



GYMNASTICS NOVA SCOTIA

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Board of Director's Meeting
Friday, January 22nd, 2021, 9:30am
Zoom Meeting

FINAL MINUTES

1. **Call to Order –**

In attendance: Thorne Sutherland, Stewart Gunn, Cathy Huntington, Kristen Mercer, Sherry Watters, Susie Gallagher, Carol Anne Prost, Abby Murrin, Ted Higney
Staff: Angela Gallant – Executive Director, David Brown- Technical Director
Regrets: Jason MacLeod, Eleanor Melrose, Nick Lenehan, Megan Looke,

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve the agenda

Moved by Cathy Huntington, 2nd by Ted Higney

All in favour

Motion passed

3. **Adoption of Previous Minutes – December 11th, 2020**

- Business Arising
- Action items

Motion to approve the December 11th, 2020 minutes

Moved by Cathy Huntington, 2nd by Stewart Gunn

All in favour

Motion passed

Previous meeting action Angela and Carol Anne will have a discussion regarding last year's GNS awards and how many nominations were put forward this past spring.

Update: Angela indicated that the Program Committees have provided some nominations and there were a couple of individual nominations. We may need to resend the criteria to see if we can gather more nominations.

Further update: *Because we are not sure what will be able to happen this year, Angela is looking for a little more direction from the board on this. We want to acknowledge people but with everything up in the air we have no idea what we can do. The board agreed that we should hold off on this and hopefully by our next meeting we will know more.*

4. **Covid-19 Updates**

- Return to Play document – January 18th motion result.

An email vote was sent out on Saturday, January 16th with voting available until January 18th at 11am.

MOTION to change the wording in the Gymnastics NS Protocols for Re-Opening from Final V.11 under Club Management (Page 5) as follows:

*“Gymnastics clubs that own **and/or** operate their own facilities are able to operate like a fitness establishment however they must operate at 50% of their maximum capacity and follow the Health Protection Act Order and their sector-specific plan including:*

*-maintaining a minimum physical distance of **3 metres (9 feet)** between participants during high intensity activities like spin and boxing classes **(this would only be if a single group is bigger than 25)***

*-they must have a plan to control numbers and ensure social distancing, **particularly during the change-over of classes.***

-Staggered start times when groups arrive, and leave is required **and a marked barrier between groups is recommended**

Moved by Carol Anne Prost, 2nd by Cathy Huntington

9 votes in favour, 3 did not vote

Motion passed on January 18th, 2021

- 2021 Competition
 - Return to Competition.
 - Sanctioned competitions, Provincials and Atlantics

We still need to let the Atlantic Provinces know whether Atlantics will run. Titans was named the host for Atlantics. At this point there will not be enough weekends left to accommodate the event without running into July and people felt this would be too late. It was determined that at this time, with so much unknown due to Covid, that it would be best to cancel the event.

Motion It was moved that based on the current Covid situation, the 2021 Atlantic Gymnastics Championships will be cancelled.

Moved by Thorne Sutherland, 2nd by Sherry Watters

All in favour

Motion passed

Susie had a conversation with David Kikuchi and Shawn Healey about what this competition season would look like. They discussed tentative competition dates leading to a Provincials in May. This has been an “emotional roller coaster” for athletes and coaches. We need to confirm dates for all 3 sanctions where clubs requested to have meets postponed. Provincials would be 3 weeks after the last meet (May 15th-16th weekend or the long weekend in May). Committee members will go back to their respective clubs to confirm dates.

Action Stewart and Kristen as Competitions Chairs will confirm possible competition dates as follows:

March 26-28th - Titans

April 9-11th - Alta

April 24-25th - Taiso

May 14-16th - Provincials

Action that 3 program chairs meet to discuss the use of Officials Tax for this year and whether it should go toward the meets.

Update: David followed up and two of the three Program committees have committed to allowing the officials tax to be used for this. David will follow up with the 3rd committee (MAG)

David is investigating funding to assist with Live streaming our Gymnastics events. David discussed Bell Communications as an option. An application to SNS for a Support4Sport PSO project is being prepared.

Action: Program chairs of all 3 disciplines should make sure that the Judging chairs review the final Return to Competition document with their judges before competitions begin.

Update: This has been brought to the attention of the Program Committees. David will follow up on this.

