

High Tides Swim Club
BOD meeting-Open minutes
Sept 19th 2018 MSSB back room

Present: Rhonda Witte, Julie Lakovich, Sara Yerks, Jill Farrell, Carrie Hanson, Eric Thovson, Katie Brecht, Emily Reck and Tony Borka, Coach Tim Hroma (present for part of the meeting)

Call to Order at 8:06pm

1. Coaches Update:

- Coach Tim started the meeting by discussing the need for assistant coaches. Due to rising numbers of young swimmers we have a strong need for more coaches. The board and Tim will continue to actively pursue any assistant coaching leads and this will be discussed more at the October meeting.

2. Apparel Vendor:

- The club is looking for new companies to handle apparel orders. Aaron Minter from Rambo attended the meeting to discuss doing future business with High Tides. Rambo is a local company from New London that specializes in athletic apparel and personalized items such as water bottles, drinkware, travel bags, towels, etc... All of their work such as screen print, embroidery, logo and graphics, is done in house. Most screen print work is done with 2-3 colors. They work with a number of name brand vendors and they could send us sizing kits. Their price point is set which would allow us to mark the items up if we wanted to use this as a small fundraiser. At this point, they don't require a signed contract and there isn't a minimum number of items for them to process orders. An online store would be set up once a decision was made on apparel items. It takes approximately 1.5 weeks to set up this online store. This store would remain open for the timeframe that we choose, typically around 2-3 weeks to allow people to try sample sizes and make their decisions. Once the order date has closed, it would take 4 weeks to receive the items. The company always states a 4 week order processing time but usually they can complete the order in 3 weeks. The items are packaged together per individual order, and bulk shipped to the club with no extra freight cost. If a person wants their order sent to them individually instead of the club, there would be an extra shipping fee attached to that person's order. We thanked Aaron for his time and the club will be in touch with him if we decide to utilize them for future business.

- Emily mentioned that Nate from BSN is hoping to be running Hutch Sport shop in October and that he would be interested in handling apparel. She was going to get some more information regarding this and would present it to the board for the next meeting..possibly Nate would attend the next meeting
- The Board decided to make a decision on who we would use for apparel at the October board meeting. This should allow time for a club order to be processed with delivery before the Christmas holiday.

3. Upcoming Meets/Practice Group Updates:

- Regarding the upcoming October Minnetonka Fall invite, we currently have 16 swimmers registered with that number possibly getting adjusted by one or two. Due to the size of this meet Coach Tim has said he will be the only coach attending this meet.
- For the practice groups, Coach Tim plans to focus the 1st month on basics and endurance. He plans to take videos of the kids individual swims and upload them to the swimmers' profiles for training session. He hopes to do this a few times per season as a way to improve swimmer training.
- At the September 25th parent meeting, Coach Tim plans to address Safe Sport, and discuss the video training tools that he plans to use on deck.
- Looking forward to future hosting meets, the board discussed trying to boost our attendance by coordinating our meets with other clubs as to avoid hosting on the same dates.
- The board discussed keeping the ABC St. Cloud YMCA invite on the schedule for Dec 1st-2nd
- The December 16-17th Minnetonka meet will be structured as a team challenge. This is a different style of meet where the club brings 4-6 swimmers per event per age group. Information about this meet will be given to parents closer to the date.

4. HTSC November Fall frenzy

- Coach Tim is hoping to have every HTSC swimmer attend. At this point it looks like we'll have 5 teams attending. Set up will happen Friday night. The building will open at 8am on Saturday. Board agreed we should rent the cafeteria as this was an area of negative feedback when it wasn't available at our last hosted meet.

