

Stuttgart Piranhas Board Meeting Minutes 09 Sept 2021

Call to order: 19:04 Regular meeting held via Google Meet.

Attendees: President, Secretary, Treasurer, Statistician, Parent Liaison, Webmaster, Fundraiser, Equipment Coordinator, Community Liaison, High School Liaison.

Quorum present for voting purposes. June, July, August Meeting minutes approved.

President:

1. HS Swim Team - question asked about relationship with High School. President advised that there is a special exception for us, not really recognised as a DoDEA HS sport. We do get yearbook pictures but for greater recognition, it was requested that we approach the Principal to see if we can get more. Parent Liaison* said she would raise that on our behalf - *Rebecca please verify
2. BSA Training - Secretary reported that YPT certificates still needed from second Vice President, Equipment & Community Liaison Officer. Treasurer & Parent Liaison have completed training but need to send actual certificates. All others have been submitted for positions currently filled.
3. Social Media - New general public FB page has been created for prospective members to reach out to team and get some info.
4. Board Elections - Further to the vote undertaken in August, concerns had been raised by Coach Mihi with regard to a Conflict of Interest with paid coaching staff being on the Board. Previous Community Liaison voiced concerns along with the President with regards to German speaking role of Community Liaison role. While communication can be undertaken with the help of a translator, situations arise where translation must be immediate - for example, with Life Guards and officials who don't speak English. Both advise that we need a host language speaker. Vice President offered to notify Coach Barrie and the previous Community Liaison was reinstated. President is trying to engage new parent in role, however, until a replacement is found, Constance will remain.

With regard to Board appointments, objections were raised to unilateral appointments and rescinding of appointments. In accordance with the Constitution & Bylaws, all Board members must be voted in by a Board majority. President will email Board for e-vote of new Community Liaison Officer. In addition, a vote was held to officially appoint Fundraiser, Webmaster & Equipment Coordinator.

5. Home Meet

Covid update: Email from pool. No limit to on deck, but in pool, 60 swimmers allowed. Warm ups may be only time when there could be an issue. Split teams into warm up groups, 30 mins for Stuttgart, 30 mins attending teams - or whatever works once we have final numbers. With regard to spectators and checking Covid status etc, Board decided to keep spectators to garden, parents can go to back gate to enter and do not need to go through building. Community Liaison to request key for gate at same time as WiFi password for building.

Setup: VP to send note requesting Dads for helping to bring up timing equipment. Can also put in lane lines on Saturday night. Need to check if scuba guys are in pool. PA

system was borrowed from CYS last two times. President recalled that Maichingen one was broken. Community Liaison to check if it is operating now and ask Herr Kuhns if someone can come and show us how to use it. Equipment Coordinator offered to check if we can use CYS one again.

6. Weekend Training: Oct/Nov practices, may need to make it another registration

Treasurer

Treasurer will update Private Org on where we are at with audit. There are a couple of things missing. Important note: when previous treasurer hands off, access to the digital/online info for their period is not passed on to the next treasurer. This causes problems for the next year.

Need to reimburse 3 coaches for summer swim: Bell, Harrison & Sanders. Two families refunded. Only 1 pool bill so far, request that Community Liaison resend to Treasurer. Someone approved a half payment for a family, that is not OK. If people are PCS'ing, they must pay in full and then ask for reimbursement. We have 82K in the Euro account.

EFSL payment - we have 71 swimmers registered, how much do we owe? Invoice to follow. Winter season, 2nd roster goes in during January. No access to Sindelfingen is due to Covid as well as pool repair work. They need the time in the morning for their cleaning crew.

HS Liaison

Meeting held with HS'ers. They have requested to participate in Trunk or Treat. Suggested that we ask parents to donate candy. Captains announced, Grace Schad, Erin Morrow, Katrina Chao, Madison Brown. Captains responsible for all groups. Kids are voting on team jacket - estimated sales price USD 80 * (please confirm dollars not Euros)

Webmaster

Removed minutes off of public side of team website. Applied OPSEC to public facing platform, removing critical info e.g. took out newsletters, board members info, pool locations. Added a contact form and updated hotel/restaurant info. Located a Twitter account and acquired control of it - do we want to use it? No decision reached. Also have Flickr but not utilized since 2011. Currently storage is full but we can reactivate it, upload photos. Do we have a photo release? We do for HS swimmers but not for the others. Decided to ask for hobby photographers for meet. Statistician adding to signup list.

Equipment Coordinator

Equip Coord has priced Champ caps and regular swim caps. Looking at 65 Champ Caps that will be dual purpose - for Short & Long Distance Champs and 50 regular caps. Concern raised over last year's supplier and quality problems - swimmers had reported caps ripping easily. Equip Coord advised that it is \$1.50 more per cap if we order through Swim Outlet. She will request another price estimate from another supplier if we want.

Also looking at Coach Tshirts. We have a couple of new coaches and we need a minimum of 20 ordered to get last year's black & red Tshirts to match current shirts worn by Coaches (team shirts are not being provided this year). Instead, Equip Coord is working with a different supplier

who does not need a minimum order. Now looking at getting new white sport-tech v neck shirts for all the coaches. She needs to check with Coach Michi but asks for Board approval to spend money (\$987.75). Board approved.

Secretary

Requested approval for previous meeting minutes. Also, for records to be presented to PO, secretary requires a copy of the Coach contracts - President advised that they are not signed yet. Also, require a copy of the insurance policy from the Treasurer. Treasurer has not yet received latest copy.

Miscellaneous

Volunteer Hours.

Issue raised again about reinstating volunteer hours. Previously 50 hours required, removed requirement last year due to Covid. Suggestion made to bring it back but reduce hours to maybe 20-30 hours. Concern raised that some families would meet that after one meet by putting in numerous family members to fill positions. Determined that we have 59 swim families for 71 swimmers, giving a benchmark requirement should ensure that all of the home meets are covered. It was reiterated that none of the volunteer hours accumulated by Board members are available to use as parent hours. No decision reached.

C.A.R.E. Fair:

President will have a table at the CARE fair with a new parent who has volunteered. An enquiry was made as to our desired outcomes from the fair. Hoping to attract interest for the spring season. Suggested that with possible reinstatement of training days at Sindelfingen, we might offer a waitlist for tryouts for winter season. We can register more swimmers with EFSL in January and charge half the season's costs (e.g. 250 Euros) and new swimmers fees could help pay for additional pool costs. Current plan will remain in place, to have additional costs funded by existing swimmers.

Closing

Date for October meeting TBA. Meeting closed 20:59 hours.