MBTSA Board of Directors Meeting

Date: Sunday, January 11, 2026
Time: 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Location: Hybrid (in-person and Zoom)
Called by Vice Chair (acting)

Present: Linda Boyd, Tammy De Jong, Kerri Baxter, Caitlyn De Jong, Jane Golovenko

Online in Zoom: Lindsay Caners, Marie Speare, Olga Orlov, Sarah Cimino, Yonatan Orlov.

Meeting Called to Order: 11:11am

1. Y.Orlov started the meeting with Land Acknowledgement.

2. **Motion to accept January 11 Meeting Agenda.** T. De Jong motioned to accept agenda. C.De Jong seconded. All in favour. **Motion carried.**

3. **Motion to accept October 19, 2025 Meeting Minutes**. M.Speare emailed spelling errors to correct and scholarships policy change: *rationale for the change CBTF charges the same fee for A and B freestyle.* S.Cimino motioned to accept with the correction presented. L.Boyd seconded. 4 members voted in favour; 5 abstained. **Motion carried.**

4. December 14, 2025 Meeting Minutes acceptance deferred to February 8, 2026.

Governance & Board Stability

5. **Acknowledgement of Resignations.** L.Tymchyshyn resigned as a Publicity Rep effective January 2, 2026. T.Cimino resigned as a Chair effective January 6, 2026. E.Parisian resigned as Past Chair effective January 6, 2026. Y.Orlov, Acting Chair acknowledged their hard work and thanked for their service. CBTF was informed, Sport Manitoba to be advised ASAP.

   On January 8, 2026 CBTF sent and email with information on Winter CBTF and requested confirmation on MBTSA representative at the meeting.

T.De Jong motioned t**o appoint Y.Orlov to represent MBTSA during the Winter CBTF meeting**. K.Baxter seconded. All in favour. **Motion carried.**

6. Board Positions and Interim Coverage. K.Baxter recommended to reach out to Aerial. On January 11, 2026 the board received a resume from Crystal Gartside who is the parent of one of the athletes. T.De Jong recommended as neutral and strategic thinking person. L.Boyd suggested to keep positions open and promote to other clubs and parents to have even representations from all clubs.
   Action item: T.De Jong to reach out to all clubs and inform of the board positions that are available.
   Action item: as approved by the Board, T.De Jong and C.De Jong to take over MBTSA Instagram and Facebook pages until a Publicity Rep is elected.

Funding & Grants

7. **IFF Funding Application.** T.De Jong and M.Speare both have experience applying for this funding in the past.
   M.Speare expressed concern that we need information on funding for budgeting for the new 4-year funding cycle, which will start on March 31, 2027. Sport Manitoba is making many changes related to funding this year. The Board need info about memberships on the funding application, also the board need to decide which program will be offered as this info needs to be on the funding application.
   T.De Jong offered help with completing and submitting the IFF Funding application on the online portal. T.DE Jong shared in the chat the spreadsheet received from T.Cimino. M.Speare advised the Board that budget has to be passed, need to have strategic plan, and application has to be submitted before the due date – **February 1, 2026.** Marie requested draft budget. **Action item: schedule budget committee meeting – T.De Jong will reach out to committee members with dates suggestions for the meeting.**

8. **Twirl Without Limits Grant.** Y.Orlov advised the Board that he attended the meeting with Manitoba government and discussed the Grant details with MB Government representative, main take aways:
   - Confirmation received on what can be spent on: items listed in Schedule D of the initial Application; stated amounts cannot be exceeded.
   - March 31, 2026 was confirmed as the deadline for all programs.
   - all programs that took place between April 1, 2023 and March 31, 2026 are eligible.
   - After competing of such programs reports need to be submitted along with social media posts, photos etc.
   - no age limits for participating athletes, low income communities, transportation expenses etc – those all are eligible.

- There is no requirement to submit application to get changes approved, schedule D guidelines must be followed
- Explanation has been provided on how to submit the final report

Action item: Y.Orlov will provide the detailed record of the Meeting with MB Government representative on the Twirl Without Limit grant to the board.

Upon request from O.Orlov, M.Speare advised that the Financial Policy of MBTSA was followed when funds were transferred according to the applications for the Grant received from two clubs: Sakura and Legacy. The funds transfer was approved by the Treasurer and the Chair as per the Policy.

