

## **JH Stingrays Board of Directors**

April 25, 2022 5:15pm at 645 S. Cache St.

1. Roll call. Dessa Reimer, Molly Frobouck, Bonnie Kovacs, Julia McJunkin, Jen James, Saghi Leoni and Tracy Haling were present.
2. Minutes from the March board meeting were approved.
3. Officer reports. Bonnie reported that the new hires were added to the books. Molly reported that she, Andrew and Mark successfully completed their coaching requirements and the paperwork has been submitted to Wyoming Swimming.
4. Old business. Spring session began on April 11th. Dessa reported on the swim assessment and new swimmer registrations and that of the 31 swimmers on the waitlist, 21 were assessed, 21 were offered spots and 20 accepted. Jen said she felt the first days of the session were not as chaotic as previous sessions and that the coaches are accurately placing swimmers.
5. New business.
  - a. The upcoming spring/summer swim meets are Bozeman (April 29-May 1), Pinedale dual meet (May 21), Missoula (June 16-19), Idaho Falls (July 9) and Wyoming Summer Championships (July 15-17). There was discussion about holding an inter squad meet May 19 for primarily level 1 and 2 swimmers to introduce the horn and whistles. Comments were that this would be a fun, good team building activity.
  - b. Pay to Play: Tracy reported that there are 26 swimmers attending the Bozeman meet and an estimated cost to the team is \$2200 to pay for the two coaches to attend. It had been decided earlier by the board that for this first meet and trial of the Pay to Play, an attempt to recoup 50% of the cost would be charged, so \$50 per swimmer will be assessed. Saghi said he feels the Pay to Play program discourages attendance at meets and while acknowledging the money needs to come from somewhere, would like to see the whole team pay for the coach fees, not just those going to the meets. He commented that he feels as a committed parent with a committed swimmer that he was getting the short end of the stick by being involved and having to pay more to be involved. He would also like to see the name changed from Pay to Play. There was discussion from the board that the Pay to Play program is one way to keep down rising facility/practice fees and pay rising coaches' wages, and that many programs in the Valley utilize some form of Pay to Play for those members who attend the respective athletic events and utilize the coaching resources. Additional comments were that the committed swimmers who advance through the program do actually get a price break in the form of practice fees because they receive more hours of instruction for less money. Participation or travel fee was suggested as a name to be used going forward. Closing comments were that this is a work in progress and while fundraising will help, it will take more parent involvement. For now, the team will continue to assess a travel fee to recoup some portion of the coach costs to attend meets from the traveling swimmers, and this program will be assessed over time.
  - c. Fundraising. Molly will submit the Farmer's Market application this week. She reported on a fundraising option with the restaurant Hatch and will follow up with potential dates. Jen said she will check with the rodeo because in the past groups could work the concessions stand to raise money. Tracy reported that she has submitted an application for a Pizza with a Purpose, Hand Fire Pizza's community fundraising event and we are in line for the Fall. Dessa will submit the Old Bill's application.

- d. Teton County Spring Clean-Up May 14th. The Stingrays will continue to be involved in this community wide volunteer event. Molly will email the organizers to set up a location beforehand.
  - e. Summer session planning. Dessa will follow up with the Rec Center on lanes and hours for the summer. It was discussed with the morning practice times, it reduces the number of coaches that are available, so registration will be open only to those swimmers who have a current USA swimming registration. Prices for the 4.5 week program will be the same as a single month of registration during other sessions.
  - f. Swim caps. Molly has been working with the company to get samples of the soft silicone caps to get a higher quality cap. Personalized caps will be offered in the fall and emailed to the entire swimmer list.
6. Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 24th.