ex Officio means « member by virtue of position » and automatically carries with it voting rights. In addition, the clause uses the term member, but our members are actually schools, not individuals. This clause allows for the intent of the previous bylaw, provides a structure for allowing people to make presentations to the membership, while giving the Directors a structure for restricting presentations to the membership when its deemed appropriate.

Vote on Motion #1b, the ammendment to the proposed bylaws: Carried

Vote on Motion #1a, the Proposed Bylaws as ammended : Carried

2a: Moved by Terry Mitruk **(NOTE : Terry amended the wording of this motion, circulated with the agenda, to be as follows)**

Motion: The directors of the BCSSGA have authority to close the bank account and transfer all bookkeeping functions to BCSS which includes receipt of all payments to BCSSGA, preparing for the disbursement of funds for authorized expenses, and the generation of financial statements (Income Statement and Balance Sheet) for meetings and our year end filing with BCSS.

Rationale : We have been unable to fill the position of Treasurer this year. It has been suggested that one reason is people are afraid they don't have the skills necessary. By transferring bookkeeping to BCSS, the primary functions of the Treasurer will be to correspond with BCSS regarding the state of our finances, assist with the preparation of the budget each year, and continue to sign the cheques along with a 2nd director. The

BCSS does not currently charge a fee for this service. There is no guarantee it will remain that way.

seconded: Tom Muirhead

Vote : Carried

#2b: Moved by Terry Mitruk

Motion : The directors immediately transfer all bookkeeping functions to BCSS.

Seconded : Tom Muirhead

- *thoughtful discussion of the pros and cons took place*
- *this would significantly decrease the workload and frustration for the treasurer, especially when trying to reconcile registration cheques that are received without an athlete and coaches list, or even the school to which it is affiliated.*

Vote: In Favour: 7 Opposed: 7

The motion is defeated.

The directors will continue engage the opposed members and see if their concerns can be addressed before proceeding

3 : Moved by Kristyne Makortoff-Jones

Motion: To create two levels within WAG Level 2 and 3, as is the case with Level 1 Junior and Senior, where the division is determined by grade.

Rationale: Level 3 continues to grow, especially with competitive and ex-competitive athletes joining high school teams, and I think it's very discouraging for the girls to be competing in level 3 with a pool of 50-60 athletes. The chances of placing are very minimal, even if we extend awards from 1st-12th.

I also have reason to believe that level 3 is larger than level 1 with the growing numbers, so it only seems fair to me that give all the girls better odds of competing and placing.

Tabled

4 : Terry Mitruk

Motion : Gymnasts competing in Level 1 and Level 2 must be training a maximum of 6 hours each week (excluding equipment set-up/set-down time), for a maximum of 5 months (20 weeks) a year.

Rationale: We have been discussing inequities in the lower levels for years with no resolution. I offer this as a means to further the debate. There are many gymnasts in levels 1 and 2 that are easily capable of competing (and winning awards) in levels 2 and

3. Beginner gymnasts training twice per week (2 – 4 hours total) are coming to Provincial Championships and are feeling demoralized by competing against gymnasts training 10 or more hours per week, and are competing level 1 routines flawlessly. This is targeting Levels 1 and 2 because it is hard to advance to Level 3 if a gymnast only trains in a school gym, 2-3 days/week for the winter sport season.

Tabled

14. Elections:

- Commissioner: Terry Mitruk (acclaimed)
- Treasurer: Missy Preston (acclaimed)
- Secretary: Kat Van Balkom (acclaimed)
- Girl's Rep: Gord Bennett (acclaimed)
- Boy's Rep: Chris Sheremeta (acclaimed)
- Member At Large - Awards: Lucinda Donaldson (acclaimed)
- Member At Large - Judging: Adrianna Schemel (acclaimed)
- Member At Large - New Teams: Kristyne Markortoff-Jones (acclaimed)
- Member At Large - 2nd Teacher: Adrian Wong (acclaimed)

Motion to dismiss: Terry

Meeting Adjourned at 9:43

“Significant Changes to the Bylaws”:

1.1 Definition of “Registered Address” is changed to be contact email in STARS for the athletic director, coach and staff sponsor ☐ We do not keep an active Register of Members; the STARS Database is used to determine membership. ☐ Should we ONLY use the email address of the head coach and staff sponsor

2.1 Revised the definition of member to remove reference to requesting membership, because membership is all filtered through BCSS.