- Julie made a note of adding a job to the meet job list. The title “meet merchandise coordinator” will be added. Summer Oneil and Emily Reck are willing to make key fob lanyards to sell at the meet. Per Emily, Canterbury Park is willing to donate a package to us that we can raffle at our upcoming meet.
- Some board members and coach Tim plan to discuss meet volunteering at the next parent meeting. There is always a need to train people into important positions such as running the Colorado timing system, computer entries, Meet Coordinator etc.
- The board discussed doing a dry run/training session for some of these positions in October. We will also look into possibly having our club official Jory Hanson attend that session so some of the younger less experienced swimmers could practice starts. This will be further discussed at the October meeting.

5. Club Management

- The board has purchased a website upgrade per Board’s approval at the previous meeting. Carrie is working with Team Unify to update the team website. She’ll update the board with information or questions as she works on the site changes. The new site will be implemented later this fall.
- MN swim has updated it’s photography policy based on the recent USA swimming guidelines. Carrie will update the HTSC policy to reflect these changes and submit to the board for review and approval.
- The Hutchinson Tigersharks are hosting a high school section meet in November. In order to have our high school swimmers’ times count toward future MN swim meets we need to submit paperwork in advance and have two of our officials at that meet. Eric Thovson and Jory Hanson have agreed to officiate that meet and have declined reimbursement for admittance fee to the meet. Rhonda will watch for the email from MN Swim so we get the paperwork in on time.
- Carrie, and possibly a couple swimmers, will attend the November 6th Sno Pros meeting to request funds/donations. The club discussed requesting funds to possibly be used for the website upgrade, software, team travel expenses or to offset swim fees. The board will determine at the next board meeting the club’s SnoPros request for this year.
- Carrie updated the board on the many steps to achieve Club Excellence. The forms have been submitted to USA swimming as HTSC has applied for the Bronze level of Club Excellence. This is the first time that the club has applied for the Club Excellence program as it’s our first year qualifying for application. The board will update membership if we receive the Bronze recognition.
- Carrie provided an update to the board on Club Recognition progress towards Level 2. The goal of the board is to achieve Level 2 by March 2019. Board members will work on

items identified that need to be implemented or created to achieve Level 2. Carrie provide an update towards Level 2 progress at the next board meeting.

6. Fundraising

- The board will look into options to process credit card transactions for upcoming fundraising events. It was noted that we lost some calendar sales at the August school open house because we were only accepting cash or check. This will be discussed at a future meeting.
- Calendar sales are occurring now and going well. If members want to pick up any calendars to sell, please contact a board member.
- The board is always considering fundraising opportunities. Carlson Orchard baked goods was mentioned for a possible future fundraiser.
- The board learned of a recent hockey event where senior students went to have lunch at the elementary school to provide information to young potential athletes. Does HTSC want to look into having our older swimmers meet with young kids to get them excited to try swimming?

7. National Level Meets

- Coach Tim requested the board's approval to attend The Speedo Winter Junior National swim meet in Texas December 5th-8th. The club currently has a swimmer qualified to swim three days of this meet. The club has a couple more swimmers who are very close to the qualifying time standards so there could potentially be more swimmers from HTSC in attendance. Tim needs to ensure we have enough assistant coaches available to cover for him if he attends this meet. He asked the board to make a decision soon as expenses appear to be increasing as the meet date approaches.
- Looking ahead to our swimmers who qualify for the higher level swim meets, the board discussed the need to develop a policy to determine how and when to send our coaches with our qualifying swimmers. The board agreed we are fortunate to have this talent within our club and we want to support it as much as financially possible. MN Swim does offer an elite meet reimbursement for coaches to attend one elite/national meet per season. The reimbursement varies based on the level of meet and expenses can be submitted to MN Swim to offset part of the costs for Coach Tim's travel expenses per MN Swim National Meet Reimbursement policy. A club policy will be created and discussed in more detail at a future meeting.
- The board discussed pros and cons of sending Coach Tim to the Junior National meet. A motion was made by Emily that Tim can attend the Speedo Junior National meet in

December if we can prearrange on deck coach coverage during his absence. Eric seconds motion, Carrie abstained from voting. All voting board members approved, motion passed.

*Meeting adjourned around 10:15 pm