

Fort Leavenworth Lancers Board Meeting Minutes

January 3, 2008

In attendance: Mike Ammel, Hope Corizzo, Helen Lochow, Jeff Lochow, Jerry Gross, Debbie Boll

Mike began the meeting at 6:12 pm

Financial report was postponed until a later date when the Treasurer is present.

Coaches' Assessment

- Meet schedule.
 - Olathe meet will replace Independence meet on Jan. 25-27. The meet in Olathe has a better format.
 - There is also a Master's meet the weekend of Jan. 25-27.
 - Topeka meet is next weekend (Jan. 11-13). Barb will send the check for entries.
 - Mid-America League (MAL) Champs meet is mandatory. 8 & under swim Friday night in KC, others swim Saturday/Sunday in Lawrence.
 - Divisionals follow MAL meet (for those swimmers who qualify)
- Team census
 - We're losing 10 swimmers but picking up more who tried out over the holidays. They should start in January.
 - Need to check on registration fee status of families who were scheduled to leave but didn't, if any.
 - Also need to check new swimmers for MWR registration.

Swim-a-thon

- Paperwork must be turned in no later than 60 days following the event (Dec. 2).
- Deadline for turning in paperwork and money is January 24.
 - Will post on blog and then send home hard copy with swimmers, since many parents do not check blog.
- Swimmers can make up swim-a-thon laps during practice. Also check to see if the pool is available on a Saturday morning.

Payment options

- PayPal (or similar on-line payment application). Costs more than postage to use - \$1.35 + 2.3% per transaction.
- Electronic banking – pay directly from bank to FTLL address.
- Board members to collect money at the pool. Hope and Debbie will each cover one day a week.
- Re-install lock box at the pool? Secure it to a wall or counter. Can Board purchase?
- Enforcement of payments and deadlines?
 - Barb sends notices or calls when payments are past due
 - Perhaps implement financial penalties in the future (10% or \$5 for late fees)
 - Swimmers must give 30 days' notice before leaving team
- Hope will put together a flyer to inform families of their options

Fundraising

- Mike stated that this activity is key to avoid raising dues or affecting coaches' contracts.
- Need to identify key fundraising anchor activities (Swim-a-thon, other?) and plan the calendar around them.
- Perhaps add an additional activity either at the beginning of the season or in the Spring.
 - Pizza sales (40-50%) profit
 - Stroke/turn/start clinic at a different venue (Riverfront). Charge admission.
 - Liability issues; how to publicize?
 - Swim-a-thon for community charity
 - Sell DVDs of swimmers with coach commentary
 - Incentives for swim-a-thon participation
- Annual commercial sponsorship
 - Military contractors
 - Scholarship for families with lots of swimmers

Recruiting

- According to the financial information Mike has, we need more swimmers to reach budgeted numbers
 - We use 85 swimmers as a base number – it's a low average of past teams
 - Currently we have 60 swimmers and 20 Masters
- Recruiting drive needed – how to get more swimmers
 - Bring a friend to practice day
 - Flyers in schools – Hope will compile and ask about posting
 - Helen speaks to high schools – perhaps go to Elementary and Junior High as well
 - Recruit in Leavenworth/Lansing – but need Garrison Commander approval for each family
 - Attend a practice day – free to watch and see what it's like
 - Recruit in summer league – cultivate a good link to the Riptides (Leavenworth summer team)

- Recruit new CGSC students
 - Table at next PAIR day
 - Triathlon will also bring people to the pool
- Need a full-time recruiter as part of the Board
 - Put the word out at the banquet/elections
 - Incorporate recruiting activities as part of next year's planning process

Coaches' contracts

- All contracts expired 12/31
- Modification to pay for Master's coach (50% of what's billable to swimmers)
- Helen recommends changing expiration date to 9/1 instead of a date in the middle of the season.
- Reimbursement for travel to meets (mileage)
- For coaches with swimmers on the team – recommend that first child is free – as other teams have in their coaching contracts.
- Mike will make changes and get the contracts to Helen.

Financial issues

- Need Treasurer input on outlook, outstanding dues, new format of financial report (by month), fundraising needs, etc.
- Perhaps need a financial assistant position on the Board to help with tracking payments, meet eligibility, etc.

Next meeting will be on January 17, 2008 at 6pm at the pool.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by Debbie Boll, FTLL Secretary