- CEWS funding – amounts to date.
Angela included the CEWS funding allocated to GNS in her report. To date we have received approximately \$60,597.00 from CEWS in first 10 periods of which we were required to return \$12,653 to Support4Sport (TD grant amount returned from first 6 CEWS periods) so far from the TD funding grant. We still need to return S4S funding equivalent to 4 CEWS periods so anticipate to have a current net gain of about \$44,000 through this funding to the end of Period 10. The amount we are receiving is reducing each month as it depends on revenues from the previous 2 months. This money has been a big help to the organization and we will continue to apply as long as we are eligible.
- Federal Funding for CSO's And PSO's
CSO Funding -This was due on the January 15th. We had 6 GNS clubs apply for phase 2 CSO funding.
PSO Funding - We applied for the 2nd phase of the funding and it sounds like GNS will receive some funding from this program.

Sport Fund is setting up a Covid relief grant (approx. 140,000.). Maximum grant will be \$5000.00 per CSO. This funding will be granted for extra expenses that clubs incurred due to covid (examples include cleaning supplies, masks, hand sanitisers, possibly foggers etc). There also may be funding available for increased staffing costs but not loss of revenue as this was the intent of CSO funding above. Angela will follow up for clarification as this program is finalized. Applications will be available soon and deadlines will be announced at that time.

Angela asked the board if there were other expenses she should be asking about for this program? Some suggestions were: masks, additional coaching costs, utilities, etc.

5. **GNS Membership update – 2020-2021**

Current summary in ED Report attachment – currently down 28.8% from the same time last year

6. **GNS Strategic Plan / 2021-2022 Outcomes**

- Draft outcomes for 2021-2022 are due Feb 15th. We will use our strategic plan to create these outcomes. Final copy is due March 31st, 2021.
- Add covid documents and policies created to our 2020-2021 outcomes. We were encouraged to add the creation of Covid related documents including Return to Play, Return to Competition, Declaration waivers, etc. to our 2020-2021 outcomes and report on them.

7. **GNS Financials**

New Action: Sherry and Angela will check further with Joanne to see if we can get this back through credit card as opposed to holding the flight credits.

Update Angela did reach out to Joanne. We can try to reach out to the airlines but success may be a challenge because we cancelled our flights before the flights were cancelled by the airline. We have been encouraged to keep asking. Sherry has offered to continue pursuing the airlines.

CEBA Loan – Additional \$20,000 loan -

Special Resolution Motion distributed to the membership on December 24th, 2020 (copy attached including rationale)

GNS Board Motion: That GNS apply for the newly available \$20,000 expansion under the CEBA loan program, provided that the membership approves the special resolution.

Moved by Sherry Watters, 2nd by Ted Higney

All in favour

Motion passed by GNS Board – December 11, 2020

Special Resolution Motion passed by the GNS Membership on January 21st, 2021 (11 votes in favour, 2 clubs did not vote)

GNS has submitted the CEBA loan expansion application to access the additional \$20,000 available through the CEBA loan program.

8. **Safe Sport Policies**

New Action: Angela to update legal review recommendations in GNS policy manual in consultation with Nick. This will be presented for board approval at the next GNS meeting.

Update – The updated policy manual was distributed to the board but the discussion was put on hold until Nick was able to be in attendance. This will be carried over to the next meeting.

Previous meeting action: to ask about members “not in good standing” during the legal review. Nick identified that we can withhold membership for members “not in good standing”. We need to clarify what “in good standing” is? Does it mean more that have you paid your fees. There are many other scenarios that could be considered as not in good standing.

This will be asked when we go through the Legal review. We still need to clarify what is: “In good standing”

Update – this was answered in detail by Sport and Law and will also be updated in policy manual for board approval as per new action above.

Further update - Angela indicated that this will most likely be a By-law change so if a motion is made by the GNS Board, it will need to go to the GNS Membership at the next AGM for a Special Resolution.

Previous meeting action: Establish and support a Safe Sport Working Group with representation from the Board of Directors, Gymnastics Nova Scotia, athletes, coaches, officials, and external experts, as appropriate. Vaughn is still working on this and he has all but 2 confirmed.

Susie asked about the Safesport working group. Vaughn gave an update to the progress on this committee. Currently looking for an athlete or former athlete to serve on the committee.

Update: David to follow up with Vaughn, Jason MacLeod has accepted the Safe Sport Member-At-Large position on the GNS Board.

New Action Item: David to follow up with Jason as to the status of the Safe Sport working group. (complete)

Update: Jason has reached out to his committee members and they have all accepted their positions. Jason attended the online Safesport Webinar hosted by GymCan. They are off to a great start.