2.2 Revised the definition of Ex Officio member to include: a) individuals acting in an official capacity at Zones or Provincials, so that these members can have a voice and run for office. ☐ “acting in an official capacity” is vague but definitely includes coaches, judges and team chaperones o is it now too broad? possibly limit to coaches and judges? o is this broad enough to bring our recent practice into compliance, like our former Treasurer, who wanted to be involved, but was not attached to any school or school team o what about including former directors, coaches, judges? b) BC School Sports

2.5 Ammended the policy on Membership Fees to require endorsement by the membership at a General Meeting. Previously, the directors could impose a fee without approval from the membership.

3.4 (formerly 3.5) Revised this bylaw to remove reference to the 1st general meeting of the society, and

to state the AGM should be in conjunction with BC's.

3.9 Deleted a clause that allowed for sending notice of a general meeting by standard mail, and only send notice by email?

3.14 Quorum was previously established at a minimum of 3 members. ¶ we feel that is too small a sample of the members to have the authority to make decisions that affect the members ¶ in recent years, approximately 60 schools have participated at BC's ¶ we are recommending 10% for quorum which is at least 6 or 7 schools, and is common practice at BCTF meetings and local AGM's ¶ we are wary of setting the bar too high, and feel this is a better balance We are looking for guidance from the members on this proposal in particular.

3.20-22 Blended the former clauses on voting (4.8-4.9) with clauses in the government's model bylaws. In particular, we have allowed for secret ballot instead of show of hands, at the request of 2 members at a general meeting. We felt this was a good outlet to deal with contentious issues, if ever necessary.

4.2 Replaced former clause 5.1, primarily with provision c. Just tried to clear up the language.

4.4 formerly clause 5.3 a) changed this clause to say "whose terms expires ...", and term lengths are defined under section 6 d) this used to require a director to stay in the position until a new person was found to take on the role; this makes no sense and is unenforceable e) Removed the requirement for all directors to be district staff endorsed by principals, because this has not been our practice. We changed this to simply be a member in good standing, which would include ex Officio members. Is this clause necessary at all? f) Added this clause to specify in our bylaws the desire to have 2 teachers on the directors list. BCSS only requires the Commissioner to be a teacher and we have identified the need to have a 2nd so there is a backup in case the commissioner is no longer able to serve.

4.5 a) Is this clause needed at all? It seems redundant with 4.6

6.1 Added a director position for BC's OC Rep.

6.2 Added this clause to specify a term limit of 2 years for the 5 table-officer positions, and staggered their election cycle to alternate years.

6.3 We have set a term limit of 1 year for all members-at-large. I have received some feedback suggesting these should also be 2 year terms.

We are looking for guidance from the members on this proposal.

6.8 formerly clause 7.6 a) removed this original clause, "maintain for distribution among the membership a list of all active coaches of boys' gymnastics and girls' gymnastics respectively" b) removed the 2nd half of the clause which read, "... and in any case, to meet with them at least once a

year to make plans and hear their recommendations dealing with rules concerning coaching and competitions”

6.9 added a job description for the BC’s OC Rep.

formerly Part 8 – Seal removed: 8.1 The Directors may provide a common seal for the Society and they shall have power from time to time to destroy it and substitute a new seal in place of the seal destroyed. 8.2 The common seal shall be affixed only when authorized by a resolution of the Directors and then only in the presence of the persons prescribed in the resolution or if no persons are prescribed, in the presence of the Commissioner and Secretary.

8.3 formerly 9.3, removed the reference to the clause being “unalterable”

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