

# Greater Richmond Aquatic League

## Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, July 18, 2011 at Pebble Creek

**Next Board Meeting – Sunday, July 18, 2011 (at Pebble Creek)**

### Secretary – Kevin Viers

- Meeting called to order by Kevin Viers, Secretary at 7:12 p.m.
- Absent – Dolphin Club, Colonies
- June minutes approved as written
- Thank you to Pebble Creek

### President – Scott Farrar Reporting

- Upcoming Meetings
  - 7/23/2011 – Champs Registration (Coaches Meeting – only one coach is required)
  - 9/18/2011 FoxHall

### *Old Business*

### *New Business*

- Scott discussed possibility of moving standing board meetings for next season to Monday nights instead of Sunday nights.
  - The board then voted to move all future board meetings to Monday nights.
- This year has been a very unusual year in terms of weather delays and there is an increasing push towards figuring out ways to shorten the meets. We are currently evaluating a number of potential options
  - Discussion from the board on how to get more efficient at running meets and a number of suggestions were brought forward.
- There are many challenges - one of them is that there is a large discrepancy in team size between Division 1 and Division 2 and many of the Division 1 teams are routinely swimming until 11:30 and 12:00.
- One suggestion brought forward is to have all timers use 2 watches. Put your most experienced timers on the end lanes. Also having a dedicated clip board writer.
- Scott reiterated the rule stating that there will be no relays if event 44 is NOT in the water by 10:30. There is a second rule that states the meet must be cancelled if a weather delay happens after 10:30.
- If a meet must be re-scored due to finding an error in audit, the new score stands. We are trying to be consistent with our interpretation of the rules.
- Scott brought up that there have been issues this year with referees getting involved in issues that are outside the spectrum of their duties and diverting attention from the pools. Please reiterate this to your referees.

- Please make sure that visiting teams get a warm-up. Do not let coaches cancel warm-ups completely.
- Remind your coaches that the only thing they can ask a Strokes and Turns official what lane the DQ happened in and what the DQ was. There is to be no arguing with Strokes and Turns officials.
- Scott also talked about issues that come up with time discrepancies and one solution may be to have someone track heat finishes so that we have an additional piece of data to make rulings in the case of significant time discrepancies.
- Be aware of your Lifeguard training. It is important to ensure that if there is an incident especially concerning head injuries that your coaches feel comfortable with how to handle those situations.
- You should not run a swim meet without a lifeguard on duty. This is a serious liability for your pool. Some pools have decided to require their coaches to become lifeguard certified.

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

- Georgia has almost finished the grading for certification tests.
- Next year we will plan to provide the exams on-line so that you will get instant feedback as opposed to having to turn in a physical test.
- Scott is going to put together a standard checklist for referees so that we can gain some consistency across the league.
  - If you have any ideas or things that your referees do please email Scott.
  - Also, looking to put together a standard form letter for parent reps to send to opposing clubs in order to drive consistency.
- Training will be pushed back next year so won't start in March.
- We will also look to provide more training opportunities in both the East and West End.
- Discussion held on whether or not we want to provide referee only training to streamline and make more consistent the referee training with a focus on handling issues that come up during meets.
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### **Treasurer – Joy Woolard Reporting**

- Joy presented June treasurers report
- 3,782 swimmers registered this year vs. 3,774 from last year.
- If you overpaid for your starters (Dominion, Raintree, Old Church) please deduct that amount from your Champs registration
  - The overpayment was \$59.25 so please make sure to deduct this from your Champs registration

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

- All Champs medals have arrived.
- Tricia showed a mock-up of the perpetual plaque that teams will receive for any awards that they receive.
  - It is possible to win or place in as many as 5 categories and it would be difficult to get 5 lines on one of

the plates on the plaque so we will abbreviate the category names.

- We also discussed the lack of an official logo for GRAL. The only logo that we have is what is used on the Champs medals. Rockville board rep volunteered to look at the logo and work on updating.
- We also discussed having a formal recognition (likely a certificate) that recognizes those swimmers who break regular season GRAL records.

#### **VP Champs – Greg Sager**

- There was a Champs coordinator/coaches meeting tonight at 6:00PM.
- The only open issue is the determination of a concessionaire for providing coaches lunches. As soon as Greg has this information he will pass the info along to all Champs coordinators.
- No major modifications for this year other than the fact that we will swim in Meters this year.

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

- GRAL regular season and Champs records are posted to the website (records are kept for both Yards and Meters)
- In 2012 we will include all GRAL records in the meet manager files so that records will be listed in meet results and you will be able to recognize record breaking performances as they happen.
- We have tested the ability for Meet Manager to “estimate” the start time for each heat – this may be very helpful especially for
- Champs registrations need to be in to Jim ([computer@gralva.com](mailto:computer@gralva.com)) by Friday night – July 22

Board of Director’s Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Kevin Viers  
GRAL Secretary