

Cougar Aquatics Board Meeting

May 14, 2025

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

- I. Summary of parent meeting on May 5th, 2025: general parent voting for confirmation of board positions with 100% votes for yes
 - a. President: Priscilla Schmidt
 - b. Treasurer: Bernadette Reese
 - c. Ad Hoc: Hongyen Sheng and Yi Gu
 - d. Safe Sport: Kelly Pollestad
- II. Coach Development Program Update by Quincy
 - a. Focus on leadership outside of the pool including setting the standards and trust between athletes and coaches
 - b. Boundaries are important between coaches and kids to build a better practice atmosphere
 - c. Each kid learns a different way and work to find the root issues of why a kid may be disruptive
 - d. Coach Quincy hopes to get kids to love the sport based on their internal motivations
- III. Officer Report:
 - a. Coaches Report:
 - i. Lewiston this weekend; coach has ducks to hand out
 - ii. Updated Tri-Cities date – it is now the weekend of graduation so down to three people who will be under the Tri-Cities coach due to the date conflict
 - iii. Looking to add another meet in July – either Pendelton or Moses Lake either the first or second week of July (will decide soon to help with hotel costs)
 - iv. Summer Solstice announcement will be sent out soon for registration
 - v. Updated zones and senior zones with qualifiers – cannot guarantee travel with team since tickets are already booked
 - vi. Parents invited to Friday practice where everyone will learn/practice counting laps for long course
 - vii. Safety talk on Monday to cover what to do in case of fire alarm, where the emergency phone is, etc so kids know what to do in case something happens
 - viii. Summer plans: may try and swap times for swim practices AM and PM due to parent requests; have received some parent feedback requesting earlier times
 - b. President Report:
 - i. May numbers are right around where we were for March
 - ii. Posted fliers for summer swim on Instagram and Facebook
 - iii. There is an option for days to sign-up for skills assessment – there is one person who signed up for middle school
 - iv. Did not get picked for USA swimming grant
 - v. Collected \$250 sponsor drive

- c. Vice President Report:
 - i. Working on team store, specifically access to customize swim items such as a logo for swim suits
 - ii. Talking to Rachel for fundraising committee to identify businesses Pullman who have donated for other events
 - iii. Start looking into football home games to create sign-up genius for football clean-ups but may change to this sign-ups like we do for our meets
 - iv. Renaissance fair for the future for fundraising and also looking at Lentil Festival
 - v. For lentil festival we would need to have a lentil dish but if we have a food booth, this may take away from our marketing so possibly have a booth for food and one for marketing along with the parade for kids
- d. Secretary Report:
 - i. Cleaned up app announcements
 - ii. Will make plans with Priscilla to discuss updating the website
 - iii. Will talk to Taylor about holidays for summer for an updated cancellation calendar
- e. Treasurer Report:
 - i. Bank statement circulated
 - ii. In November, will message coaches for updated addresses for paper W2
- f. Coach Russ Report:
 - i. Will work with Coach Taylor for updating pool times in summer
- g. Safe Sport Report:
 - i. No updates
- IV. Voting and policy updates:
 - a. Cost a concern for zones/age group zones
 - i. Not all kids can go due to money needed to participate as it would cost \$1800 up-front payment
 - ii. Hoping to use our scholarship fund to use for higher level meets
 - iii. Proposal of \$500 assistance for age group/sectional participants with participants given the opportunity to fundraise the difference through sponsorships
 - iv. To qualify: must be in good standing with the club
 - v. Votes: Yes – four; Abstain – one; No – zero; Priscilla abstained due to conflict of interest
- V. Coach Taylor will be completing evaluations with the other coaches
- VI. End of the Year Celebration:
 - a. BBQ
 - b. Coaches awards
 - c. Parent awards – parents who volunteered X amount of hours?
- VII. Next board meeting June 11th at 5:15pm in Coach Russ' office
 - a. Review handbook and update athlete's cost of conduct (steps for what to do if something comes up)