

MASCC Service Clubs Olympics  
2009 Olympics Planning Meeting Minutes  
August 19, 2009

**Attendance/Introductions**

A regular meeting of the 2009 Olympics Committee was held at Alt 'N Bach's on August 19, 2009. Chair Wendy Soucie convened the meeting at 12:10 p.m. and welcomed representatives. She congratulated everyone on what we agreed was a successful Olympics. Attendance was routed.

**Minutes**

July 13 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

**High Efficiency Award Patch**

This new award recognizes the club that has the highest Olympics productivity per member. This year's award goes to Optimist – Madison Breakfast, with a production-per-member ratio of 44. In second place was Optimist – Sauk Trails with 31 and in third place was Rotary – West Towne/Middleton with 18. The award provides an opportunity for smaller-sized clubs to win.

**Final Olympics Results**

Club representatives received a copy of the final Olympics results by event placement and overall ranking.

**Events Participation Summary**

Club representatives received a summary showing each club's participation by event.

**Events Participation Comparison (Individuals)**

Club representatives received a summary showing participants by event for the years 2005 through 2009.

**Tell Us How We Did**

We received good comments from the dinner attendees. Also, Optimist – Madison Breakfast submitted its comments via Dick Anderson today. We have some areas needing improvement and we will work on these for the next year.

Club representatives at this meeting agreed to retain all current events in 2010. Also, we will review the **swimming** event early enough to consider reinstating it in 2010. We will also consider adding new events, as well as reinstating **Darts**.

**Basketball** – need to resolve scheduling issue; establish window of time during which all participants must be available to play; reduce time of play; consider having one referee next year (instead of self-referring).

**Badminton** – decided on singles play once participant list was received. Event Chair Linda Bergren purchased equipment and has agreed to serve as event chair again next year (thank you, Linda!).

**Bike Race** – course was quite challenging for the more casual biker. Event Chair Paul Riehemann has submitted an option for 2010.

**Bocce** – worked well on the indoor court; provided consistent surface for play.

**5K Run/Walk** – course will be altered slightly to assure distance is 5K; we will time the event in 2010.

**Horseshoes** – 30-foot distance was well received (instead of regulation 40 feet); play on grass in 2010; emphasize shorter distance in our 2010 advertising to attract/encourage more participants.

**Meal cost** – we need to make Olympics dinner attendees aware that meal costs have to include the cost of providing tables, chairs, table covers, taxes, tips, etc., and that the cost is not subsidized as it has been in the recent past. We will rearrange the service lines in 2010 to permit faster pass through.

Regarding handicap accessibility – the indoor soccer field is handicap accessible. We will redirect traffic in 2010 or at least provide signage that indicates where the handicap access is located if we use this space again.

**Golf** – mention was made to find a west side course. We did consider a west side facility for 2009, but the cost was a factor. We will look at this again for 2010. Options on west side include Pleasant View and Tumble Down. Committee should consider slightly higher fees in order to locate the course on the west side.

**Bowling** – mention was made about a change of venue. Schwoegler's has worked well with us for many years and has kept the cost low. We did contact Middleton Sports Bowl in 2009 – they don't have enough alleys. Event Chair Doug Coerper contacted Bowling Green (after the Olympics). They quoted \$5. They have only 20 alleys. We don't presently need 20 alleys, but if the event were to grow, more would be needed. Schwoegler's presently has plenty of expansion for us beyond the 20 lanes. We expect to grow this event. Too few alleys also preclude us from moving to other alleys when there is an equipment breakdown (as there was this year at Schwoegler's).

Discussion included whether the reasons submitted of "sticky" lanes were reasons enough to consider a move. Members reminded that this is a fun event and perhaps competitive teams should join league play.

We understand that the Bowling Green owner also owns Waunakee Golf. Perhaps we can make a package deal in 2010 – more to come on this.

Lastly, there is annual interest by a few for play offs. We did offer this in the past; but, due to the total time it took, fewer and fewer people were interested. We get similar requests from Billiards players. Our response is that we strive to emphasize FUN in the Olympics and those interested in playoffs should pursue another course.