9. 2021 Gymnaestrada / Symposium – June 18-20, 2021

A Zoom meeting was organized using a Doodle poll. Due to the low response the meeting did not take place and another attempt will be made for early January.

David also discussed the possibilities of a virtual Gymnaestrada and Symposium and has been in discussions with other provinces across the country that have already done this or are looking into it.

Update: A new date has been set for the online Recreation Programmers Zoom meeting (Jan 29th) two of the topics to be discussed are the Symposium and Gymnaestrada.

10. Reports

a) Chair & Uniforms – Susie Gallagher

Previous meeting action: Jamie Ferguson suggested that Susie should take the lead on staff annual reviews and she will liaise with Erin from SNS for assistance on annual reviews/performance appraisals.

Update: Susie is working on reviews. The evaluations are also needed as a requirement of the funding GNS receives for staffing.

Previous meeting action: Susie will have GK do up a sample suit. GK is fully closed at this time. This may take time as everything is shut down.

Update: The bodysuit we picked out for National levels will have to be the one we order if Atlantics is able to happen. We will have to order ahead of time to make sure they are ready in time. All the girls and boys will need new bodysuits and singlets. Uniforms on a “wait and see basis” as it depends on what happens with the competitive season.

Update Susie has talked to Lisa, we can order whenever we may be ready. If GymCan decides to do a virtual Nationals, we can make a decision. We will wait until we know more about what competitions may happen.

Shout out from Susie to Carol Anne thanking her for her support and knowledge re Covid!

b) Vice Chair & Covid Safety – Carol Anne Prost - nothing outside of our policies revisions to report.

c) Executive Director – Angela Gallant

Angela’s report was attached to the meeting Agenda. - Just a reminder that PSO Tier 6 funding card application is due on March 15th, 2021.

d) Technical Director Report – David Brown -David report was attached with the minutes.

e) Treasurer – Sherry Watters – nothing at this time.

f) Director – Secretary – Cathy Huntington – Nothing at this time.

g) Women’s Program Committee Director – Eleanor Melrose and Ted Higney - Nothing at this time.

h) Men’s Program Committee Director – Nick Lenehan – Nothing at this time.

Previous meeting action: UCIC Cheques to Alta and Titans - we need discussion on these as the event was cancelled Nick will discuss further with the MAG committee.

i) Trampoline/Tumbling Tech Committee Director– Thorne Sutherland -TTPC met Jan 21st to review Pathways feedback.

j) Education/Recreation Director – Megan Looke – Nothing at this time.

k) Social Media Director – Abby Murrin – Nothing at this time. Susie suggested that we include the updates for Ellie and her Olympic journey on the GNS feeds.

l) Safe Sport Director – Jason MacLeod - Nothing at this time.

m) Special Events Chair – Eleanor Melrose (tentative) -Nothing at this time.

n) Competitions Director – Stewart Gunn and Kristen Mercer -Nothing at this time.

11. New Business

Nothing at this time.

12. Review of Motions and Action items

13. Next Board of Director’s meeting date -TBD

14. Adjournment 11:15 am

Motion to adjourn at 11:15AM

Moved by Stewart Gunn, 2nd by Cathy Huntington

All in favour

Motion passed



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Notice of Motion for Special Resolution GNS Membership – December 23, 2020

Please take notice of the following motion as a follow up to the previous CEBA \$40,000 interest free loan that was offered for Covid relief. As per the motion at the June 2020 AGM, GNS applied for and received this CEBA loan of \$40,000.

As you may be aware, the original \$40,000 loan that GNS applied for will most likely only require a payback of \$30,000 by December 2022. The program has been recently expanded to include an additional \$20,000 loan that will most likely only require a payback of \$10,000. We have accessed the initial part of this program and it makes sense to access the additional \$20,000 loan that is part of the expansion. This requires membership approval since it is an additional loan through this program. The deadline to apply for the additional \$20,000 loan is March 31, 2021.

The GNS Board of Director's has put forth a motion regarding this loan. This will need to be voted on by the membership in order to apply for the additional \$20,000 loan.

As we require four weeks notice for any resolutions that require membership approval, please ensure that you submit your club vote by email to the GNS office by Thursday, January 21st, 2021.

Each member club in good standing is entitled to vote. Any proposed subsidiary motions should be prepared in writing for the sake of clarity.