The Treasurer advised the Board that one of the requirements for Baton Twirling to be recognized as a national sport is to promote our sport outside of Winnipeg city limits. The only programs outside of Winnipeg are provided by Cheryl Gogo in West St Paul and by K.Macaraeg in Morden.

M.Speare also advised the Board that Membership cost for the participating athletes were covered by the funds from the Grant as membership is required to provide insurance for the participants of the events/programs.

Upon request from K.Baxter on clarification if clubs are required to report programs that are no longer offered to the MB Government to comply with the Grant requirements; O.Orlov offered to review the application and have all of the above questions to answered in a separate meeting.

Action item: schedule a board meeting to review questions on the Gran Application and compliance.

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Planning & Operations

9. **Strategic Planning Session.** M.Speare advised the board that strategic plan is done, needs to be approved by the board before February 1, 2026. A copy of the plan was emailed to all board members.
   T.DE Jong expressed concern that the strategic plan is very broad and has focus on rural clubs which may not be achievable. Marie agreed that this would be difficult but as a requirement for Sport Manitoba funding it had to be a part of the Plan, MBTSA needs to show how we are working towards it.
   Action item: Y.Orlov to create an online form for the Board members to review, request any amendment, submit any suggestions, and then to vote online on each section and amendment if any.

10. Sport Manitoba – Night of Champions Nomination
    Y.Orlov called for nominations; will be discussed at the Technical meeting and presented to the Board at a later date.

11. Board Checklist: postponed until vacant positions are filled

Sensitive Matters

[redacted]

[redacted]

Wrap-Up

13. Other Business
14. Round Table – Emerging Items (Information Only)

    Judges Rep report on booking judges for Provincials: 10 judges declined, 3 agreed, 1 judge short for Provincials. The issue with judges availability may be related to the competition in Alberta the same weekend. L.Boyd received up to date list of judges from CBTF, however the list contains no emails, L.Boyd works with D.Peteleski from CBTF on contact information of available judges. Winter Classics contest is looked after, hotel for the judge is booked; airfares are booked for all judges confirmed for our competitions so far. L.Boyd advised the Board she was working on inviting new judges who had not been at our competitions yet.

    Treasurer Report: M.Speare is working on audit; she a few actions items from previous meeting assigned to Sanctions Rep and Coaches Rep who recently resigned from the board. L.Caners confirmed that has received sanctions information. L.Tymchyshyn was taking care of music for competitions. Y.Orlov emailed L.Tymchyshyn regarding music system for competitions, waiting for the reply.

    Assistant Technical Rep report on Pre-Competitive challenge: sanctions have been sent and received; will take place at George Waters middle school on Sunday, April 26, following the Provincials. S.Cimino will contact L.Boyd regarding the judge for the Challenge.

    7 people responded to S.Cimino's survey; there is lots of interest in having a workshop and testing. S.Cimino suggested it can be potentially arranged for the same day as pre-comp challenge.

    Action item: at the Technical meeting the committee members to discuss possible dates, times and present to the Board after the meeting.

    S.Cimino asked for approval to purchase more badges for the PreCompetitive Challenge. M.Speare confirmed that budget was allocated for ordering the badges, will get exact numbers and communicate to the Board. S.Cimino advised the board that she had done inventory and updated the inventory report; badges are needed.

Formal Acknowledgement: **Viktoriia Golovenko received scholarship from Sport Manitoba and Danika Huff received Women to Watch Scholarship.**

Fundraising Rep report: K.Baxter confirmed she got access to MBTSA Manitoba Lotteries account. Waiting for the credentials to have access to the MBTSA fundraising Gmail account; once has access - will go over our licenses for all competitions. M.Speare reminded of the requirement to bring printed copies to all competition.

Athletes Pep: will continue with the position, all board members offered help and encourages V.Golovneko to reach our to any board members for any assistance.

Technical Rep: T.De Jong advised the board that 107 sets have been confirmed for the Winter Classics competition.

Action item: C. D Jong will proceed with Kim Genton acknowledgement and appreciation of her role in Baton Twirling during the next competition.

Vice Chair: Y.Orlov advised the board that he has requested access to Manitoba Baton Gmail account, Dropbox and all other accounts from the resigned Chair.

15. Next Meeting date confirmation: February 8, 2026 at 11:00am at Sport Manitoba, Room #5. Link to a Zoom meeting will be available for those who are unable to attend in person.

16. **Adjournment.** T.De Jong motioned to adjourn meeting.
    Meeting adjourned at 1:01pm.