

# Greater Richmond Aquatic League

## Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday, May 15, 2011 at Rockville

**Next Board Meeting – Monday, June 20, 2011 (at Dolphin Club)**

### Secretary – Kevin Viers

- Meeting called to order by Kevin Viers, Secretary at 7:04 p.m.
- Absent – CRR, TVW, PC, TH, OC
- March and April minutes approved as written and corrected
  - Correction to April minutes – “teams will be ineligible for Len Everett award if they miss too many minutes”.
- Thank you to Rockville

### President – Scott Farrar Reporting

- Upcoming Meetings
  - 6/20/2011 Dolphin Club (reminder this is a Monday)
  - 7/17/2011 Pebble Creek
  - 9/18/2011 TBD
- Reminder that registration will be held Saturday, June 4
  - The coaches will need to take their test and bring with them to the coaches meeting at registration. Only one test per club is required.
  - This will be available on the website
- Scott reiterated that attendance at board meetings is critical. As a board representative it is your responsibility to find a replacement if you know that you will not be able to attend. Lack of attendance at meetings leads to situations where the board president and other members of the executive board have to answer questions that were covered during the meeting.
- A reminder that the board representatives primary role is to communicate information from the board meetings back to your clubs board and parent reps.
- Please email Scott with the date of the first meet. Email should be from both clubs (at least both clubs copied on the mail).

### ***Old Business***

- A discussion from March meeting around changing the names of the age classifications. GRAL uses names (mites, midgets, etc.) as opposed to age ranges (8&Under, 9-10, etc.)
- Motion made, seconded, and approved to accept Greg Sager as new VP of Champs

- Motion made, seconded and approved to accept by-law changes as submitted by Bylaws committee at the March board meeting
- So far Scott has received several swimmer/employee exemptions and all that have been received have been approved. Please send to Scott as soon as you can if you still need to provide exemptions.

***New Business***

- Motion made, seconded and approved to modify the rule for non-GRAL top times. The top times will be based on the best times from the previous 2 GRAL seasons.
- Motion made, seconded and approved to accept the rule changes as presented below:

## 2011 Proposed GRAL Rule Changes

### **Section II Dues, Registration and Insurance**

#### **Eliminate rules number 5 and all or number 6 (a – e)**

5. All swimmers who have also earned non-GRAL (USS or YMCA) times between June 1 of the previous year and May 1 of the current year must submit these times with their club's registration. Swimmers who have only swum events at longer distances during the non-GRAL season a "divided" time shall be used when entering their times. (i.e. a swimmer has only swum a 100 fly but should have a time entered for 50 fly for purposes of proper seeding and classification a "divided" time shall be used.)
  
6. Any club registering a swimmer and not reporting his/her non-GRAL (USS or YMCA) times or times from other GRAL member clubs will be subject to fines as defined below. NOTE: High School League swim times are exempt from this requirement. There are two types of fines.
  - a. If a swimmer is registered with the Registrar on the announced Registration Date without their non-GRAL times or times from another GRAL club, the club will incur the following: At the time it is discovered that the swimmer's time(s) has not been submitted to the Registrar, the club shall pay the League a fine of \$50 per swimmer in which the swimmer has times that should have been reported. It is recommended that these swimmers not be registered with the initial registration. Once these times are received, these swimmers will become part of the 20% registration rule.  
  
(See Rules Section II item 9)
  - b. If a swimmer is registered after the Registration Date and these times are not submitted to the Registrar, the club will pay a fine of \$50 per swimmer who has times that should have been reported. All fines will be collected at Champs Registration.
  - c. These fines will be tracked by the Registrar and collected at Champs Registration.
  - d. The Computer Rep will provide a report of non-GRAL (USS or YMCA) times or times from other GRAL swim club to the Registrar with the initial registration. Each swimmer with non-GRAL (USS or YMCA) times or times from other GRAL clubs added after the

initial registration must fill out the League form, and it must be submitted with the registration for that swimmer. A copy of this form needs to be given to the GRAL Computer Rep, for the club to ensure that they are entered into the computer (Meet Manager). If the meet information has already been given to the home club Computer Rep. for the meet, it is the responsibility of the visiting club Computer Rep. to bring a floppy disc or memory stick to ensure that the home club Computer Rep has all necessary, new information to input into Meet Manager before the meet starts. These fines will also apply if the computer person does not enter these times into the computer before the meet (or if the forms are not given to the home Computer Rep to input at the beginning of the meet) and the child swims any events.

- e. These fines are not for swimmers whose seed time does not get entered from a hand written card on the night of the meet. These data entry errors should be corrected by the Computer Rep.

## **Section IV Classification of Swimmers for Regular Meet**

### **Eliminate rule number 8**

1. Valid times for classification of swimmers shall be any time obtained in ANY GRAL MEET (or USA Swimming times or YMCA league times) and shall be utilized for classification in all subsequent GRAL meets. The time used shall be from June 1 of the previous year (i.e., for the 2008 summer season, you would use the swimmer's best time made after June 1, 2007 including Champs times). The use of split times or times of the lead swimmer in a relay at a GRAL meet is not acceptable for league records or qualification for Championship meets.

