



## DYSL Board Meeting Minutes – 15 October 2019

**DATE:** Tuesday, October 15, 2019 **TIME:** 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM **LOCATION:** Al Waha South

### **ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

Jeremy Babbington (Commissioner), Jacques Olckers (Assistant Commissioner), Eduardo Del Carmen (IT Manager), Manar Metawea (Secretary), Jonas Majerski, Joe McLaughlin, Sara Meehan & Alvin Tolentino (members at large).

### **REGRETS**

Kellie Nielson (Treasurer)

### **AGENDA TOPICS**

#### **Minnows Group Practice Meeting**

- A group of parents met with the board to discuss Minnow practice improvement ideas
- Parents who attended were Marie Aronsson, Elizabeth Kismidis and Jeschaya Thunyodom
- They went over various suggestions they sent at the end of last season regarding Minnow's training.
- Relevant points raised which DYSL Board has already addressed and discussed with the coaches for action.

#### **Swimmer Placement/Movement**

- An experienced swimming instructor and board member observed the performance and capabilities during training.
- The feedback: She is a good swimmer at the same level of the swimmers at her group and would benefit from remaining in the same placement group.
- Suggested that the coach keep a watch on her and re-evaluate her placing at the end of the season.

#### **Duplicate Trophies for A-Regionals (2019)**

- Alvin to collect trophies and take to shop for alterations
- All trophies in Jem's car awaiting collection by Alvin

#### **AGM Questions**

- Suggestion :Payment for Minnows Swimmers be less as they swim less time in practice
- Feedback: should pay as much as others even if they training shorter for the following reasons:
  - Practice duration is due to their physical abilities being less.
  - It is harder and takes more effort to coach and teach younger age group swimmers to swim.
  - Swim meets and all other activities are the same no matter what group you are in.

## Head Coach

- Still awaiting new coaches visa
- The previous Visa sent by recreation got canceled by Saudi Embassy as was the wrong duration of 180 days
- Recreation started the process for reissuing a new visa of 360 days
- Once it is issued it will be sent to the Saudi Consulate in London.
- We hope he will join the team by November

## Duplicate Trophies from A-Regionals

- Alvin will take the extra trophies to the vendor in order to erase it and reuse it as needed
- Manar will share the location and the contact information with Alvin
- We will make two (2) regional trophies for swimmers who tied in placement

## Items for A-Regionals

- All tasks have been assigned.

## AFSA Meeting (Jeddah) Update

- Jem attended the meeting as Eastern Province representative on behalf of the Eastern Province
- Tie Breaks Rules were discussed for Regional and National meets to align all regions
  - Head to head results
  - The fastest time on the shortest distance IM swim.
  - Duplicate trophies will be issued.
  - *Note:* Number of events entered has been dropped as a tie breaker.
- Eligibility Rules were discussed for Regional and National meets to align all regions
  - The swimmers must have been swimming for 1 year in a team within SA
  - The swimmer must have a valid Iqama.
  - *Note:* The rule saying you must attend a school inside Saudi Arabia has been dropped as some swimmers are home schooled.
- Spring meet in Dhahran
  - Jeddah asked if Dhahran could host a spring meet similar to their spring meet last year
  - This was decided against by DYSL board due to short season (A-Regionals end of March) and difficulty gaining access for hundreds of swimmers to Dhahran camp.
- Sanctioned Meets
  - We cannot be a member of American Swimming Association
  - Our times will not be recognized outside of Saudi Arabia as our meets are not sanctioned by ASA or FINA
  - If for any reason anyone needs properly sanctioned times they will need to obtain them overseas in Bahrain or UAE (Hamilton).
- Cost of Meeting
  - Recreation Department approached to pay for this trip but refused for below reasons:
    - Meeting is for DYSL operational benefit
    - RSD would expect the group to include the cost in their yearly planning of requirements.
    - Therefore, on this occasion, RSD will not support this financial request.
  - As a result cost of flights and taxis paid for by DYSL

### **Jebal Heights Pool**

- New 25 m outdoor swimming pool with 8 lanes
- Has its own timing system Daktronics, not Colorado Timing like our current Pool
- Recreation suggested that DYSL will be based at the new pool.
- Potential issues
  - No warm up/cool down pool for swimmers specially during Regional and Nationals
  - The office is not aligned with the pool correctly

### **Ribbons & Printing**

- Sara Meehan has done an inventory to all the ribbons we have in the storage
- Kellie will buy all ribbons for our meets and A-Regionals
- Jonas will work on additional finish judge forms and relay forms to be printed locally

### **A-Regionals Dates**

- It was queried if it could be changed due to falling in middle of Aramco school holidays
- We cannot hold after Nationals and need to hold A-Regionals before Nationals as many swimmers obtain times in this meet to allow them to swim in Nationals
- We are constrained by the dates for AFSA championships which is on April 10-11
- Due to short season and B-Regionals timing we cannot move dates
- Dates are thus fixed on March 27-28

### **Work Groups**

- Volunteer to be placed in charge of Relays.
- Juan Caralt will help as much as possible

### **Bi-annual Meeting**

- This was voted for by DYSL following an amendment at the 2019 AGM and even though the new approved AGM has not been signed and returned by recreation we plan to hold a Bi-Annual Meeting.
- The Bi-annual General Meeting will be scheduled by the Commissioner in November, with a minimum advance notice of ten (10) business days
  - The meeting will provide team updates and a platform for parents to discuss any arising issues & will be in place of or normal board meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> November
  - Meeting will be 12<sup>th</sup> November from 5:00- 6:30 pm at Al Waha south meeting room 3.
  - Items to be discussed will be
    - Team updates
    - New head coach updates
    - Practice improvements
    - New pool at the Jebel Heights
    - Spring season calendar
    - Any other item that the floor wants to discuss

### **Next Board Meeting**

- 10<sup>th</sup> December – Al Waha South (Room #3)