

## PROPOSAL FOR GULF SWIMMING COACH ASSISTANCE FUND

### Background

This proposal is in recognition of the need to assist coaches who may not have health or insufficient health insurance to cover needed medical problems or procedures. It is also intended to assist the family of a Gulf Coach who passes and his or her children with burial expenses and college scholarships.

### Proposal

Gulf Swimming is a non-profit charitable company and as such we are allowed to disperse funds for a charitable reason to a designated class of members, the Class being defined as Gulf Swimming Registered Coaches and Staff. The Coach Class must be employed full or part-time coaches for a Gulf registered Club. Part-time coaches are those who are employed continually as a part-time coach and not seasonal.

This proposal is for the establishment of an assistance fund for coaches with a discernable and documented financial need. Such needs include help with medical bills not covered by insurance or those with no insurance and insufficient funds to pay the bills, in case of death, funds to help defray burial costs and possible help with college tuition for surviving children needing financial help. Other needs can be determined as they arise.

The fund would be initialized by transferring \$100,000 from Gulf Swimming reserves. The Fund will be sustained as follows:

- Gulf Coaches would be asked to voluntarily contribute \$25 per year payable upon membership renewal (goal: \$12,500)
- Gulf Clubs would be asked to voluntarily contribute \$100 per year payable upon membership renewal (\$4000)
- An annual fundraising drive targeted at Gulf Parents
- Corporate donations/sponsorships

To receive the funds the recipient coach or family of a deceased coach would need to fill out an application and show proof of financial need. There would be two levels of review.

Level One – Requests under \$5,000 would be administered by the Treasurer **and approved by the Executive Director and Finance Vice-Chair if granted**. If declined by the Treasurer then a committee composed of the Gulf Finance Vice Chair, the

General Chair and the Executive Director of Gulf Swimming would **review the request and** make the final decision.

Level Two – Requests exceeding \$5,000 up to a maximum of \$25,000 would go to the Committee for consideration and final decision.

All requests must be accompanied with an application and documentation showing proof of financial need which is the inability to pay a valid bill or provide enough for higher education. The Application would not be shared with the Coach Assistance Fund Committee and would be kept confidential. Only the recommendation would be forwarded to the Coach Assistance Fund Committee with the yes or no recommendation along with the reason for the determination.

Any distribution of funds to the Coach Class would be non-taxable. Any approved distributions to staff would be taxable to the recipient.

This Proposal has been reviewed by the Gulf Swimming Attorney and has been approved as in keeping with our Articles of Incorporation and as a 501(c) 3 Non-Profit.

If approved by the Board of Directors and the House of Delegates it would become effective upon final approval of the House of Delegates.

This proposal contains the elements necessary for this fund to be established, they are:

1. It is for the injured, sick and/or needy
2. No ability to meet the need and are part of the covered class (Gulf Swimming Coaches)
3. The need to apply for financial help and provide documentation of need and proof of income
4. Donations to this fund cannot be designated for a particular coach, otherwise no designated donations would be accepted
5. The Committee would have two alternate members who would sit in if one of the designated members is applying for financial need or is otherwise unable to serve as a reviewer due to partiality to applicant or is time constrained.