**Marshmallow Golf** – need more stations in 2010; there was lots of participation, but the lines were too long.

**Agility Course** – might have been too strenuous for the more senior attendees. Next time consider reviewing ahead of time and discussing adaption with “Lift Training” if they are running the event.

**Olympian of the Year** – there was consensus that the speaker spoke too long. We need to manage this better in 2010.

There was also a comment sent to our Committee regarding elimination of the Olympian of the Year recognition and award. While it may be more difficult to identify people eligible for this award in the future, the Committee agreed to retain this element of the Olympics because for many it is, indeed, the highlight of the event. Upon motion made and seconded, the Committee moved to Keep It and Manage It!

**Billiards** – turned out that billiards is free on Mondays. Monies collected this year will be retained in the treasury.

### **Sub-Committee Formed**

A volunteer sub-committee consisting of Olympics Committee representatives Dick Anderson, Mike Gustafson, Kevin Welton and Wendy Soucie will meet and discuss the various event situations brought up at this meeting (i.e., changing bowling and golfing venues) and present their recommendations at our next meeting.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

We do not have all invoicing in, but currently we are looking at an approximate loss of \$400 on this year’s Olympics. This was not unexpected since there is a facility charge at Keva and there wasn’t a comparable charge at Cherokee. Also, we eliminated all fees for events that took place on Keva grounds.

In order to close the Olympics books more timely in the future, it was suggested that we require all invoicing to be concluded within two weeks after the Olympics.

Approximately \$2,500 remains in the Olympics treasury at this time.

**Next Year’s Olympics Dates** – Upon motion made and seconded, we established July 26 and 27 for the 2010 Olympics. It will be the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of these events! We want to have much publicity and HUGE participation!

**Olympics Positions** – We need to fill positions for 2010. Wendy will draft information email to be sent to all presidents of clubs and committee members for nominations.

**Olympics Chair** – Our current chair Wendy Soucie has graciously agreed to be considered again for this role. She asks if there are others interested in this position because it is important to have a Vice Chair “learning the ropes” and helping with various aspects of the Olympics.

**Events Coordinator** – Mike Gustafson has been supporting this function, along with his Treasurer duties. We need a person who can dedicate time about two weeks before and during the day of the Olympics to oversee events coordination. We will put together a position description for this role and solicit volunteer(s).

**Scoring Manager** – Greg Nigh has resigned after serving over 20-25 years in this volunteer role; we are currently having the Excel program reviewed by a professional Excel instructor for possible refinement. The incoming volunteer will require Excel knowledge.

## **Fall Luncheon**

### **Ruth Gordon Nominations**

Nomination form will be emailed to Olympics Committee representatives. The award recognizes and honors a **current or past individual member (living or deceased) of a service club** who, over a period of time, exemplified the concept of volunteer service for the betterment of the community, either individually or through their service club.

### **Ticket Order Form**

Forms will be emailed to Olympics Committee representatives as soon as a meal cost is finalized.

### **Speaker**

Following discussion, the list of potential speakers below will be contacted in the order of preference voted on by attendees at this planning meeting:

1. Biddie Martin – Greg Hermus
2. Speed Skating Casey Fitzrandolf/Suzy Favor – Wendy Soucie
3. Doug Moe (Dick Anderson) or Steve Stricker or Jerry Kelly (Linda Bergren)
4. Mike Eaves
5. Curling speaker – Deb McCormick, Captain Women’s USA Curling team

### **2009 Olympics Photos**

Please consider sharing photos you may have taken at the Olympics for use in marketing the 2010 Olympics. Email to Wendy or Carol for use in 2010 Power Point.

### **Next Meeting**

We have scheduled an additional meeting before our November 5 meeting to continue planning for the Fall Luncheon. **We will meet Tuesday, September 22, at Noon at Alt 'N Bach's.**

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

### **Post-Meeting**

There was some additional discussion following the business meeting. Adding a mission statement and possible fundraising element to the Olympics was mentioned as a way to give more meaningful purpose to the Olympics.

Jenny Santek, Optimist – Downtown Madison, will consider a dual-role Events Coordinator position in 2010.

Dick Anderson is willing to assume additional role(s).

Respectfully submitted,

/Carol Wiskowski/  
Secretary