

LCY Swim Team Parents Association (SPA) Minutes
January 14, 2008

Present: Regina Evans, Laura Rauth, Kristen McIlroy, Brehan Heebner, Tricia Cody, Lori Burke, Dorene Edwards, Julie Leimkuhler, Cindy Moritz, Bob DeCresente, Susan Lloyd, Marlena Ferguson, Carolyn Devletian, Marilyn Hemstreet, Kevin O'Brien, Frank Vella, Diane Stanko, Liz Miler, Therese Davis

OLD BUSINESS

Open SPA Positions: Meet director, treasurer, webmaster

YMCA and Swim Team – Working together

The Riptide Swim team is continuing to try to further enhance and develop its relationship with the YMCA community. With this in mind, the YMCA staff suggested that the team make a banner and create buttons for the Y staff to wear the days before and during our swim meets.

The senior group made a “Go Riptide” banner over the Christmas break. It was hung in Maryland at the Winterfest meet and looked fantastic. It will be hung at the Welcome Center on/before meet days for all to see as they walk into the Y.

An investment of \$30 for a button maker and an additional \$30 for supplies was approved and the machine and supplies will be ordered. Once the machine arrives, buttons will be made for the YMCA staff to wear in support of the Riptide Swim team.

Muffin Breakfast

The swim team will be providing muffins and juice for the young children who attend swim lessons on Saturday April 12th. This will also serve as a good way to introduce these young children and their families to the Riptide Swim Team. The event will be advertised via a postcard invitation that will be handed out to the Swim lesson families 1-2 weeks prior to the event. Current winter swim team families will be asked to donate muffins and/or juice. Further details will follow.

Pizza Parlor Post-season Fundraiser

This has been put on hold until the spring/summer.

Meet Director Needed

We still need a Meet Director for the June Pentathlon and any championship or other meets we choose to host in the future. Laura Rauth has put together an instruction manual for this role, and is willing to assist with the training of 1-2 individuals who would like to take over this role.

Team Web site

Ideally, we would like to have a single webmaster for the team web site. Vickie Hewitt has agreed to temporarily serve in this capacity and is currently updating the website but cannot commit to doing it long term as it is overwhelming considering her league President duties. We would like to set up a separate committee meeting to gather interest, review the site and list priorities. A meeting date will be set, and the information will be sent to the team to seek interest from those who would like to help out.

Apparel

Not all apparel is in. Our vendor is working hard, but has not been able to get all of the items in stock as of yet. He will deliver it as soon as is possible. Any profits made on the sale of this apparel will be applied to the general swim team account. No additional orders will be placed until the previous order is filled and delivered. We are planning to have the apparel presented and available for order at the mandatory summer swim team parents' meeting to ensure items are delivered quickly for that season.

Team Sponsorships

Julie Leimkuhler reported that we now have 10 corporate sponsors. There is still time to become a corporate sponsor. There was discussion regarding the revamping of the sponsorship program, especially with regards to exposure, and formal "thank yous" with letters, cards, plaques, etc. Bob DeCresente will investigate purchasing plaques for our current sponsors. Approval was given by the group for ordering "photo cards" to be used as note cards from the team.

Equipment update

Bob DeCresente stated that all purchased equipment has arrived. Bob is clearing out broken equipment. He believes we have the required equipment for the remainder of the year. Laura and Regina met with Joe Rusciewicz to discuss the responsibilities of the Downingtown High Schools with regard to supporting equipment costs. Joe stated that the schools are in the last year of their contracts with the YMCA for pool

usage, and he will investigate the possibility of the schools contributing to cover capital equipment purchases in the future. Joe will keep the Swim Parents' Association aware of what is decided in contracts with the teams. Per Joe, the YMCA budget should be supporting purchase of equipment to maintain the pool, and this may include the purchase of touch pads in the future. The YMCA did purchase the new lane lines.

Bob DeCrescente mentioned that an additional locker is needed on deck to store swim team equipment. It was noted that we have 2 lockers on the balcony. These lockers will be checked for contents and are expected to fulfill the locker needs.

Update on success of age group reps

The mini group and the seniors have been very successful in coordinating events. We would like to see the other groups have similar success.

Swim Team Records

Thanks to the Hewitts and Coach Bree a list of best times has been updated on the team web-site and on the team bulletin board. The records board will be updated at the end of each season.

Upper Bucks Dual/Combined Meet on Saturday

The Boys' team's parent volunteers will work the first half of the meet on Sat. Jan 19th and the Girls' team's parent volunteers will work the second half of the meet.

COACH'S REPORT

The Upper Bucks meet on Saturday January 19th is expected to last from 1:00 – 5:30 pm. Upper Bucks only has 50 swimmers. Deck prep will be different with us getting rid of as much stuff on the deck as possible (due to the fact that this is a Boys/Girls combined meet and there will be many more swimmers on deck).

