

Orcas International Swim Team
NATO AWACS E-3A Component Geilenkirchen
HQ Joint Forces Command Brunssum
Brunssum, Netherlands

Brunssum, 13 January 2010

Distribution:

Orcas Parents, Coaches and Volunteers
GK MWB

Subject: General Membership Meeting, 12 January 10

The General Membership meeting for the Orcas International Swim Team met on 12 Jan. 10 at Canada Place on JFC Brunssum, NL from 18.50 to 20.00 hours. The following personnel were present:

Susan Houston, Vice President	Sherry Harnett
Yutona Siikavaara, Meet Director	Paul Priestman
Charlotte Reges, Secretary	Amie Lennon
Catherine Pierre, Treasurer	Tsvetelina Vaseva
Michaela Schneider	Rebecca Schafers
Greg Houston, Statistician	Chris Talsness
Huub Gulpers	Chris Ballard, Handbook
John Shirras	Erin Anderson
Sian Shirras	Gert Koelstra
Debra Morello, Equipment Manager	Pascal Beland
Tisha Walter	Mariela Bachynsky, Concessions Coord.
Jonathan Webb	Adis Perez, Awards Banquet Coordinator
Steve Hartig	Chuck Fowler
Julie Hartig, Webmaster	Robin Fowler
Ingrid Kelly	Marian Ojeda
Mike Kelly	Ludvik Kolset
Jutta Davis	

Welcome by the Vice President:

Susan welcomed the members. The President, Rick Ojeda, was TDY.

Membership Vote:

A motion had been made previously to put the Volunteer worksheet on Google Docs. The main spreadsheet would be viewable by the members. The motion carried and will go into effect for the fall season of 2010-2011.

13-14 February Champs:

After the Seeding meeting, coaches will let swimmers know who is filling the empty lanes. Participants will pay 10 Euro per child. The team will pay the rest. Susan summarized from a handout regarding extra training before Champs. This information will be e-mailed to the team. Susan thanked Gert for his work with hotel arrangements. Gert reported that there had been no response from parents, just coaches. Huub informed the membership that kids can swim up to five events on Saturday and Sunday each. In answer to a question, it was stated that the coaches use Team Manager to pick what events the kids swim. A parent suggested that coaches also listen to what parents and swimmers want to swim. Yutona stated that coaches actually use both Team Manager and take into account what events swimmers like. At the Seeding meeting, swimmers events will be chosen.

16 January Meet:

Yutona stated that this meet would include the Pentathlon event. The top 6 scorers get an award at Champs. (note: see swimefsl.org for more information). We are expecting 90-100 swimmers. Help is needed with Concessions clean up.

23 January Divisionals Meet:

Yutona informed the membership that 200-220 swimmers are expected. The meet will end at 16.00. We will set up two tents with heaters in the parking lot area where the coaches usually park. Parents are needed to help set up. Parents are asked to be generous with food donations. A sign up sheet will be put up for Concessions. Lots of volunteers are needed to fill all positions. Yutona will check to see if we can empty the baby pool. (After the meeting note: this cannot be done because it is connected to the main pool). A parent asked if qualifiers could start swimming on Fridays (have not already paid to swim at that time). The Board will discuss with Rick. It was mentioned that all equipment has to be cleaned up/torn down after Divisionals.

13 March Awards Banquet:

The Banquet coordinator, Adis Perez, said that volunteers would be needed to help out. The meal will be a buffet. Swimmers are free. We are not sure yet what the fee will be for parents and siblings. The banquet will take place at Niederheid.

Open Positions:

The following volunteer positions need to be filled for the next fall season due to many families leaving the area: Meet Director; Starter; Concessions Coordinator; Head Timer; Assistant Statistician.

October 2010 Fall Trip:

Susan talked about a possible fall trip to Rota Spain, during the AFNORTH fall break. It would combine fun with a possible swim meet. A handout was available and this information will be emailed to the membership. Gert mentioned if there is a possibility to go to Lisbon and have a meet during this period. Susan replied that if Gert wanted to check this out, then it could be a possibility. Please let the Board know if you are interested by 1 February.

Departing Board Member

Susan thanked Yutona for her 6 ½ years of super support she provided to the team. She said Yutona had served in a variety of positions on the team ranging from Meet Director to Head Coach. She always kept focused on the kids.

Proposed Coaches Code of Conduct:

A Code of Conduct from a Canadian team had been previously e-mailed to the membership by one of the members. The Board's position at this time is to check with other EFSL teams, lawyers, German law, and get the coach's input. A question was raised as to what would happen if a coach didn't abide by the Code. A parent suggested that the team could make the Code a statement of principle so it could be adopted quickly. Numerous issues were discussed related to the Code of Conduct and many of these issues/questions couldn't be answered. Chris Ballard suggested a committee be formed to look into all the issues related to the Code of Conduct because it took a committee of 2 about a year to revise the By-Laws and he said the board is very busy now with Divisional and Champs coming up. A parent asked why a volunteer/parent coach was let go. Susan replied that this issue is between the Head Coach and the parent. The Board will not discuss this issue with the membership. Gert asked how many swimmers and families the team has. We have approximately 50 swimmers and 39 families. Julie made a motion that the to see if parents supported the Code of Conduct before or by the start of the Spring season. The motion passed. A committee consisting of families, Hartig and Kelly, will do more research regarding the Code and present to the Board. Susan asked Julie to report to the Board as to who is on the committee and to keep us informed.

Swim Practices:

Julie stated that some parents have suggested that parents be able to choose which practices their children will attend, of the four available. She also mentioned that some swimmers are allowed to swim double practices but do not pay extra for this. Julie proposed that a committee be formed to come up with a proposal regarding making practice times more equitable. Again, Susan asked Julie to report to the Board as to who is on the committee and to keep us informed. Other parents said that they would like more transparency and know why certain coaching decisions are made.

Next General Membership Meeting: Susan stated the next scheduled general membership meeting is scheduled for 1 Jun 2010. It was discussed to have a meeting before the Spring season. It was announced by the parent who reserved the meeting room that the meeting had to be over because of the time. The meeting was suddenly adjourned but it caused some confusion at the end.

After the Meeting: The EC met and all agreed a mistake was made on the splash fees. The fee for parents/swimmers to pay is 5 E per individual event splash per swimmer and the team picks up the relay splash fees and the rest of the individual splash fees. Or to put in dollars because EFSL charges splash fees in US dollars--parents pay about \$7.00

and team pays about \$18.00 per splash and the team pays the full subsidy of Champs relay splash fees (i.e. \$25 per splash) .

Meeting Adjourned.

Written by on 13 January 10

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Approved by on 25 January 2010

Susan Houston
Vice President, Orcas Swim Team