

Vancouver Island Regional Annual General Meeting

Aug. 3, 2024 [in-person at Commonwealth Pool]

Attending: Shelly Johnson [RD/SSI], Helen Lemon-Moore [PDI], Melissa Drolet [PIR], Kaitlin Chewka [OAK], Lisa Walls [CAM], Robyn Holme [BD], Ricky Millns [CAM/Reg Coach], Brent Prostelthwaite [R/DO], Mark Duffell [R/Reg], Jason Hendsbee [JdF], Megan Nishi [Oak/ARD], Sarah Gullins [Rtreas], Jason Storrie [CVB], Ryan Smith [new CVB pres], Candice Touschon [JdF], Carly Williams [Nan], Maria Meetins [SPSC], Jon McKay [Oak coach], Sarah Grundy [Oak coach], Chris Austin [BD], Sara Mather [BD], Jon Lawler [Oak treas.]

Absent: Gabi Vindisch [GHG], Chelsea Ward [POW], Jaclyn Cleary [Nan],

1. **Meeting opened;** Shelly Johnson, Regional Director, was unable to join the meeting until partway through due still being in another meeting, so Brent Prostelthwaite [R/DO] opened the meeting at 11:37 a.m., while Helen Lemon-Moore [VI R secretary] took minutes and presented agenda for acceptance. It was established that there was a quorum present, with only 2 clubs not represented - Powell River, and Gordon Head Gee Gees.
2. **Agenda:** The agenda for the AGM was accepted by general concensus, as there were no further items to add.
3. **Minutes of 2023 AGM [Aug. 12, 2023]:** With no additions or corrections, Kaitlin Chewka **moved** to accept as circulated. 2nd by Carly Williams. Passed.
4. **Club Reports:** As Shelly was still absent, it was decided to start with the Club reports:
 - a) **BD:** Robyn reported that they had had a great season and good turnout at Regionals. They have lots of growth in the club.
 - b) **CRSK:** Lisa reported that they had a great season with 100 swimmers, and solid coaching.
 - c) **CVB:** Jason reported that their AGM is next Wednesday, and Ryan Smith is the new in-coming President. They have 35 swimmers at Regionals, and had 157 swimmers registered during the winter maintenance. They are having problems finding enough coaches, but got it done for the summer, and are interested in certification for more coaches.
 - d) **GHG [absent]**
 - e) **JdF:** Jason reported that they 72 registered for their summer season, and have 92 already planning to do the winter sessions. They are planning on using the YMCA West Shore pool as a 2nd venue to expand

their capacity for swim sessions. As the club is expanding, it is harder to get volunteers, and may look to mandatory volunteer hours as a solution. They had had problems with their CRA account, but solved them now.

- f) **Nan:** In Jaclyn's absence, Mark reported that they had 215 registered this year, and noted the older swimmers were fewer than previous years due to aging out. They had 11 coaches, and rotated coaches for covering all the meets this summer. They had a good showing at Regionals, and hope most of their coaches will return next year.
- g) **Orcas:** Kaitlin reported that there is a bit of a crisis with pool space for the coming year[s], as Crystal Pool is coming up for possibly 4 year closure for reconstruction. The Orcas are working on support for keeping it open as McKinnon Pool is also closing in the summer. Orcas got pool time at Commonwealth for this summer. Looking for support from other clubs and the public in general to keep pools open. All good otherwise.
- h) **SPSC: Melissa** reported that they had 140 swimmers and are FULL. They have a new crew of coaches, and all are good. There are also pool issues with Panorama, as they are planning an extended maintenance of their pools this spring. Last year, it was over a month [end March, and most of April], and this time, it may be much more than that. They are fully supportive of any initiative to get a new outdoor pool in the Victoria/Saanich area.
- i) **SSI:** Jim Parker, on Shelly's behalf, said the Stingrays are doing fine with some new coaches, and a few of their senior swimmers taking some groups.
- j) **PDI:** Helen reported that as usual, our summer session had a small but enthusiastic bunch coming out to practices, but had few actually attending meets. The fall looks to be at capacity again, but we have secured a new Head coach and have some returning coaches, so we should be able to cope. Big relief from what we went through last year ! We also swim out of Panorama, so are equally concerned about pool closure in the spring.
- k) **Powell River [absent]**

