Steiner Stars Board Meeting

November 3, 2019

Bella Mar Community Center

6:30 PM

Minutes

**New Business**

* **Survey Results**
  + 109 responses – 100 good sample.
  + A good value – 96%
    - Board mentioned that Caslabo/Belaggio should pay more, since they do not pay HOA fees. David Parchen – Past President stated there are about 10 families from those communities and they pay a slight extra fee then Steiner Stars pay an additional fee to the HOA.
  + 6% respondents will not come back to Steiner Stars next year.
  + Some people could not make the volunteer hours.
  + Q. Would you rather see practice and meet status notifications in, email, website, Facebook, Text?
    - A. Everyone likes text when meet would be cancelled and information for meets in email.
    - Board discussion - We can use Swimtopia to send notifications. All parents must download Swimtopia app, set notifications to yes. Swimtopia can send email plus website, or email and alert.
  + Q. How would you rate the coaches?
    - A. 4.6 out of 5 for coaching staff – that is great.
    - Some negative comments –
      * A few of the college and high school coaches were mean and disinterested.
      * Advice to have the coaches set their devices aside during coaching.
  + Q. Do you have any other comments about coaching staff. 46 responses.
    - A. Daniel and Tyler were effective. Other coaches did not give a lot of feedback on improvement. Only negative feedback from coaches.
    - Steiner stars should be a fun break. The coaches should have fun games for the kids and more free swim.
      * Board discussed. We understand that it is a summer sports and that it should be fun. However, most people understand that it is a sport. Maybe add a theme for the meets. Decorate cars, have a potluck before the meet, feel of summer.
  + Q. How did coaches handle swimmer behavior?
    - A. Sometimes I wish they were harder on my son when he would get out of the pool in protest. I can’t walk on the pool deck to address it… so often no one would.
    - Board discussion –
      * We need to come up with a process to handle clean tent, situations with misbehaving kids, problem parents and other situations that the tent parents should escalate.
      * Before lined up for the last relay. Have all the kids clean up the tent at the meet.
      * If there is a kid that is distracting or has discipline issues then talk to the parent and have them remove from the group tent and have them sit with their parents.
      * Tent parent should have some notes of how to handle the misbehave kids. Have the tent parents go to the VP and President with issues. Have the meet Director contacted and the Director will connect with the parent.
      * We need to come up with a process / walkthrough. Then also have a walkthrough to talk to the head tent parent. Make it flexible so that the tent parent does not feel burdened but have the power to escalate when they need.
      * It will be good to have Board meeting shirts for the meets.
    - A. Too many staff at the concession stand.
      * Board discussion –
        + Take concession volunteers down to 6.
        + Amy said they forecast positions and parents.
    - Q. What is the hardest part about fulfilling the volunteer hours.
      * A. Missing your kids’ events
    - Q. How would you rate our concessions compared to other team venues in the circuit?
      * A. More healthier options, more variety.
      * A. We should think of offering something different. Beef BBQ, Chick Fil A, get us better donuts. Maybe work with Howdy Donuts
      * Why six people at concession and there was a super long line
    - Q. Any other comments?
      * More tent parent training
      * Make Star Wars more fun, Costumes contest, silly games between races, etc.
      * Maybe allow very young competitors to come later
      * Get more merchandise
      * More social parties
      * Any parent or family that is difficult and not a team player should not be able to swim.
      * If parents do not meet the volunteer hours even after being on the team for 11 years and served on the Board. (Board answer - The Board reviews the parents that did not meet the volunteer hours after the season to see if there were any situation and help them then. If the parent did not volunteer at all, then they cannot come back).
      * Let kids practice with later practices. (Board suggestion – maybe have a on the Steiner Stars website and/or Facebook let parents chat to see if they can have carpools or something).
      * Other teams have more swag than Steiner Starts.
      * Guidance from coaches what our kids can work on.
    - Other items - We need to find out as a non-profit organization we should have the Board Minutes available for the public. Jason will work on understanding what needs to be posted or what not.
* **Approval of Minutes from the October meeting**
  + Secretary will send the minutes to the past-president and president for their review before they post it.
* **The HOA Board Meeting** – they brought up that they are going to re-negotiate Steiner Starts contracts. They had several complaints about people that felt bad about keep one or two lanes empty. The Board feels that we will get a sign that states, if you want the lane then let us know and we can move the kids. Our contract is 10% of registration fees. President Jason Yunker suggested that we should wait to see if they are going to want to make modifications to the contract. David Parchen – Past President said that we should have signs that if anyone needs to use the lane then they can. We are trying to have a community. By June 1st no open lanes. Exhibit A states. Before June 1st one open lane. However, there is another provision that if member ask to use a lane, we will open one lane within 10 minutes. President Jason Yunker stated that until we get another amendment from HOA we are not going to discuss it.

**Committee Reports (if any)**

* Apparel/Fundraising/Concessions – Not here
* Circuit Rep – Maggie Acosta - Only one other team voted with Steiner Stars to have invitationals two weeks after divisionals. More teams did not want to go past July 4th. First meet May 16th, dependent on where we have invitationals.
  + Local divisional June 27 for Invitationals could be the June 28th or have invitationals two weeks after divisional. Again most people voted for June 28th.
  + Location – looks like it is going to be in Round Rock.
  + There is no official schedule for invitational at this point.
  + Question was is there another circuit that we can join?
  + Amy is happy to talk to Austin Swim Club. They do not have the equipment to run two meets at once.
  + The following year will be easier. We will not have the July 4th on a Saturday and A&M will have their repairs done. We must get through next year.
  + Next Wednesday is the next Circuit meeting. Andrew Stuck, Circuit Rep will raise the discussion again. Sounded like the beginning date was decided on.
* Equipment – Not here
* Social – Booked kick-off event May 26th. Lots of new ideas. More social events. We can get into it next meet.
* Team Coordinators – We should reserve the Red/Blue meet for June 17th. President Jason Yunker will book the 17th and the 24th. We need to reserve the pavilion and for pre-meeting discussion for the home meet. Board meeting January 5th and February meetings out. Should be moved to the January 12th . We will also change February to second week. Next meeting we should look at the dates.
* Treasurer – has a budget. President Jason Yunker will review and cover the budget with the Board the next meeting.
* Coaches – Do we have a preference of when we have invitationals. Do not want to do it two weeks after divisional.

**Future Agenda Items**

* Steiner Star kids walk in the Vandergrift Homecoming Parade in 2020.

**Next Meeting: December 8th**

**Attendees:**

Jason Yunker – President

Amy Franklin – Vice President

Jason Franklin – Vice President

David Parchen – Past President

Amy Bedford – Red Team Coordinator

Diana Torres - Coach

Tracy Nelson - Coach

Jeff Fellows – Coach

Louise Garrett – Secretary

Chris Ritter – Fundraising

Chris Hammond - Social

Andrew Struck – Circuit Rep

Maggie Acosta - Circuit Rep