

TAC Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 6/4/2025

Call to order

The monthly board meeting of the Thunderbird Aquatic Club was held at Fidalgo Pool and Fitness Center conference room on 6/4/2025. President, Letitia Houtby, called the meeting to order at 4:55pm.

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)

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed via email on 5/29/2025.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting unanimously approved as distributed on 5/29/2025.

Roundtable Reports

TAC:

George will be traveling as of Thursday afternoon 6/5 through Tuesday 6/10.

Considering restructuring groups to seasonalize. This would also allow for extended practice times. We can have A and B teams with A being the competitive group and B being the seasonal or developmental route. Swimmers can choose to join either team. The B team would not be everyday and not as competitive. The premium A group would have a full USA Swimming membership and would be able to compete in all swim meets with no restrictions. The B group can sign up under a USA Swimming "Flex" membership and can compete in up to 2 swim meets (for 12 & under swimmers). Season 1 would be September through January. Season 2 would be April through August. For swimmers who want to swim January through April, they can go to either A or B groups, but would need to upgrade their memberships to the full year (not seasonal) based on the guidelines of the the "Flex" membership with USA Swimming. There was discussion on how this will affect team-provided gear, TAC fees, and whether those with seasonal memberships will pay pool fees for only those months participating.

Assistant coaches are really stepping up and practice is going smoothly.

Champs qualifiers are slim, partly due to the time standards not being changed. Non-qualifiers can swim in Snohomish on August 2nd.

Discounts for volunteers seemed well received by FPFC, but need to work out the percentage. 10% off the yearly payment equals one free month. Recently during home swim meets we have been doing a volunteer raffle that has been well-received.

Budget:

Treasurer's report was sent on 5/29/2025.

Vendors for starting blocks have been looked into (they will fit into existing holes!) as well as a backstroke wedge, and racing fins, not long fins like previously considered. Discussion was had on whether fees for fins should be included in registration fees or if parents should provide. For the new 2025-2026 season, TAC will provide T-shirts, 3 swim caps, and water bottles. Parents will provide short fins, paddles, and snorkels or other gear like parkas, if desired.

George needs to order replacement prongs for the touch pads.

AYSC has been notified that we will not be participating in the sports auction next year. Paperwork has been submitted to receive our portion of the proceeds.

Swim-TAC-ular is on Friday 6/9 and pledge sheets and the QR code for Cheddar Up donations are ready to go. A reminder email will be sent with the QR code and to let parents know that a lap counter will be needed.

Finn will turn in an essay about his time with TAC as an application for the senior scholarship. He has up to 2 weeks after the last swim meet to apply.

End-of-season gifts for officials were discussed. There is a line item in the budget "Officials' t-shirt funds and end of year bonus" for \$750. May consider offering a credit to T-Shirts by Design.

Sam and George have a budget meeting scheduled for 6/30 to review if the current budget meets the team's needs.

Sam would like to review the by-laws during the week of July 7th-11th and have them ready for the general membership meeting in September. This way we can vote them in at the October meeting. Lara offered to scan the paper copy so we can add it to a google doc sheet for edits and suggestions.

A quote was provided from Mary Chamberlin for a team photo, 3 coach headshots and options for individual swimmer photos for \$425 (plus local sales tax). O'Conner Photography was also contacted and does not charge for services only for prints. Looking to schedule for the beginning of the season, possibly during the intra-squad (pink vs black) meet on 9/20.

TAC hosted swim meets:

Done for the season

Hospitality:

Nothing to report

Fundraisers:

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. Pledge forms were handed out. Snack bags will be provided. Lap counter sheets and prizes are ready for the drawing on 6/18. Parents needed as lap counters.

SafeSport:

Nothing to report at this time.

For Action

- George will revise handbook, paperwork, and parent meeting for next season.
- George will order replacement prongs for touch pads (3).
- Letitia will set a meeting for by-laws revision.
- Add parties into team calendar.
- Look into options to livestream swim meets.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6pm. The next TAC Board Meeting is on 7/2/2025 at 5pm in the FPFC conference room.

Minutes submitted by: Robin Chambers, Secretary

Minutes approved by: Letitia Houtby, President

Date: 7/13/2025