Next week the Charlie Harley and District Qualifiers-to-date will be listed.

The upstairs balcony is going to be retiled due to damage/safety issues. It will be repainted. Coach Bree is working with the YMCA to investigate the possibility of painting a Riptide wave on the balcony wall. New lights have been ordered for above

the pool area. A work order has been placed for cleaning/removing items from the deck area.

Bree thanked the parents for being so helpful and allowing her to show up at meets and concentrate on coaching rather than set-up. Coach Bree once again announced that it is VERY important that swimmers (or their family members) notify her of when they are unable to attend a meet, even if it is on the morning of the scheduled meet. She did have six no shows for the meets on Saturday which ultimately resulted in scratching several relays, a missed swim, and partially unsupervised warm ups.

Bree would like to hold a spaghetti dinner in the Community Room on Thursday March 6th for the district qualifiers. This would be a potluck type of event. Details will follow.

Nutrition Class update - Coach Bree is planning a second nutrition clinic for 5:00-7:00 pm on Sunday February 17th. Focus will be flexibility and preparation for big meets.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tricia Cody announced that the balance as of 1/13/2008 is \$ 24,149.86.

NEW BUSINESS

Post Season – States

The weekend of YMCA States at the Pennsylvania State University turns out to be an overwhelmingly busy weekend at Penn State with several other state level tournaments being held on this same weekend. Laura was able to reserve a block of rooms at the Comfort Inn in State College to be utilized by all of our State qualifiers. She reserved 14 for Friday, 16 for Saturday and 5 for Sunday. Information regarding these rooms will be presented at Districts to all those swimmers who qualify for States so that they may secure their rooms.

Post Season – General

T-shirts will be provided for all swimmers who qualify for the Charlie Hartley meet, Districts, States and Nationals. Anyone may submit a design for the T-shirts. Designs for the front of the shirts must be print-ready (no sketches) and are due no later than Feb 8th. If you have any ideas, and need a little direction for what is needed to make a design “print-ready”, families can see Regina or Laura. All designs must be

approved by Coach Bree. In preparation for these shirts, it is expected that all swimmers provide their t-shirt size on the list located on the team bulletin board.

Information will be distributed by Coach Bree with respect to how relays are selected and other post season FAQs as these meets draw closer.

Post-Season Fundraiser

The team's post season funds are in need of being replenished. These funds are utilized to cover swim caps (Districts, States, Nationals) and t-shirts (Charlie Hartley Silver meet, Districts, States and Nationals) for all post season swimmers. To help with re-building some of these funds, a car wash has been scheduled for Saturday April 12th in conjunction with the complimentary muffin breakfast for swim lesson children. All older post season swimmers will be expected to help with these events, although younger swimmers will be invited to assist as well. Please watch for further details.

Swim Caps

We have at least 40 caps left. We will check to ensure there is no more inventory in the team lockers, and then determine if it is feasible to order new Riptide caps for districts and states. It was strongly requested that future caps have swimmer's names on them.

Last Chance Meet

This meet will be held on Sunday morning, Feb 24th and will serve as a last chance opportunity for swimmers to qualify for East District Championships. Please look for further information to be posted regarding the meet. Coach Bree will post all those swimmers who are close to qualifying and are eligible to swim. The invitation will go out to other teams as well. Families of swimmers who have already qualified for Districts (or swimmers themselves as appropriate) will be expected to work this meet.

End of Season Banquet

The banquet will be held Sunday, April 20th starting at 6:00 p.m. It will be at the Inn at Chester Springs. Frank Vella has again secured an excellent price. Bob DeCresente will again do the program and Frank will contact those who volunteered to help with decorations. The banner will be displayed at the banquet. We will again have a video presentation developed and designed by the Senior Practice Group swimmers. Look for sign-ups in the future.

Publicity

We are working to get information about the Riptide swim team into the local papers. We will begin our publicity surge for getting results and stories listed in the paper starting with the Jan 26th and 27th boys' and girls' championship meets. The YMCA has agreed to assist us with getting our stories into the local papers. Be on the lookout for our first write-ups.

Coaches' Appreciation Week

The team would like to show our appreciation to our coaches who work so hard throughout the season for our swimmers. We have planned a Coach's Appreciation Week for the week of February 18 – 22. Dinner for the coaches will be served each evening. This event will be coordinated through the age group reps. The assigned dates for providing dinner are as follows:

8 & U age group – Monday February 18th
9 – 10 age group – Tuesday February 19th
11-12 age group - Wednesday, Feb 20th
13-14 age group - Thursday, Feb 21st
Seniors - Friday, Feb 22nd