

Greater Richmond Aquatic League

Board of Directors Meeting

March 2, 2026 Virtual

Next Board Meeting Monday, April 6th at 7pm (virtual)

The Greater Richmond Aquatic League (GRAL) is an organization of swimmers, coaches, and parents whose aim is to promote and participate in the sport of summer swimming. GRAL provides an opportunity for young people to compete against others of similar ability in an atmosphere of fair play, good sportsmanship, and safety.

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

Roll Call:

- Present: AshCreek, Ashland, Atlee, Battlefield Green, Bell Creek, Canterbury, Church Run, Colonies, Federal Club, Fox Hall, Goochland, Hanover, Hungary Creek, Kings Charter, Mechanicsville, Milestone, Old Church, Pebble Creek, Raintree, Rockville Dolphin Club, Tuckahoe Village West, Twin Hickory, Wellesley, Wembly, Wyndham
- Absent: Burkwood, Chestnut Oaks, Dominion Club

President Report: Roy Sabo (Milestone) president@gralva.com

- February meeting minutes unanimously approved.

Secretary Report: vacant

- GRAL remains in need of a Secretary
- Please update the team roles in SwimTopia ASAP (e.g., board rep, parent rep, Champs coordinator, head coach, assistant coaches, officials coordinator, etc.).

Treasurer Report: Cindy Anderson (Raintree) treasurer@gralva.com

- Three teams had yet to mail registration checks (\$200; made out to GRAL or Greater Richmond Aquatic League) to Cindy Anderson, 2108 Willowick Lane, Henrico, VA 23238.
 - Two of the teams committed to doing so during the call
 - Remaining team will be contacted

VP of Officials Report: Tom Connolly (Pebble Creek) officials@gralva.com

- Starting this year, officials currently certified through the high school swim associations (NFHS Swimming) will only be required to take the GRAL test to gain GRAL certification and will not have to shadow during the season.
- Stroke & Turn Virtual Training Dates
 - 4/26 @ 6pm
 - 5/17 @ 7pm
 - 5/31 @ 6pm
- Referee Roundtable (Virtual) Dates
 - 5/26 @ 6pm
 - TBD
- Please continue recruiting for officials and certified positions.

VP of Training and Certification: Steve Harness (Bell Creek) training@gralva.com

- Online trainings are open for all positions except Stroke and Turns and Referees (as these require prior training attendance).

VP of Equipment Report: Moira Sweazey (Hanover) equipment@gralva.com

- Ribbons for 2026 season will be ordered shortly.

VP of Technology Report: Mark Rakes (Colonies) technology@gralva.com

- Keep officials and officers up-to-date on SwimTopia
- Please notify President, VP of Technology and Computer Coordinator if teams decide to switch meet location

VP of Champs Report: Heather Jensen (Church Run) champs@gralva.com

- Please assign your Champs coordinator now, as we will begin planning for Champs much earlier than in past seasons (likely April or May).
- For 2026 GRAL Champs, we will move the 11-12 swimmers to the Sunday session
 - Saturday: 10-and-under swimmers
 - Sunday: 11-and-over swimmers
 - Change made to
 - Shorten duration and reduce burden on volunteers (especially Clerks of Course) for Saturday sessions
 - Reduce spectator volume on Saturday; Sunday meet typically has lower spectator attendance

Computer Coordinator Report: Ralph Jones ralph@gralva.com

- No updates

Old Business:

- None

New Business

- None

Good of the league

- From President: the league runs because of the board of team representatives; each team, through their GRAL rep, has proposal and motioning power, so please bring any topics to the meetings.

Motion to adjourn by Atlee, seconded by both The Federal Club and Tuckahoe Village West.

Respectfully submitted by Roy Sabo, President (acting as Secretary)