

TAC Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/16/2025

Call to order

The monthly board meeting of the Thunderbird Aquatic Club was held at Fidalgo Pool and Fitness Center conference room on 4/16/2025. President, Letitia Houtby, called the meeting to order at 4:50pm.

Present

- George Minkel, TAC Head Coach
- Letitia Houtby, President / SafeSport Liaison
- Joanna Rolfes, Co-Vice President / Meet Director
- Melyssa Stephens, Co-Vice President / Meet Director
- Sam Hollenbach, Treasurer
- Emily Wray, Co-Hospitality / Parent Representative
- Lara Knowles, Co-Hospitality / Parent Representative
- Robin Chambers, Secretary
- (Vacant position, Fundraising coordinator)

Guest

- Eric Dahlen, Newly elected Executive Director of Fidalgo Pool and Fitness Center

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed via email on 4/1/2025.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed on 3/24/2025.

Roundtable Reports

TAC:

PNS is discussing the budget and getting the calendar ready for next year to present at the May 10th House of Delegates meeting. Meet applications are due next Tuesday. George thinks we should bid for more PNS meets. So far our schedule includes two travel meets early in the season but the rest could be home meets. Low travel for Oct-Dec and don't want to conflict with Oct homecoming. Prelim/Final for PNS-aligned meet hosted by us at the end of February. George wants to host the Spring Showdown at the end of March again next year as well as our home Spring Open meet May 15-17. This would include 5 home hosted meets (not including the intersquad pink vs black or the tri-island meet). There will be changes to policies including officials traveling outside of Seattle. USA Swimming may increase its annual registration fee from \$88 to up to \$200.

Sectionals will be in Seattle next year. George thinks it's a good idea to include some Chamber of Commerce community outreach for people who travel here for a meet and need things to do while they wait in between sessions.

After spring break there has been some struggle to get focused and back into conditioning shape. Now that the weather is better, they are starting some dry land exercises at the beginning of practice. A 4th meet may be added in mid July as a last chance to qualify for summer champs. George has been coaching 38 out of the last 42 days and could really use some help. He may plan to go to Ohio in June. He recognizes our large number of swimmers right now might change as more spring sports are starting and some will drop.

Senior scholarship this year has only one eligible swimmer, but an essay still needs to be submitted. To be eligible a swimmer needs a 90% attendance rate and to write an essay that discusses how swimming has contributed to their life.

Budget:

Treasurer's report was sent on 4/9/2025. The signature card was updated at Banner Bank and a debit card was issued for purchases when necessary. Card will be signed in/out of the safe by a board member for authorized board-approved purchases only.

George is considering purchasing new starting blocks but is taking consideration of fitting them into the existing holes on the pool deck. If new holes need to be drilled, then we can install during the summer maintenance session. Also considering the purchase of a shared supply of long fins.

TAC hosted swim meets:

March 29th-30th: PN Spring Finale; About \$7000 was made off this event.

May 2nd, 3rd, 4th: TAC Spring Thunderbird Open; timed final format. There will be 5 sessions starting with the distance events on Friday. Ribbons for 1st through 12th place. As of now there may be low attendance at this meet due to less advertising to other teams.

Hospitality:

Friday 5/2 we will provide dinner to officials and coaches. May be pizza and salad or Jimmy Johns. Need numbers for approximately 4 teams?

Fundraisers:

Saturday May 3, 2025: Silent Auction with the Anacortes Youth Sports Coalition; There were less donations than expected. TAC was told that we need 10 additional donations and Sam has already collected 3 or we can purchase \$25 gift cards. Consider a pool party rental as a donation with inflatables and we will shop for a few items to create 3 more baskets to donate instead of gift cards. Volunteers needed April 27th 9-11am to decorate items, April 30th 6pm to label items, May 2nd 2:30-7pm to set up. Due to the amount of hours our board members are needed for this fundraiser, we are not sure that we will continue participating in the future.

Friday June 6, 2025: TAC Swim-TAC-ular! Takes place during practice. Raise money for senior scholarships, team entry fees, team wish list (including starting blocks), recognition gifts, and team picnic. Goal of \$10,000; each swimmer \$100. Prizes have been purchased and include raffle items to take to Wenatchee. We will provide snack bags after swimming. We will use a pledge sheet that will be handed out after the swim meet on May 5th and Cheddar Up for donations. Credit card purchases can be processed through a PayPal link as well. Turn in pledge sheets by June 17th. The prize winners will be drawn on June 19th.

SafeSport:

Nothing to report at this time.

Motions

- Sam moved to purchase \$350 pool party including inflatables and items up to \$100 to create baskets for the sports auction. Seconded by Letitia and the motion passed unanimously.

For Action

- Sam and Robin will shop for auction items to include in 3 baskets.
- Sam will talk to Carla about the pool party rental gift certificate.
- Need volunteers to help with auction item prep and set up.
- Prepare pledge sheets for Swim-TAC-ular
- Look into options to livestream swim meets.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:18pm. The next TAC Board Meeting is on 5/7/2025 at 5pm in the FPFC conference room.

Minutes submitted by: Robin Chambers, Secretary

Minutes approved by: Letitia Houtby, President

Date: 5/6/2025