Motion regarding Gymnastics Nova Scotia – Interest Free Loan expansion

Rationale:

As part of the federal Covid relief program, the Canada Emergency Business Account will provide qualifying business customers and clients access to an additional \$20,000 loan.

As with the initial loan, the following applies:

- 0% interest until December 31, 2022.
- No principal re-payment required until December 31, 2022.
- Principal repayments can be voluntarily made at any time without fees or penalties.

New conditions with CEBA expansion program:

- As of December 4, 2020, CEBA loans for eligible businesses will increase from \$40,000 to \$60,000.
- Applicants who have received the \$40,000 CEBA loan may apply for the \$20,000 expansion, which provides eligible businesses with an additional \$20,000 in financing.
- All applicants have until March 31, 2021, to apply for \$60,000 CEBA loan or the \$20,000 expansion.

CEBA Loan forgiveness:

If you received a \$40,000 loan and subsequently received the \$20,000 expansion, the terms of your forgiveness have changed and are described here.

Repaying the outstanding balance of the loan (other than the amount available to be forgiven) on or before December 31, 2022 will result in a single tranche of loan forgiveness up to \$20,000 based on a blended rate:

- 25 percent on the first \$40,000; plus
- 50 percent on amounts above \$40,000 and up to \$60,000.

For clarity, the portion of forgiveness based on a rate of 25% and the portion of forgiveness based on a rate of 50% are combined into a single tranche of forgiveness, which is only available if all other amounts outstanding are repaid by December 31, 2022. For example, if \$60,000 is borrowed, no forgiveness is available unless \$40,000 is repaid.

Motion: That GNS apply for the newly available \$20,000 expansion under the CEBA loan program, provided that the membership approves the special resolution.

Moved by Sherry Watters, 2nd by Ted Higney

All in favour

Motion passed – December 11, 2020





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Board of Director's Meeting Executive Director's Report January 22nd, 2021

Registrations

The registrations for 2020-2021 currently show a membership total at 4172 with 13 clubs registered and 12 currently operating. This shows a 28.8% decrease from last year's membership at this time. This was expected with Covid-19 affecting all registrations across all sports in the province and country. The breakdown is as follows:

Club	Members	Club	Members
Titans	1160	Pictou County	122
Alta	1015	Gymnation	102
Taiso	628	Empire Gymnastics	100
CBGA	429	Valley Cheer	32
Spartans	209	Jump To It Trampoline	27
Athletics Gymnastics	186	Association de Clare	5
Rainbow	157	Independent	0

Final to date for 2020-2021

4172

Numbers from Jan 11, 2020

5856

Decrease by 28.8%

GNS Policy Legal Review

This review was been completed by Sport Lawn and Strategy Group. Nick and I have gone through the changes and agreed that they were appropriate. I have made the changes to the policy manual and they will be included in the board attachments for this meeting. Once the changes are agreed to, I will complete the final report to the Support4Sport program to access the final 20% of the \$2500 funding grant.

Funding Program Updates

- **Department of Communities, Culture & Heritage**
 - Sport Development Tool – Outcomes
 - Draft of new outcomes for the 2021-2022 fiscal year are due on February 15th - David, Crystal and I will work on this using our current Strategic Plan as well as previous outcomes that need to be carried forward due to Covid. Does the board also want a board member involved in the draft submission?
 - Report on 2020-2021 Outcomes - due on March 31st, 2021.
 - Block Funding - \$55,000 for April 2021 and April 2022 (due to the delay in the next Sport Development Tool)
 - Tumblebugs –\$40000 funding was received in May for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and a report will be required for the Department in March 2021.
 - I have applied for additional federal funding through the Department of Culture and Heritage. This was due January 15th and early discussions indicate that GNS should receive funding in this phase based on the formula used for calculating revenue loss.
- **Support 4 Sport**
 - Coach Employment Program – this program continues to fund \$35000 of the Technical Director salary and has been very beneficial to GNS. This will continue in the current terms of the agreement for an additional year until 2022-2023 due to the delay in the Sport Development process. As indicated previously, as we currently receive money through CEWS for the Technical Director salary, this portion needs to be returned to the Support4Sport program.

