

Vancouver Island Region AGM - Aug 12, 2023 [in-person, at Duncan]

Attending: Shelly Johnson [RD/SSI], Helen Lemon-Moore [PDI], Melissa Drolet [PIR], Caitlin Chewka [OAK], Mark Duffel [R/R], Anna Charles [R/Coach], Lisa Walls [CAM], Meghan Nishi [A/RD], Jason Hendsbee [JdF], Sarah Golling [VIR/T], Kate Palmer [Nan], Brent Postelthwaite [VIR/D/O], Jason Storrie [CVB], Eva Wickham [CRSK], Kelly Lefler [POW], Jon McKay [OAK coach], Finn Bodner [NAN coach], Fynn Heaney-Corns [SID coach], Zoey Johnson [SSI coach], Christal Hveston [POW pres], Krista Hogan [CVB], Loretta Rithaler [SSS], Tasha Galic [BD], Robyn Holme [BD], Sheila Coogan [BCSSA Prov], Alec Johnston [OAK], Jim Walsh [SSI]

Absent: Gabi Vindish [GHG], Caitlin Chewka [OAK], Michelle Stehura [Cou],

1. **Meeting opened;** Shelly Johnson, Regional Director, opened the meeting at 12:20 pm, welcomed everyone to the VI Regional AGM and had everyone introduce themselves.
2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Meghan Nishi moved the agenda as circulated be approved. 2nd by Brent Prostelthaite. Passed unanimously.
3. **Minutes from VI Region 2022 AGM:** Brent Prostelthwaite moved the Minutes be accepted as circulated. 2nd by Jason Hendsbee. Passed.
4. **Club Reports:**
 - a) **Blue Devils;** Tasha Galic reported that had a good season, great meet, and had lots of interest with great numbers of swimmers registered for the summer.
 - b) **Salmon Kings;** Eva Wickham reported that they had 115 registered and had a wait list. Over all good, and the meet went very well.
 - c) **CV Breakers;** Jason Storrie reported that they had a great summer, but had challenges with their pool due to renos. They kept their registration going but had to break the summer up into 3 periods to deal with the pool closures. Great turn out at meet and Regionals.
 - d) **Gee Gees; [absent, no report submitted]**
 - e) **JdF;** Jason Hendsbee reported that they had to hire new coaches for 2023 fall due to retirement of current team. They will have 5 coaches to cover the coming new season.
 - f) **Nan:** Kate Palmer reported that they had a good season with 225 + registered and had 475 swimmers attend their meet this summer. They had teams of Artistic and Water Polo also qualified for Provincials this year, which is great for our Regional representation at Provincial finals .
 - g) **Orcas:** Meghan reported that they had 130 swimmers registered this summer, and also had pool time booking challenges due to pool renovations. They did have low volunteer turn out to help on the board, but still also managed to offer some water-polo sessions this summer.

- h) **PIR**; Melissa Drolet reported they had a good season with 120 -125 registered, but there were lane space restrictions at Panorama pool. Their Head Coach is also retiring so there will be some coaching challenges there until they can fill all positions.
- i) **SSI**: Shelly Johnson reported that they had 80 swimmers registered, and had 35 competing at Regionals. Shelly thanked her club's wonderful coaching team for all their dedication this year, and she also mentioned their meet went very well !
- J) **PDI**; Helen Lemon-Moore reported that while their winter registration is always quite high, the summer numbers drop off. We did get swimmers to 4 meets this year, which is something, but really need to find a way to entice families to incorporate a swim meet or two into their summer plans. We also will be losing our ENTIRE coaching staff due to retirement/university course demands, **SO ARE DESPERATELY looking for new coaching staff**. We only get pool time on Fridays [3 hours] during winter maintenance, and that actually holds through to the end of June, due to transportation to Panorama Pool on non-school days. July/August we did get 2 days in a week, but that isn't a huge amount of practice time. Our swimmers who did get to meets still did well.
- K) **POW**: Kelly Lefler reported that they had 90+ swimmer registered this summer, and hired 3 coaches. They had great plans to try to run a small meet this summer, but found there was a lack of volunteers to actually make it happen. A lot of their membership just wanted to swim during the summer.

