

Cougar Aquatics Board Meeting

2/12/25

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

- I. Coaches Report:
 - a. Lot of people swam at the first meet, realized it wasn't as stressful as they first thought and want to do it again
 - b. Great accomplishments for the swimmers from the meet:
 - i. 2 new regionals qualifies
 - ii. 10 new champs cuts
 - iii. One new short course champs qualifier
 - iv. 204 races swam
 - v. 36 athletes (11 seniors, 9 cougars, 7 jr cougs, 9 cubs)
 - vi. 92 best times
 - vii. 2nd in men's team scores
 - viii. 3rd in women's team scores
 - c. Cougs and Jr Cougs are going separate out for dryland portion as they need to concentrate on different things; shoulder bands will be needed for senior groups
 - d. Morning practice will not resume until after short course champs
- II. Officer Report
 - a. President:
 - i. Short course champs course bid set for next year
 - 1. When we hosted champs before, we needed to supply hospitality and background work
 - ii. Registration numbers are the same; registration for spring trimester is February 1st
 - iii. Logged in hours for people who volunteered for Cougar Classic
 - iv. Will be meeting with Bernadette for missing stadium clean-ups
 - v. Checks for the meet have been deposited and will be working on the budget
 - vi. Yi Gu has completed official training – if you see him congratulate him as it's a big deal!
 - vii. USA Swimming putting on a coach development academy. Looking to send one coach in April. It will be three days and the cost is \$300. It is in Colorado. Food, lodging are included so Cougar Aquatics will need flight in addition. We have the funds set aside for professional development.
 - b. Vice President:
 - i. Discussion of t-shirts for short course champs, possibly without names and then we could get a bigger discount. May do shirts for short course champs, regionals and senior zones
 - c. Treasurer:
 - i. Charges made for Cougar Classic meet

- ii. Only received one receipt so far for food compensation for the meet
- d. Secretary:
 - i. Thinking about the next newsletter
 - ii. Need to follow-up on intern request from WSU
 - iii. Picture of cubs next week for social media campaign starting in March
- e. WSU Head Coach:
 - i. Meet financials were good, we made about \$7500 after hospitality, lifeguards, and fees for the pool were taken into account
- f. Safe Sport:
 - i. No emails/contact so no current concerns.
- III. Voting
 - a. January Meeting Minutes approved (5/5 voted in favor)
 - b. Sending a coach to USA Swimming coach development academy approved (5/5 voted in favor)
- IV. Other:
 - a. How to make our meet better for next time
 - i. Bigger name tags for coaches or a badge for coaches
 - ii. Need a parking solution for handicap attendees
 1. Library parking has some handicap spots but might be better to have officials in the library garage and have handicap parking right outside the building by sending a message to coaches to let us know if handicap parking is need and provide as available
 2. We cannot prop Smith gym due to liability
 3. Fred did a fantastic job with bathrooms but we may pay a custodian in the future as it was a lot of work
 4. More signage to help with directions to get around near the front of the building close to the sidewalk
 5. Reinforce to parents why we do meets
 - a. So many kids have best times
 - b. Supporting our kids
 - c. Many positives from this meet
 - b. Poster making for champs
 - i. Will do it after a practice
 - ii. RSVP and then we can do pizza and poster making
 - iii. No glitter but look at sharpies that we can keep in a bin; we do not currently have anything in our storage for supplies from previous poster party
 - c. Senior Night at Short Course Champs Saturday, March 1st
 - i. Coach Taylor will reach out to seniors, there may be four students to invite
 - ii. Get a bouquet of flowers for senior night
 - d. Sponsorships and fundraising?
 - i. Do we want to revisit sponsorships?
 - ii. Purpose would be a focus on scholarships - possibly more community support

- iii. Timeline? April after things slow down for champs and end May 4th so we can focus on long course meets
- iv. Other fundraising ideas?
 - 1. May there is the Moscow Renaissance Festival where volunteers can host a food booth – we used to do this in the past as well as a membership push

V. Next Meeting:

- a. Wednesday, March 12th at 5:15pm in Coach Russ' office