



## **DYSL Board Meeting Minutes – December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**DATE:** December 12, 2024 **TIME:** 4:00 PM – 6:45 PM **LOCATION:** Skype

### **ATTENDEES PRESENT:**

**DYSL:** Lanre Oshinowo (Commissioner), Marie Aronsson (Assistant Commissioner), Jose Valbuena (Secretary), Zehra Aftab (Treasurer), Murugan Nallakaluvan (IT manager), Alex Vlasenko, Gavin Bethune and Don Saunders (Members at Large).

**SDG Unit:** Reem Khaldi (SDG Supervisor), Glynda Palmer (SDG Advisor) and Mark Lucas (CCS Advisor)

### **REGRETS**

**Suzy Gray - Member at Large**

### **AGENDA TOPICS**

- Meeting brought to order reaffirmed by Mark Lucas message by the Manager, “work together as a group for the benefit of the children” and move forward as one team. Agree on the goals being the regionals and the scheduled AGM, tomorrow December 13<sup>th</sup> 2023. There was a consensus among DYSL board that reestablishing and improving communication is needed to work together for the benefit of the children and the community.
- Mark Lucas encouraged to delegate specific roles to Members at Large, ensure jobs are identified and covered.
- DYSL decisions require the involvement of ALL board members. Every board meeting decisions will be documented.
- Don Saunders highlighted that jobs during meets are working exceptionally. The board being able to plan and run meets professionally is an example that the DYSL board doesn't want children to be affected.
- AGM is scheduled and Ad Diwan booked. Communications to be open.

- Alex Vlassenko inquired who is in control of DYSL? Reem Khaldi stated that expectations are that decisions to be agreed by the board, each board member involved in meetings. If there are disagreements and disputes to be taken separately.
- Alex Vlassenko inquired about financial documents. SDG unit clarified that Glynda, as the financial analyst, approves compliance and yearly statements.
- The treasurer, Zehra Aftab, to share the quarterly financial report with the board and to be shared with the membership as per the constitution.
- Mark Lucas stated that when financial questions are needed, they should be brought in advance to the Treasurer.
- Zehra Aftab, clarified that any board member has access to financial documents, they just need to ask for the information.
- Gavin Bethune mentioned that the correspondence from members must be addressed, in particular an email received from a member the morning before the board meeting.
- Mark Lucas stated that e-mail should not be addressed at this forum. Must be a side meeting.
- Jose Valbuena mentioned that a compilation of constitutional amendments received were shared with the board and will be shared with the membership in preparations for the AGM. There are at least 50 items for discussion.
- Due to the number of items for constitution amendments, the board agree to call a Special General Meeting (SGM) early in 2024 to discuss. Also, given that the amendments were not shared 5 days before the AGM as mandated by the Constitution.
- Bi-Annual General Meeting Agenda was discussed. Suggestion made to discuss the membership fees increase for open discussion and not to mention any specific amount. Assuming we will have 4 coaches. Currently down on coaches, 2 coaches on contract, 2 coaches contract pending, positions not yet filled.
- Don Saunders Highlighted that DYSL is working on surplus of previous years due to lack of coaching. Treasurers report needs to convey projections for next year with backward looking. Including additional coaching. Having 4 coaches and asking for membership fee increase does not seem fitting.
- Don Saunders pointed out that Board did not vote for the 4<sup>th</sup> coach.
- The Commissioner explained that the board consensus was sought, provided all information including video of the interview, scheduled a second interview and was declined. Requested suggestions for a convenient time but there was no response/agreement. This was communicated to Recreation during a meeting the board was invited to attend. The urgency was clear and recreation gave the go ahead.
- During the period of the non-cooperating board, Recreation approved the offer of a coaching position to the female Coach (Arije Gharbi) based on the needs of the swimmers and the urgency to fill open coaching positions previously approved by the board.

- **A motion was made and passed** to appoint Alex Vlassenko to become chair of a joint parent/board Policy Review Committee to oversee and lead the policies and rule changes. Alex Vlassenko accepted the role.
- **A motion was made and passed** to buy team t-shirts. A google form will be sent out to the membership to collect sizes. Extra shirts to be ordered for new potential minnows and piranhas to join in the next swimmers' tryouts in the spring 2024.
- **A motion was made and passed** to buy the monogrammed caps for the team after the new swimmers' tryouts. Zehra to explore an early shipment for the current DYSL swimmers. The budgeted amount for the caps should be increased to SR 18,000.
- Discussion on potential new swimmers joining was held. Summary below:
  - Standards are quite low. Learn to swim program is currently weak.
  - If considering lowering the entry standards, more swimmers will join. However, we're restricted to 6 lanes, not overly concerned with new swimmers.
  - Proposal to use two pools has previously discussed and presented. More viable to use both pools, training 2 groups at the same time. Mark Lucas suggested that Jebel Heights Pool can be available, especially for younger swimmers will be an advantage due to warm water.
- **A motion was made and passed** for the winter break schedule to remain as planned from December 17 to January 4. No practices on December 25 and January 1.
  - Juniors/Seniors – 9:00 am – 11:00 am
  - Minnows/piranhas – 11:00 am – 12:00 pm.
- The Commissioner, highlighted that there is a coach (Ahmed Hemli) that has been observing the practices and was recommended by Coach Omar to join as casual coach. The Assistant Commissioner requested to review the hourly rate for the coach.
- **A motion was made and passed** to allow Coach Ahmed Hemli to join for the winter break. He will be brought with no contractual commitments on an hourly rate. It is recommended to vote on retaining Coach Ahmed monthly on every board meeting.
- **A motion was made and passed** to buy and replace Daktronics extension cable for an estimated cost of less than 1,500 USD.
- **A motion was made and passed** to buy a Daktronics Starter for an estimated cost of 3,000 usd.
- Mark Lucas to check with management about the pending Daktronics equipment to be purchased by recreation.
- Gavin Bethune assigned security liaison for the invitational Khobar Lasers meet on January 27 "Ice Breaker Meet"
- Compilation of amendments to the constitution to be shared with the general membership.
- Awards for coaches and swimmer's discussion to be discussed in next board meeting.

## Next meeting

- January 21, 2024. Location: TBD.

