



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Puget Sound Swimming Association (PSSA)

May 14, 2024

Business Meeting Notes

Attendees:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. Tom Wunderlich, Snohomish | 8. Earl Long, Regional Officials Coordinator |
| 2. Tyler Yurina, PKC | 9. Jan Haanio, Morgan |
| 3. Matt Warren, Lakewood | 10. Rowan Phan, Snohomish |
| 4. Joseph Shelly, Skagit | 11. Logan Wintermute, Snohomish |
| 5. Marilyn Grindrod, Bremerton | 12. Jackie Barrat, South Sound |
| 6. David Baer, Commissioner | 13. Peyton Buegler, Gordon |
| 7. Blake Hurd, Auburn | 14. Sarah Osher, Mel Korum |

Introductions and review of previous notes

The meeting began with a brief introduction of attendees and where they are from, and a quick review of the previous meeting's notes. Earl and Tom gave an overview of the agenda. Earl also shared details about honoring David Baer, the Commissioner of the Association, at a recent meet at the Snohomish Aquatic Center. At the same swim meet, the group recognized Jim Cornforth, a long-time advocate for Y.M.C.A. swimming, with a get-well video. Jan noted that there had been several changes to the contact list in recent weeks, and asked that teams continue to give contact updates but to not change the document that was shared. Marilyn mentioned following up on contacting Todd Marsh for the virtual training session that he had referenced last Y Regionals.

Financial Updates and Meet Planning

The board reviewed financial updates, with Marilyn reporting they have \$31,353.99 in the bank and are holding back rebate checks for teams that haven't completed their financial requirements from the past season. Earl clarified a \$220 deposit from Channel Island Y.M.C.A. in California for official training. Marilyn suggested increasing meet entry fees to \$20 per swimmer for the 2025-26 season due to rising pool and hospitality costs.

Swim Meet Series Expansion Planning

The group discussed plans for a new challenge series of swim meets, building on the June meet at Snohomish Aquatic Center. Tom proposed expanding to include multiple associations and larger venues like Hazen in Renton, Curtis in Tacoma, and other facilities, though Pacific Northwest Swimming's existing calendar and high school seasons would create scheduling challenges. The discussion explored various logistics including capping entries, timing considerations (with many families unable to attend Sunday meets and early schedules for long travel), and the possibility of multi-day events with Friday night distance sessions. Earl highlighted current resource constraints, noting that administrative capacity and official numbers have decreased since pre-COVID, suggesting a need to space out invitational meets and potentially use dual-credentialed officials more effectively.

The group discussed the 2025-2026 swimming season calendar, confirming Hazen for October 11th and the Snohomish Aquatic Center for December. They agreed to look at adding a meet in May/June, potentially in Curtis, and to spread out events across different regions to avoid back-to-back meets. Earl suggested creating a fall calendar similar to the summer version and having teams email their proposed dates to

pssa.swimming@gmail.com for better organization. The group also confirmed that Y-State was scheduled for January 24th at the KCAC, though David noted there had been a change in leadership at the aquatic center that might affect the usual arrangements.

Swim Meet Fee Structure Discussion

The group discussed raising fees for upcoming swim meets, with a focus on the recent \$40 entry fee for the June 1st meet. Marilyn suggested increasing the fee by \$5 to \$20 per swimmer for invite/dual meets, while Jan expressed concerns about changing the traditional format of 3 individual events and 2 relays. Joseph proposed a three-day meet structure with a \$30 surcharge and \$5 per entry fee for the December Snohomish meet, aiming to balance costs and participation.

Following a motion made by Tom and seconded by Marilyn the board agreed, by unanimous vote, to set meet fees for the 2025 – 26 season as follows:

- Dual/invite to \$20,
- Challenge meets at \$30, and
- Y State at \$40

These new fees are to be effective September 1, 2025.

The board also explored the possibility of using rebate checks to create a dedicated awards fund, with Marilyn agreeing to develop a formula model.

Swim Coach Training Clinic Plans

The group discussed plans for swim coach training clinics at Morgan pool, with three sessions planned for August: freestyle/back on August 2, breast/fly on August 16, and meet management on August 30. Jan and Marilyn shared their association's efforts to engage and train new coaches, particularly focusing on meet hosting and volunteer recruitment, with Tyler emphasizing the need to develop future leaders. Tom suggested recording the sessions and creating a training site on the PSSA website to make the content accessible to coaches who cannot attend in person, and for the PSSA as a whole.

Swimming Official Recruitment Strategies

The group discussed the declining number of officials and volunteers in swimming, noting a need for recruitment strategies. Earl proposed developing a recommendation for training new officials, which he will discuss with David, Chris, and Linda. This proposal will be presented at the July 8th PSSA meeting.

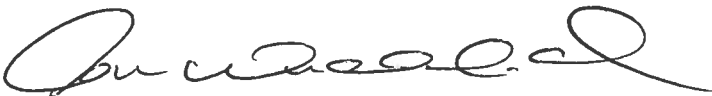
The board agreed to continue paying for officials' certifications through the 2025-2026 season, pending formal approval at the next meeting. Jan shared her success in recruiting new officials by sending messages directly to team families, as well as framing recruitment as promotions when approaching regular volunteers/timers.

Adjournment and next meeting

The group scheduled the next meeting for July 8th, with teams that are able to host swim meets expected to come up with potential dates to host the fall/winter schedule. The group will look to finalize the Fall/Winter meet schedule by next meet based on the information provided by host teams. The officers for the PSSA will also be decided upon in the July meeting.

Next meeting(s):

- July 8th


Tom Wenzel 6/16/25