



Greater Montreal Athletic Association – 5925 Monkland Ave, Suite 101, H4A 1G7

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To: SAC Reps

From: Amanda Maks, Hughanna Gaw & Alexandra Eldon

Date: Wednesday, December 9th, 2020

Time: 4:00pm

Place: ZOOM (see link Below)

### **MINUTES**

### **Present**

Samantha Di Pietrantonio	BA	Jaime Guy	MACD
Evan McCurdy	BHS	Jayson Stiell	MMA
Matt Starr	BIAL	George Spiliotakis	RHS
Danielle Lecuyer	ECS	M-C O'Neil/ J. Bateman	ROYAL
Bryan Pitts	HSBHS	Mike Maurovich	SELW
Elad Ben-Eli	HZHS	Megan Littman	SHSM
Cassandra Sosa	JFKHS	Holly Durkee	STG
Mark Pfleeger	JLHS	Marc Faubert	STT
Gil Manon-og	LA	Mona Bosnakyan	STUDY
Leon Tzortzis	LAURN	Marina Erfle	TRAF
Tiffa Weekes	LCC	Chris Merritt	WIC

## 100 Additions to and approval of Agenda

Moved: Matt Starr BIAL Seconded: Jaime Guy MACD

200 Approval of Minutes September 2020

Moved: Holly Durkee STG Seconded: Marina Erfle TRAF

300 Business Arising

N/A

#### 400 New Business

### 401 Fall Summary

Our Let's Move Virtually Fall Session has 28 classes filled from 8 schools. Each of our four instructors has between 5-9 classes throughout the week (boxing, HIIT, yoga and basketball). We have the LBPSB Online Academy using our program as their phys ed classes for their grade 10 and 11 students. The EMSB also registered 8 groups for their online learners to have access to some ECAs. There is a grand total of 36 groups registered for the fall session for a total of over 300 students benefitting from the program.

The feedback from the schools currently registered in the program has been very positive. The classes are going well, and the students seem to be engaged even though the courses are offered virtually.

We had 7 schools and 428 runners for our High School Virtual Cross-Country Races. We had 4 schools and 663 runners for Elementary. For a total of 1100 runners from 11 schools. Which is only about 300 fewer students than our live, in person event last year. We hosted our AGM over Zoom in early October.

The office has been relatively up and down in terms of cash flow and employees. Cash flow

was not ideal in the fall, given that we were not able to run anything until the Let's Move program it has not been easy. Thank you to all the schools who have gotten in their member fees - that has helped. We got approved for our RSEQ Ministerial grants that should be coming in before the end of the month, which should also help a lot.

## 402 Let's Move - Virtually Winter 2021 Session

The Fall Let's Move session was a great success with 4 classes offered. We decided to expand our offer of classes for another 8-week session in the winter. The registration for the Let's Move winter session is now open until Dec 16<sup>th</sup>. For this session we are offering a wide variety of different classes (11 options).

### Options include:

YOGA (with 6 different themes to choose from including a Yoga for Teachers option)

Brazilian JuJitsu

HIIT Fitness (with 3 themes to choose from)

Dance (hip hop, funk style)

Mind Game Trivia

Basketball Ball Handling & Fitness

Boxing

**Musical Theatre** 

Zumba

Balancing E-motion (Tai-Chi, Meditation, Yoga flow combo class)

Breaking (just announced yesterday as a new Olympic Sport in 2024)

It might be a good idea to offer some classes to your "teams". For example, sign your basketball athletes up for Ball Handling and Fitness or your dance teams for dance or maybe even your Drama students in Musical Theatre.

All information can be found on the GMAA website. Class registration is on a first come, first serve basis. Also, schools that have received the 15028 grants can use the grant for these activities. We hope that we will have some new schools register this session.

# 403 Virtual Chess & Rocket League

Offering E-Sport has forced us to step out of our comfort zone once again. We are pleased to announce that we have officially launched our first e-sport leagues! Chess has 10 teams registered and had their scheduling meeting yesterday. Rocket league has 6 teams registered and will be scheduling tomorrow.

The leagues will run from mid-January until the end of March. The schedule and standings will be on S1 and we will be naming our first ever GMAA Virtual Chess and GMAA Rocket League champions in the spring.

## 404 Virtual Cross-Country Skiing 2021

We are planning to have a Virtual Cross- Country Skiing event the first two weeks of February. It will be almost identical to the virtual cross-country running event that was held in the fall, the only difference is that students will be skiing and not running. Each school will get to design their own race routes at the location of their choice. We will ask that the routes are sent to the office for approval. You will have two full weeks to get your races in and another full week afterwards to get your results in.

#### 405 Let's Talk Track & Field with ESIM

With no end of Red Zone restrictions on the horizon, we have been searching for ways to offer some of our winter sport athletes something to look forward to. In stepped ESIM (Excellence Sportif de L'Ile de Montreal) with their rising stars campaign. The GMAA will be sending out an invitation to your Track & Field athletes for a free virtual webinar, organized in collaboration with ESIM. This 45-minute-long webinar will feature M. Patrice Labonté, a rising

star and Olympic hopeful in the steeple chase and 10,000m run. This conference will give your student-athletes a chance to interact with a high-level track & field athlete on the various issues connected to the ongoing global pandemic. Patrice will introduce himself with a short bio and will outline some of his strategies on dealing with training, mental health, nutrition, and motivation during the pandemic. This will be followed by an open question period. This webinar is available to all your indoor and outdoor track & field students-athletes. It will be held on January 21, 2021 starting at 7:30pm. Schools will register with the GMAA and will be sent a Zoom link to log in on the evening of the 21st. Coaches are also welcome! Information and Invitation will be sent out after this meeting. Schools must register before January 15<sup>th</sup> so we can confirm numbers with ESIM.

## 406 Equity, Inclusivity and Discrimination Committee/Task Force

As mandated by the Board of Directors in September the office is exploring the possibility of creating a committee or task force to address issues of discrimination in our GMAA leagues. We would like to start the process with gathering of information. We had initially reached out to a few SAC reps at various schools to see if they would be interested in being a part of an initial Conversation about equity, inclusivity, and discrimination. But we have decided to perhaps open the information gathering request to the entire GMAA Community. We would set up an anonymous google form that could be filled out by student-athletes, coaches, administrators, staff members, officials, etc with a general request for information. Main topics that we hope to gather information about would be:

- 1) Issues or acts of discrimination that have happened in GMAA leagues either officially or unofficially.
- 2) Opinions on the current GMAA Governing Rules and Sanctions for Discriminatory infractions
- 3) Education what programs exist, how can we make them available to our schools, should they be mandatory, etc
- 4) Any Suggestions

Right now, the main goal is to gather information. We hope to have a clear direction and mandate after the information gathering session. This will be brought to the Board of Directors Meeting next week for discussion and approval.

# 407 Spring Tentative Plans

Right now, as of the end of March nothing is off the table for us. If we can offer some semblance of our regular sports and leagues, we will do it. We will be ready for any schools who are ready to play once we get the green light from the government. Parameters will be set up like our Fall league in terms of following all sport federation return to play guidelines. We will offer as many sports as possible; priority will be given to Juvenile teams. If we can offer a full complement of sports in the spring season, schools will have to decide what, if anything, they are comfortable participating in.

We do plan to offer a Spring Session of the Let's Move Virtually Program, another virtual race to replace the Halo (will we ever celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup>?!) and if team sports are not on the table, we could set up a spring outdoor tennis league and 1-2 golf tournaments. Again, nothing is off the table. We will be ready when you are.

### 408 Question Period

N/A

Happy Holidays - stay safe and stay healthy.