

GRAL March 2024 Meeting Minutes

Virtual meeting via Zoom

1. Call to Order at 7:04pm
2. Roll Call—Present: Ashland, Atlee, Battlefield Green, Bell Creek, Burkwood, Chestnut Oaks, Colonies, Dominion Club, Fox Hall, Hanover, Hungry creek, Kings charter, Mechanicsville, Milestone, Old Church, Pebble Creek, Raintree, Rockville Dolphin Clue, Tuckahoe Village West, Wellesley and Wembley Absent: Ashcreek, Canterbury, Church Run, Federal Club, Goochland, Twin Hickory, Wyndham
3. President's opening comments (Julie Zubris)
 - a. Budget—As of 5:30p today, 26 teams voted via the online form. There were 25 yes votes, 1 no (Canterbury), and 2 teams didn't vote (Dominion Club and Ashcreek). The budget is approved for the 2024 season.
 - b. VP of Champs— position is still vacant. Kristin is staying on to do Champs, but we need someone this summer to agree to come and be trained so they can take over in 2025.
 - c. Will need a VP for Training and Certification next year as well. The position will track all the data related to officials among the teams. It is good for someone who is organized. The person does not need to write any code for the database, just be able to work in it.
 - d. The Scholarship Committee met last week and there are some changes to the process. We will no longer require a transcript. We will still require two references, but one can be from anyone, even if not related to swimming. The website will be updated in the near future when the jotform is updated.
 - e. Coaches are required to complete dive certifications at the beginning of each season. The pool depth is measured before every meet and GRAL has the same depth rules as USA Swimming. If a coach or a parent has a concern that the depth of a pool isn't safe, they can always have a swimmer start in the water. A dive certification list should be maintained for your team that lists who is certified to dive.
 - f. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes from February. Motion from Wembley; . Ashland second. Unanimous approval.
4. Officer Reports
 - a. Secretary (Michelle Shores) Continue to have your team send in their contact forms. Michelle will post a master list of GRAL reps and parent reps on the password protected site when the season is closer to starting. If you are not sure if your team has completed the contact forms, reach out to michelle at secretary@gralva.com.
 - b. Treasurer (Cindy Anderson) Dues were turned in to the treasurer.
 - c. Officials (Roy Sabo) Inventory your officials. Recruit your officials! Debbie and Roy are working on updating the training now. April/early May training dates will be available.

- d. Computer (Chrisy) -Ralph and Christy are still working on switching duties and Ralph is learning the meet and computer info. New manual for Time Drop System is being created (3 teams are participating). If using swim manager make sure your computer rep clones your meets.
- e. Equipment (Moirs Sweazey)-Ordering supplies and we are on track. Check your equipment inventory.
- f. Champs—July 20th and 21st

5. Old Business

- a. Sandbag Rule: wording has been added to the handbook, XVI, 2.h.: If a swimmer has been deemed ineligible to swim an event due to the sandbag rule but desires to swim the event at Champs, the coach may request in writing that the swimmer “swim up.” If the swimmer is classified as a Senior Varsity swimmer (see 2.f), they may swim the desired Junior Varsity or Varsity event in the Senior Varsity category with a given seed time to place the swimmer within the Senior Varsity event. If the swimmer is classified as a Varsity swimmer (see 2.g) they may swim the desired Junior Varsity event in the Varsity category with a given seed time to place the swimmer within the Varsity event. The swimmer is eligible to medal in the event and receive points for their team.
- b. Weather policy: wording has been added to the handbook, V, 3.b.: Within twelve hours of a meet's scheduled start time, if there is agreement between Parent Representatives from both teams, in conjunction with the home team's Meet Director, teams may proactively reschedule the meet to the designated rain date only in the event that severe weather conditions are present or expected that could potentially delay the start of the meet past 8 PM.

6. New Business

- a. 2024 GRAL meeting dates
 - Monday, April 8th (virtual)
 - Monday, May 6th: **Possibly bell creek**
 - Monday, June 3rd (in-person, registration monies are due, ribbons are distributed) **Need a volunteer!**
 - Monday, July 8th (in-person)
 - Sunday, September 15th—annual meeting (in-person)
- b. Meet dates
 - Wednesday, June 5th
 - Wednesday, June 12th
 - TUESDAY, June 18th (raindate Thursday 6/20 due to Juneteenth)
 - Wednesday, June 26th
 - Tuesday July 2nd or Wednesday July 3rd (consider Tuesday because of July 4th holiday and need for a raindate)
 - TUESDAY, July 9th (raindate Wednesday 7/10)

c. Important Champs dates

- Champs July 20th and 21st
- Champs Coordinators contact info submitted 6/20
- Champs meeting for coordinators and coaches Sunday 7/7 (virtual)
- Electronic entries due by 11:59pm 7/12
- In-person registration 7/13

d. Other important dates for the season

- Registration due from teams by 11:59pm Friday May 24 (that is Memorial Day weekend, so plan accordingly)
- Registration paid at June Board meeting (6/3)—\$7 a swimmer
- Coaches test due by 11:59pm Friday May 31st
- Coaches meeting Saturday, 6/1 at 9am—in person at Atlee

7. Good of the league

8. Adjourn-Wembley motion and Ashland seconded. No objections.