5. Regional Board reports: a) **Assistant Regional Director; Megan** really appreciated all the support for this year's Regional meet. Next year Comox Valley is hosting the Regional Finals. There is work afoot on the costs for use of the indoor pool, and hoping for a grant to cover extra costs for use of that facility. Also already looking into camping and accommodation options, and if there is any chance of getting dorm space at the University. The grant needs to be in by September.

b) **Treasurer:** [financials will be e-mailed, but a copy was passed around] Sarah reported that we have a pretty healthy balance, and with no questions from those present, Carla Williams **moved** acceptance of

- the report. 2nd by Robyn Holmes. Passed.
- c) **Secretary: Helen** reported that she attended all but the 2 “standing” meetings this summer at Duncan and Nanaimo. Neither ended up having notes taken as there was not a quorum present.
 - d) **Regional Registrar: [report on file] Mark** reported that there was a 7% increase in the winter maintenance numbers for our Region [1499 swimmers, compared to 1402 the previous year]. Summer 2024 had 1098 registered, which is less than 2023 summer [1140], so our summer registration is down slightly. At Regionals this year, we had 449 swimmers at Commonwealth pool, and that represents 41% of our registered swimmers. All clubs in our VUI Region participated in the summer meets this year so that is a great showing.
 - e) **Regional Director of Officials: Brent** reported that Nanaimo had training sessions for Officials this year, and 30 new officials attended meets this summer [and not all at all meets though]. **New Radios** - there is 3 in the bucket right now, and adding new ones as the old ones fail. Head sets are digital and don’t work with the analog system. We can get exchanges for ones not working. There is constant need for training/learning and it is an on-going project. Juan de Fuca club would be interested in electronics training, it was noted. **Officials T-shirts:** Brent has a contact for what Provincials uses, so it will be ready to go for next year.
 - f) **Regional Coach: Ricky** reported that he got the shirts and swim caps done for this year. He is hoping that we get another great cohesive group of coaches for Provincials. It would be great to see other regions adhere to the cooperative nature of our island coaching teams. He has done **a lot of work** on the data crunching for Regional Relay teams. It will be good to have that in place for fairness across the relays for this Provincials and following ones. He explained in some detail how he aimed to achieve fairness across both free relay and also medley relay.
 - g) **Regional Director’s report: Shelly** gave a verbal report. The season went fast ! But she is proud of the cohesiveness of our Region. Everyone is easy to work with in the clubs, board members and coaches. **2024 Provincials** at UBC and our Region has been given **Security** again. Sign-up sheets for shifts will be sent out as soon as possible. **Question:** It is a 10 lane pool at UBC, are all 10 lanes in use ? NO is the answer, only 8. Will they have all 10 lanes available for warm-ups ? Shelly will check on that and let everyone know asap.

6. Elections for 2024/2025 Regional Board:

Regional Director:	Shelly Johnson [acclaimed]
Assistant Regional Director:	Megan Nishi [acclaimed]
Assistant Regional Director:	Robyn Holmes [acclaimed]
Regional Treasurer:	Sarah Gullins [acclaimed]
Regional Secretary:	Helen Lemon-Moore [acclaimed]
Regional Registrar:	[position open -see note below]

Mark Duffell is willing to train someone else, and is hopeful a volunteer will step forward soon, as there were no takers right now. Mark would like to step down, but will stay in place to train the new Registrar.

Regional Director of Officials: Brent Prostelthwaite [also willing to mentor a new person into this job]

Assistant Regional Director of Officials: [vacant]

Regional Director of Waterpolo: Gabi Vindiche [acclaimed]

With no further nominations from the floor, the above slate of directors for the Vancouver Island Region was accepted by acclamation.

7. New Business: Tabled due to time constraints [finals starting].

8. Meeting adjournment: The Vancouver Island Region AGM was adjourned at 12:30 pm.