- Participation Funding (currently \$20,000 annually) - We will be receiving information shortly on our annual PSO member data upload report and when it is due. This is usually due in January or February and is a requirement of this funding.
- Performance pathway funding (NSPPI) - currently \$30,000 annually. David and the various Committee Chairs met with Cdn Sport Ctr Atlantic in December to go through the reports on the NSPPI and where we are with this. Due to the interruption caused by Covid-19, some of the things in this plan have obviously been put on hold and they were understanding of this. David and the committees did a great job in preparing for this meeting and all is in order.
- PSO Project Applications –available to apply on a monthly basis
 - \$2500 approved for legal assistance for Policy Manual review in September – received \$1800 to date with final report due once policy manual changes are complete
 - Application for assistance with hosting competitions is currently being prepared - David Brown is working with the SNS Participation lead (Janice Cogle) on this and an application will be submitted for the February 15th deadline.
- High Performance Coach Applications to date
 - David Kikuchi approved for \$1500
- Individual Coach applications
- Individual Officials applications
- Athlete Tier Funding - 2020-2021 applied for to date –
 - Amounts submitted and approved to date
 - Kai Dwyer – approved \$1500
 - Ellie Black – approved \$6000
 - Denelle Pedrick - applied and waiting results
 - Jordyn Ewing - applied and waiting results
 - Tier 6 (PSO Funding Card 2020-2021) – due March 15th
 - Ignite Program recommendations

Covid funding

- CEWS received for the first 10 periods (March to December): \$60597.75
 - In the most recent month (December) the amount received was down to \$991.61.
- S4S Covid funding in May to cover fixed expenses after revenue loss: \$3062.33
- Applied for Federal funding for Gymnastics NS through the Department of Culture & Housing program. \$2000 will automatically be received by each PSO with possible additional funds based on percentages of revenue loss. There are a total of 3 application periods for this.
- CEBA Loan – the additional \$20,000 CEBA loan has been approved by the membership and the application has been submitted.

Respectfully Submitted:

Angela Gallant, Executive Director



GYMNASTICS NOVA SCOTIA

Technical Director Report

Date: January 21, 2021
To: Angela Gallant – Executive Director- Gymnastics Nova Scotia
Cc: Board of Directors - Gymnastics Nova Scotia
From: David J Brown – Technical Director – Gymnastics Nova Scotia
Subject: TD report

The following is a description of some of the activities the Technical Director has been involved over the past few weeks.

Coach Training

The Foundations Artistic course ver. 3 has been rescheduled for February 21st and 28th and will be held at GymNation Gymnastics Club in Elmsdale. Those registered for the course have been contacted and at this point there are enough coaches who are available to warrant running this course. For those who are unable to attend we will look at what other options may be available.

Gym Can Gym Week - February 6th – 14th

Gym Can through the Gymnastics for all working group established directives for the Gym Week celebrations. I sent these out to member clubs. This will be on the Agenda for the upcoming Zoom meeting with Recreation Coordinators.

Recreation Programmers meeting -I set up a 2nd doodle poll for the recreation coach community with the intent to discuss:

- How are you/your club doing?
- Gym Week - Thoughts, ideas?
- The Can Gym revision – where is it now?
- Symposium – Can we go virtual?
- Gymnaestrada – Can we go virtual?
- Coach education
- Other – What are issues you are dealing with where we may be able to assist?

The response this time was better, and the Zoom meeting has been scheduled for January 29th 1:00pm – 2:45pm.

GNS Banners-I updated the GNS member banners to reflect the updated GNS values and to include reference to Safe Sport. The order has been placed.

I met with the GNS Safe Sport chair to discuss committee and next steps.

Angela and I attended a virtual workshop on Strengthening outcomes hosted by Communities Culture and Heritage. This was of limited use but it was helpful to see where other sports are in the process.

Participated in the CAC sponsored **Rule of Two Webinar**. While there was some good information there were some technical issues in the beginning and as a result, they were unable to provide the recording. We are currently waiting for the slide deck to be released. Once this happens, I will forward it to clubs.

I met with the coaching chair from TTPC to discuss Pathways team status, planning and support. This was very productive, and I look forward to the next steps.

I prepared a memo to the SNS participation lead in preparation for a grant application to support Clubs with Live streaming for competitions leading up to and Including Atlantic Championships. I have met with her and am currently working on the application. The big issue will be to make the case from a safe sport and privacy perspective. It will be a hard sell. I am looking into how Bell Communications has supported other sports in the past.

There have been a fair number of zoom meetings and I have been busy helping coaches figure out Locker issues. It is great to connect with them. I continue to go into the office a couple of times a month to deal with badge orders and other assorted office duties.

Respectfully,

David J Brown

Technical Director – Gymnastics Nova Scotia