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Providing a sports program for the youth of Juneau for over 30 years

September 2, 2009

GSC Voting Members,

Recently you received a 'Notice of Intent to Amend GSC Bylaws' from the GSC Board of Trustees. The reason you received this notice is that all GSC Bylaw proposed amendments 'must be approved by a 2/3 majority vote of eligible members present and voting at a general membership meeting provided a notice of intent to amend the Bylaws was submitted to the membership in writing at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.' (ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS)

At the July Board meeting, the BOT decided it was a great time to review our Bylaws since there were 5 new board members, and it would serve as good refresher for us all. We found numerous 'housekeeping' changes that needed to be made. These are simple changes either with typos, incorrect formatting, or out of date terms. There are a few other 'important' changes that may need a little more explaining. Feel free to contact a board member to discuss more, or bring your thoughts to the discussion at the general membership meeting on September 19.

1. ARTICLE IV – DUES AND FEES

This amendment would remove the requirement that the general membership must approve any dues or fee changes at a general membership meeting. There were numerous reasons for this recommended change. The first being that sometimes it is difficult, if not impossible, to change the due structure before it could be too late if required to schedule a general membership meeting. Board members also felt it was important to offer general membership the opportunity to have a focused business meeting where important topics such as this could be more fully explored; especially given our general membership meetings don't seem to be conducive for this kind of exchange. This would facilitate a more substantive dialog along important issues such as membership dues. It would also allow the BOT to offer a full explanation and dialog with interested members for mutual exchange and consideration before the Board makes a final decision. Board members are elected and should have the best interest of the club in mind. This should include keeping dues and fees as low as possible, but it should also hold them responsible that the club is financially stable. As fees rise to the club (pool fees, salaries, travel, insurance, etc), it may be necessary to raise dues from time to time. The amended bylaws would still require the board to post a notice of intent to raise dues, and give any GSC member a chance to attend a board meeting to voice their opinion.

2. ARTICLE V – BOARD OF TRUSTEES

This amendment would add one voting member to Board of Trustees, an athlete member. This athlete will be selected for a one year term at the annual meeting in May (after the

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banquet). There may only be one serving BOT member from a family. This would be a great chance to have athlete feedback in the operations of GSC, as well as a wonderful opportunity for one of your swimmers to take a leadership role.

3. ARTICLE VI – FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Changes the time required to have a Financial Review of the fiscal year to 3 months (from one month). One month does not give a reasonable amount of time to finish the fiscal year numbers, select a reviewer, and complete the task.

Sincerely,

GSC Board of Trustees

Phil Loseby – President
Val Mertz – Treasurer
Susan Krogstad – Secretary
Robyn Ramos
John Walsh
Sean O'Brien
Scott Griffith

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