## **Section V Scheduling**

1. a – change Division 1 and 2 to East 1 and West 1

## **Section VII Meet Procedures**

Change number 5 to read Flyover starts will be used for 9-10 and older for all starts except Backstroke events.

## **Section VIII Meet Scoring and Awards**

2. c – change ADV N to read N ADV

## **Section XIV Equipment Needed for Meets**

2. c – take out provided by league

## **Section XVIII**

### **Change “The Registrar” to Computer Coordinator**

- Reminder that swimmers cannot wear swimsuits or caps with any team name other than their summer league swim team they will be subject to disqualification.

#### **VP Clinics – Georgia Coopersmith Reporting**

- Georgia is looking at the overall operations of the VP of Clinics duties and will be evaluating ways to improve moving forward.
- The league is large enough now that we can run training sessions in both the East and West end even if they have to happen on the same night.
- Scott has made an extra set of training videos so we can now have multiple training sessions concurrently if necessary.
- Georgia has only received copies of tests from 16 people even though many more than that have attended training sessions.
- Please send Georgia a list of your certified people so that she can compile a league-wide roster of certified individuals.
- Training schedule is current and posted on the [www.gralva.com](http://www.gralva.com) website. This should be the primary source of information around upcoming training.
- There is a list checklist of training materials for each position available on the Virginia Swimming web site ([www.virginiaswimming.org](http://www.virginiaswimming.org)).
- Next year we are going to look at doing an interactive test via the [www.gralva.com](http://www.gralva.com) website.
- Rulebooks have been ordered and they will be provided at registration.

#### **Treasurer – Joy Woolard Reporting**

- Joy presented April treasurers report
- Dues from all clubs have been received.

#### **VP Equipment – Tricia Monasterio Reporting**

- Starters have arrived and Kay has them in her possession.
- If you have purchased one and would like to get your starter before registration, please contact Kay Long to arrange a time to pick up the starter.
- All starters that have not been picked up prior will be brought to registration.
- Ribbons have been ordered and will be distributed at registration.

- If you are still using the old ribbons that have the (Novice, Junior Varsity, Varsity, etc.) designations we are asking that you consider donating them to the Division 2 East teams.
- A board discussion was held on the year end trophies. Right now, GRAL provides many trophies for teams at year end (for each division and each category). Some clubs would prefer to have plaques instead of trophies and for us to consolidate so that if a team placed more in more than one category that they would only receive one recognition item. Question was raised from the board on whether we even need plaques or trophies but maybe just listing winners on the website or in the newspaper.
  - The executive board will evaluate cost of options and report back at the June board meeting.
- A board discussion was held on the merits of the coaching excellence award. Since some of the divisions do not swim all other teams in their division it can be difficult to evaluate. Currently the coaches vote on the award themselves. We may want to consider including additional feedback including parent reps and referees.
- For the 2011 season all teams are required to have their own starter. This season we ask that every visiting team bring their starter to serve as a backup. The VP of Equipment will not be “on call” this season to bring starters to meets.

### **VP Champs – Greg Sager**

- Please send Greg your clubs Champs coordinator name and email address as soon as possible as there is going to be a Champs coordinators meeting in June. The meeting is going to be earlier this year than in years past. There will be a formal date posted to the website soon.
- Champs price has gone up significantly this year.
- Greg is waiting to hear back on T-Shirts.
- May use Raintree as a distribution point for heat sheet books and T-Shirts, etc.
- Champs information and forms will begin to show up on the [www.gralva.com](http://www.gralva.com) website over the next few weeks.
- Each club is going to need to provide 2 strokes and turns people “available” at Champs – one for Saturday and one for Sunday. This will give us 54 available strokes and turns officials for that weekend.

### **Computer Coordinator – Jim Spevak Reporting**

- Surveys were sent out to all computer reps primarily to determine what type of training was required.
- Computer training will be scheduled soon. Jim is going to send out possible dates to all computer reps to determine the best dates for training.
- 2011 Computer Manual and files will be distributed to the computer reps this week.
- The new website is now live ([www.gralva.com](http://www.gralva.com)). There are still a couple of minor issues with the site but they are being addressed and should be resolved within the week.
- Jim has added a “Stay Informed” button on the site which will allow parents to sign up to receive email alerts from GRAL from time to time.
- Jim asked the board about what information needs to be password protected on the site. Currently most items including meet results are password protected because they provide the child’s name and birthday. Because the Meet Manager results file now does not provide birthday and because many clubs already provide this information we may not require passwords for meet results for the 2011 season.
  - Any personal information will still be password protected.

Board of Director's Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Kevin Viers  
GRAL Secretary