5. **Regional Reports:**
- a) **Assistant Regional Director: [verbal report]** Meghan noted that it was the first "NORMAL" summer since Covid, and there was lots of participation for all clubs. There is great camaraderie in our Region. BIG thanks goes to Regional Head Coach Anna Charles for all her work on our Region's behalf, and for spearheading some great innovations to make things better for all.
 - b) **Treasurer: [financial reports on file/distributed]** Sara presented her report, and after a few questions answered, Sara moved adoption of the report. 2nd by Brent Prostelthwaite. Passed
 - c) **Secretary; [verbal report]** Helen took Minutes of all meetings except the one that a few of us missed getting the zoom invitation to just before Regionals. Always a challenge to make sure one gets the minutes out to the appropriate people as we have had some board changes throughout the year. Great to be on such a great Regional board, and offer my small talents to keep folks informed of meeting happenings. **NB:** I will include the 3 motions that were passed electronically recently separate from a Regional Meeting, in the New Business section below, so they are included and recorded.
 - d) **Regional Registrar: [copy on file]** Mark Duffell reported that there were 1402 swimmers registered to swim over the 2022 - 2023 swim season. 383 of them were new swimmers that had not swum in the summer session.

This compares to 1196 total swimmers last year. A 17% increase ! 7 of our 11 clubs were able to host meets this year, bringing back a lot of the activities and traditions that have made Island swimming so popular. A lot of new faces running these meets. All were successful so passing of knowledge to new families on how to run meets and club activities are run continues to be successful. There were 1140 swimmers registered for Summer swimming in 2023, which is 1128 more that summer of 2022, when we had 1012 summer swimmers registered. So that is about 13% increase. Lots of new families which bodes well for the future of Summer swimming in our Region.

- e) **Regional Director of Officials:** [verbal report] Brent Prostelthwaite reported that there were a number of pins awarded, with 7 Greens moving up to Red. Some new people have stepped up to officiating which is positive. We have 2 people getting their Dark Blue Pins ! Other news is that during winter maintenance we as a Region should get new radios. They are needed ! Brent will do some research on which are best to purchase. And - Polo shirts for Officials are needed ! He thanked all volunteers who had showed dedication to keep our meets going, and the camaraderie amongst all those volunteering their time.
- f) **Regional Coach:** Anna Charles reported that a successful Coaches/seniors camp was run this year, and felt it went a long way to improve inter-club connections. She also brought forward wage equality for our Region, and advocated for clubs providing safe accomodations for all coaches at meets. Coaches worked hard to make the Novice races fun for the swimmers. And the inclusion of Mixed Relays in some meets [and also at Provincials for the 1st time], gave smaller clubs a chance to get the relay experience. She was also noting that land acknowledgement was included at all meets which is a positive step forward. Anna set up a VI Regional Instagram, initiated the Golden Kick Board Award, got the Senior Camp coordinated, worked on Coach-sharing with some clubs [CVB and SSI participated], and lastly wanted to thank the Regional Board for the support of her efforts.

6. Regional Elections:

The chair was given over to past President Sheila Coogan, chair of the nomination committee to put forward the slate of nominees to the 2023/4 Regional Board; and they were:

Regional Director -	Shelly Johnson]:	acclaimed
Assistant Regional Director -	Meghan Nishi	- acclaimed
Assistant Regional Director -	[vacant	
Regional Treasurer:	- Sarah Gullings	- acclaimed
Regional Secretary:	- Helen Lemon-Moore	- acclaimed
Regional Registrar;	- Mark Duffell	- acclaimed
Regional Director of Officials -	Brent Prostelthwaite	- acclaimed

Regional Director of Water Polo: - Gabi Vindisch [nominated/acclaimed]

Sheila Coogan presented the elected board of Directors of the 2023/24 Vancouver Island Regional Board of Directors.

- 7. New Business:**
- a) **Meet Schedule 2024;** There was some concern that Orcas and Piranhas need to coordinate meet dates as they are looking to book Commonwealth Pool. Considering a Joint meet to book a coordinated meet date for sorting out Pool time. Further discussion tabled to future meeting or e-mail discussion, but 2024 meet coordination is high on the agenda for the next VI Regional meeting. [tba]
 - b) **Motion Aug. 2: \$30 for Regional Cap/T-shirt to include 2 coaches per team to be covered by Regional funds.** Helen Lemon-Moore moved that the motion be approved. 2nd by Eva Wickham. Passed.
 - c) **Motion: To Purchase up to \$40 towards Coach's Care Kit:** Anna Charles moved to purchase up to \$40 towards a Coaches care Kit. 2nd by Jason Hendsbee. Passed.
 - d) **Motion:** (Aug. 10, 2023) The Region pays for Provincial fees for all qualifying VI participants in the Provincial 2023 Finals. **Moved** by Brent Prostelthwaite. 2nd by Jason Hendsbee. Passed.
 - e) **Motion:** To purchase a \$250 gift certificate for a restaurant in Victoria for Sean Hunter as recognition for his outstanding contribution to our Region in long term Coaching. **Moved** by Jason Hendsbee. 2nd by Kate Palmer. Passed Unanimously.
- 8. Meeting Closure:** Jason Hendsbee called for the meeting to close at 1:10 p.m. 2nd by Finn Bodner. Passed.

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