

Cougar Aquatics Board Meeting

November 13, 2024 5:15pm

Attendance: Priscilla Schmidt, Taylor McCoy, Jack Zhang, Kelly Pollestad, Bernadette Reese, Hongyen Sheng, Roseanne August

- I. Coaches report:
 - a. CAST meet this weekend with Coach Nick and 15 kids registered; heat sheet will hopefully be sent out tonight
 - b. Cap orders form sent out; black caps for higher level championship, gray caps for IES, and extra white caps for newcomers
 - c. High schoolers are transitioning and it's been good – girls high school swimmers are coming back to Cougar Aquatics while boys are going to high school swim team
 - d. There are a couple kids between groups right now, they have a home group but will sometimes swim with a different group for other exposure
 - e. There was a LSC coaches meeting and have decided for our area that we are adding two seconds per 50 yards/meters for qualifying times for Age Group Zones so it will be easier than last time for kids to meet qualifying times unless it is in a distance event which has other qualifying times
 - f. Potential invitational pre-zones meet for 11-14 years – we will go as an LSC with four swimmers of each age group to go to get kids excited for the next step; it could happen as soon as this year in Boise and chosen kids would need to pay individually
 - g. House of delegates meeting: Junior champs will open up for bidding 2027. There are three champion meets – short course, junior champs, and long course. Bids happen in the spring and the short course champs bid opens up next year. This would be a good one for Cougar Aquatics to bid on. Junior champs will not be until 2027 but this one may good as well.
 - h. Senior IES scholarship will be open in January during the time of short course champs.
- II. Officer report:
 - a. President:
 - i. Jack got another sponsor! Hotpot and we were able to get them added as a sponsor on our shirt.
 - ii. USA swimming registration has been renewed.
 - iii. Paid accountant for 1099 that is now done.
 - iv. Updated budget.
 - v. Logged hours for all stadium cleanups other than this last Saturday/Sunday
 - vi. Sports Engine had a website training – useful as it would make website design more user friendly.
 - b. Vice President:
 - i. T-shirt order done – some extra shirts were ordered in case we get new members. Club sponsors one t-shirt for each swimmer.
 - ii. Working on a swim cap order; discussed placing order soon as we need black caps by second week of December so order will be placed for caps without names and later order for caps with naps

- iii. Fundraising committee looking to get started – will see about recruiting more people but Rachel has some good ideas including getting a discount from Artbeat when we did our t-shirt order
 - c. Secretary:
 - i. Need to follow-up with Chris Lebens, it sounds like we may get some volunteers to help with our social media presence
 - ii. Working on website – advertised registration for winter session on Facebooks, Instagram, and our Cougar Aquatics app
 - d. Treasurer:
 - i. Budget shared and signatures collected for budget review
- III. Voting:
- a. Approval of meeting minutes with a vote of 4/4 for yes
- IV. Other:
- a. Coug Winter Open is coming – ideas to increase profits?
 - i. Application for concessions
 - ii. See if we can get food donations from local grocery stores or restaurants?
 - 1. Safeway and Rosauers maybe good options
 - iii. Sell advertising space on heat sheet – may be a good opportunity for restaurants; short discussion on pricing for ad space but to be determined
- b. Grant
 - i. Community grant application
 - ii. Project based – discussed possibly scholarship opportunity for our rural area and for low income families
 - iii. Renewable for up to three years which would give us time to make sure we could set-up a scholarship fund to continue the program
 - iv. \$8 member outreach membership for low income families that may be the backbone for this
 - v. Also looked at potential swim camp or swim lessons for low income families as a different opportunity
 - vi. Priscilla, Jack, and Roseanne to brainstorm on this more and see if it can be accomplished by December due date
- c. Sponsorship
 - i. We had a brochure last year – is this something we want to do again?
 - ii. Discussed tier pricing, we may look at decreasing sponsorship amount; we could put logos on our website for a lower price point, may approach during the spring time
- d. November is coach appreciation month
 - i. Cards for swimmers to sign
 - ii. Gift card for the coaches
 - iii. Picture of the cards received by our coaches for our website
- e. Next meeting Wednesday, December 11th at 5:15pm in Coach Russ' office, PEB