

**FINS Aquatics Club
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday 23 April 2002, 9:00 – 10:30 pm
Mama Palma's Restaurant**

Present: Bill Donlen, Jim Harper, Jim Pope, Jim Robles, Joan Buehler, Shara Neidell, and Angela Ledgerwood.

1. Approval of minutes from 14 March 2002 board meeting

The previous meeting's minutes had been distributed and reviewed via email before the meeting, and the minutes were approved unanimously without discussion.

2. USMS registration enforcement

Jim H. reported that, according to DVMSC, the FINS have 92 registered swimmers. Everyone who is paying dues quarterly is registered. The suggestion was made to note new swimmers' arrival date on the practice attendance sheet and giving them one month to register with USMS. An updated list of registered swimmers will be kept in the box.

3. Practice schedule revision

The proposal under discussion involves splitting either the Tuesday, Thursday, or both practices into two 1.25-hour long practices. The revised practice schedule would be to have one practice run from 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm, followed by a second practice from 8:15 pm to 9:30 pm. Jim H. asked if it would be possible to get an earlier start time. Angela reported that the pool is sometimes in use right up until 7:00 pm.

The pool cost at Friends is \$53.33 per hour. In order to be able to sustainably afford splitting one practice (*i.e.*, adding one hour of Friends pool time per week), the FINS must have at least 50 paying members per quarter. To sustainably afford splitting both practices, the FINS must have at least 58 paying members per quarter.

It was proposed that a trial period of splitting both practices be carried out during the month of May. The affected dates are: May 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, and 30. The cost for the trial period would be \$427.00.

A motion to survey the team regarding which practices they would be likely to attend was unanimously approved. Angela will survey the team this week via email. Shara suggested making the survey available at practice for non-email-using team members.

Angela suggested scheduling a team meeting for near the end of May in order to assess the outcome of the schedule experiment, and to secure team approval for the expense of continuing the expenditure (if the team votes to continue the split practices). The team meeting will be held on Sunday 2 June 2002.

4. PrideFest and Gay Pride participation

The Board discussed a recent controversy regarding PrideFest's use of two photographs from the 2001 Sink-O de Mayo swim meet. The individuals in the photographs were upset because the photographs were used without their permission. The Board's conclusion was that the photographs were taken at a public event (the swim meet) and so there is no compelling reason why PrideFest could not use them. No official action on behalf of the FINS will be taken on this issue. Jason Klugman (who was one of the people whose photograph was used in a PrideFest publication) is reportedly sending a letter complaint to PrideFest.. Jim R. will try to get a copy.

The FINS will have a table at the Sunday 5 May 2002 OutFest street festival portion of PrideFest.

The FINS will also have a table at Gay Pride, Sunday 9 June 2002. We are also scheduled to march. Jim H. will decorate the table. Jim P. asked if there was any way to make a fundraising opportunity out of the table. The Board will try to find someone to coordinate the parade activities.

5. Committees

Coaching:

- The coaching schedule has been finalized through the end of May, with the exception of Sunday 12 May (Mother's Day).
- The next 1st Sunday clinic will feature turns.
- 15 people have expressed interest in the June 4th dual meet with Pennypack.
- TNYA has not distributed information about the Aussie Prep meet yet.
- Jim R. has received approximately 25 individual goal sheets.
- By the end of May, the coaches will have a plan for training for the Gay Games. It may involved segmenting the lanes differently.
- Joan reported that some team members have been complaining about lane line duties. She suggests that coaches ask different swimmers for help putting in and removing lane lines each night so the same people don't do it all the time.
- Jim R. reported that we must get a new pace clock. Jim H. recommended getting a pace clock from a supplier other than Kiefer, since we have had reliability problem with their products. Large pace clocks cost \$290 from Castaways, and small ones cost \$170.
- Jim H. will follow up with Jason regarding scheduling lifeguard training. Joan is also going to research costs for training. She knows of two options (Leslie at Arcadia University and the Camden County American Red Cross).

By-Laws: Angela will email versions 3 and 4 of the bylaws to the Board for their review.

Social: Jim P. reported on social events.

- 10 people attended movie/pizza night at Scott Campea's house.
- Only five people have signed up for bowling.

Pool: Several proposals for an increased workout schedule were discussed.

- Jim R. has not received any response from his inquiries with Drexel University.
- Bill has not received any response from his inquiries with Temple University.
- Jim P. will call Lower Merion High School again regarding pool space there.

Gay Games: 22 FINS are registered for the Games.

Fundraising:

- Jim P. has contacted Team Philadelphia, and the FINS will be participating in the Raven pool party.

- Blaine and Joan discussed some plans to make a calendar featuring FINS photos as a possible fundraising activity.

6. Other business

Jim H. will email a brochure to the Board for review.

7. Calendar/Meets

The upcoming schedule was discussed.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Ledgerwood.