

FAST Board Meeting Minutes  
July 23, 2009

Board Members present: Matt Riesen, Rod Kettels, Tracy Clinger, Lisa Canterbury

Coach: George Leatherman

Others in attendance: Julie Newman, Dara Wilson, Todd Wilson, Hans Stocker, Chris Topel, Scott Swanson, Andy Rutledge, Niki Hinesman, Jeff Wobser, Cyndi Hotaling, Mike Dillon, Amy Evans, Spencer Evans, Mike Clinger

Moderator: Jeff Heath

Meeting began: 7:07 pm

The agenda for the evening included concerns, comments by all individuals.

Summary of issues brought up:

1. Swimmers should not be setting up and tearing down for dual meets. It seemed like this year the same parents were assisting at the dual meets, but the membership feels that having a sign-up sheet to work dual meets would be a good idea (just like we do for Flag City). The VP is the dual meet coordinator and needs to have the meets ready to go.
2. Communication was an issue: not sure what all the items in communication were (BSSL swim meet was mentioned). No where on the year end banquet invitation did it say to bring a swimsuit.

In previous years, newer swim families were set up with buddy families. There was also a board member per age group to assist in any ways needed. Perhaps have a glossary of swim terms, abbreviations and have some information on the website. If it is put on the website then parents can read at their leisure.

The question came up - Are we sure everyone has a computer? Possibly make several copies of the board minutes to put in the front of the boxes so people can have access to them if they are without a computer.

3. Some of the membership came to meet the board - who the members are.

Issues were brought up about the changes made to the board - how has it gone to a smaller number? Where are the bylaws? It was brought to the attention of all in attendance that changes in bylaws need to be voted on and approved by the entire membership.

President Matt Riesen stated that he will take the new bylaws to the membership to get approval. He also stated the he wants to downsize the board to accomplish tasks.

Individuals expressed concern that by having a smaller board, all tasks will not get done.

In the past, things got accomplished with a larger board

It appears there are handbooks that are MIA following all of the changes to the board in the past year. The board now needs to detail the duties of each member so that can be passed along to future board members.

It was stated that some positions moved from being on the board to being encompassed in committees.

One individual stated that the board should do the major functions, not the day to day operations (smaller mundance tasks).

#### 4. Fee structure concerns

A parent was concerned about the fees for brand new swimmers to the red group. He stated that his family could join Lakeview and have the same coaches at a fraction of the cost. He stated that he is coming to us with an issues, but is not sure how to solve it. We have swim teams close by that are large and successful - we need to use those models that are close by and see what they do (BG, Napoleon, Ottawa)

Several of those in attendance stated that if there weren't summer club teams, FAST would be thriving. The clubs mentioned above switch gears for each season - GNOAC in summer and USA in winter. GNOAC teams are supported by their city

Spring fees was an issue brought up. With the UF pool closing for repairs, some swimmers were unable to attend any practice, but still had to pay the entire fee amount.

#### 5. Coaching Questions

What is happening with coaches? Tim has left and it appears we will be losing Katie. Several parents indicated that we have to trust George to bring in quality coaches. He has always done well with coaches and we hope that will continue

6. The following question came up - What was discussed during executive session? Matt Riesen indicated that the budget, online computer program, getting Tim Moon back to coach

7. A parent asked, " What does George need?"

George indicated he has been putting in 65-70 hours a week and it would be beneficial to him to have some items taken off of him.

He indicated that he is doing some duties that other coaches are not doing - depends on the size of the swim club.

George's primary responsibility is coaching and the board does the business end.

We have to be sure that George doesn't take on too much responsibility - perhaps revamp some of his duties

8. A parent indicated that the results of meets should be sent to the Courier. Recognize the swimmers accomplishments - FAST firsts or top 10 results. We need to build a relationship with someone on the sports department

HS swim articles, Jeff Wobser writes it and then sends to the Courier - that is why his coverage is so good.

9. Swim places for fall/winter season- UF and the YMCA. We are being charged a private party rate at the Y so there was discussion of perhaps meeting with their board to see if we can get a reduced rate.

10. Pre-season workouts begin August 25. George is waiting for available pool time before he gets the final schedule out.

11. Past board members indicated that there are lots of experienced people and the current board should feel free to contact any of them for assistance. There are people who are very supportive and willing to help.

Meeting ended at 9:00 pm