



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

## Puget Sound Swimming Association (PSSA)

April 15, 2025

### Business Meeting Notes

#### Attendees:

- |                                 |                                              |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 1. Tom Wunderlich, Snohomish    | 7. Earl Long, Regional Officials Coordinator |
| 2. Nicole Evanson, Grays Harbor | 8. Jackie Barrat, South Sound                |
| 3. Matt Warren, Lakewood        | 9. David Millican, Whatcom                   |
| 4. Joseph Shelly, Skagit        | 10. Naomi Voeller                            |
| 5. Marilyn Grindrod, Bremerton  | 11. David Baer                               |
| 6. Blake Hurd, Auburn           | 12. Jenna                                    |
|                                 | 13. stadvick                                 |

#### Quick recap

In this meeting, the PSSA considered the current Spring/Summer meet schedule, the challenges of recruiting and retaining officials, and the broader state of YMCA swimming. Lastly, they discussed scheduling their next meeting, the challenges of booking pool time for their events, and the possibility of reviving the Fall Fest meet series.

#### Next steps

- Joseph to investigate availability and potentially book Snohomish Aquatics Center for Fall Fest in October (between 13th and 11th).
  - Joseph to prepare a summary of the discussed northern fall meet schedule and share with the group.
  - Marilyn to coordinate with Nicole regarding meet scheduling to avoid conflicts and maximize attendance.
  - Marilyn to follow up with Todd Marsh about potential virtual coaches training for the beginning of the fall season.
  - Earl and Linda to follow up on hosting a Level 1 officials clinic for North Shore Y's 4-5 individuals.
  - PSSA teams to reach out to KCAC regarding booking the last weekend in January, considering the organizational changes.
  - All teams to consider their capacity for hosting meets in the fall and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.
  - All teams to attend the next PSSA meeting on June 10th.
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## Summary

|        | YMCA of Snohomish County and Skagit | YMCA of Grays Harbor - Hoquiam | Skagit Valley Family YMCA - Mount Vernon | Bremerton Family YMCA | Morgan Family YMCA |
|--------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| May-25 |                                     | May 17, 2025                   |                                          |                       |                    |
| Jun-25 | June 1, 2025 at SAC                 |                                |                                          |                       |                    |
| Jul-25 |                                     | July 26, 2025                  |                                          |                       |                    |
| Aug-25 |                                     |                                | August 2, 2025                           |                       |                    |

### Summer Meets Planning and Scheduling

The meeting focused on the planning and scheduling of summer meets. Earl presented the final updates on the schedule, which included a meet in Snohomish on May 10th or 11th, a meet in Grays Harbor on May 17th, a meet in Snohomish County on June 1st, a meet in Hoquiam on June 26th, and a meet in Skagit Valley on August 2nd. Tom clarified that they are not hosting a May meet and are co-hosting a June 1st meet with Skagit and Snohomish County. Joseph discussed plans for a meet in August, which will include a parent volunteer relay and possibly a pentathlon. Nicole also confirmed her plans for hosting a meet in July. The group discussed the pros and cons of hosting a meet at Hazen Pool in Renton, with the decision ultimately to remove the Hazen options from the schedule, leaving the group with four meets for the summer.

### Hazen Pool: Future Swim Meet Venue

The group discusses potential venues for future swim meets, focusing on the Hazen Pool. Earl and Joseph describe the pool's facilities, including its six lanes, new equipment, and capacity of around 300 people. The cost is \$260 per hour, which includes the timing system and pads. The group also considers bringing back events like Fall Fest and challenge meets, with suggestions to coordinate North, Central, and South meets using the same meet file. Joseph offers to start discussions with Snohomish and Whatcom about a meet schedule for the North, particularly regarding invites.

### Fall Fest Meet Planning Discussion

David suggests investigating the possibility of hosting a Fall Fest meet for all teams at Snohomish Aquatics Center, with a target date range between September 13th and October 11th. The group discusses the need to consider school schedules and potential conflicts with PNS meets when selecting a date. Nicole emphasizes the importance of ensuring sufficient swimmer participation and suggests teams discuss their hosting capacities for the upcoming season. Joseph shares his team's plans to host a Last Chance qualifier in February and a meet around November. Marilyn expresses interest in collaborating with other teams for meets and mentions plans to organize events once she has more data.

### **Official Recruitment and YMCA Swimming Challenges**

The group discusses challenges in recruiting and retaining officials for swim meets. Earl expresses frustration with the declining number of officials and the difficulty in organizing clinics. Dave Baer explains the learning curve for officials, emphasizing the importance of developing judgment and experience. The conversation then shifts to the broader state of YMCA swimming, with David Baer noting a decrease in participation and the need for rebuilding efforts. The group also touches on potential training opportunities for coaches at the beginning of the next season, with Joseph mentioning a possible virtual training session discussed at a previous regional meeting by Todd Marsh.

### **Pool Time Challenges and Reorganization**

In the meeting, the team discussed scheduling their next meeting for June 10th. They also discussed the challenges of booking pool time for their events, particularly in the fall season. David Baer suggested that they should make arrangements for reserving pools/facilities in the May timeframe if they want to have a meet in October. Earl mentioned that there is a reorganization happening in King County Parks, which also might affect their plans. The next meeting will be attended by the full PSSA group and the executive group.

### **Next meeting(s):**

- June 10<sup>th</sup>
- (Additional meetings in the summer as needed)