

Stingrays Swim Team
Parents' Meeting
March 31, 2004

President, Charlie Lotte, called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

An editorial in the current issue of "Splash" Magazine mentions that the new USA Swimming website (coming in June) will allow room for a team page, as well as posting for individual meet times.

Annual Awards Banquet:

The Annual Awards Banquet on Saturday, March 6, was a success. Everyone seemed to be enjoying themselves and the turn-out was excellent with an approximate number of 150 in attendance. There was a presentation of the check from the funds raised from the SMA Swim-A-Thon to Chooch's daughter after the trophy and awards presentation. This year's gift to the coaches was currency encased in acrylic with instructions to "break glass in case of emergency." A big "thank you" to Don McGee (trophies), Mr. Fielder (food), Canoga Park Lutheran Church and to others involved with the banquet.

Meet Results:

The results for Downey (February 28-29) and Rosebowl (March 20-21) were discussed by Charlie. The team did very well with an interesting note that having a sibling on the team appears to help performance. The team is also making improvements through a combination of good coaching and hard work from the swimmers. Swim meet results are available at <http://socialswim.org/Results>.

First time (or near first time) swimmers and their age at the above meets are as follows: Vlad Akhmetov (14), Allison Carlisle (11), Tonya Espera (9), Shanshen Heh (9), Nikhita (9) and Varun Malhotra (11), Amanda Martin (14), Brittany Overlock (13), Jared Stern (12), and Miranda Weinstein (11).

Meet Registration:

Charlie mentioned that the Germain's had an experience where they registered for a meet but were not listed upon arrival. Fortunately, they had proof of registration because they had received their return envelope so they were able to swim. This should serve as a reminder to all the importance of including a stamped, self-addressed envelope or postcard with one's entry form to ensure proof of registration. Without this proof, swimmers risk not being able to swim in the meet.

Upcoming Meets:

- Cerritos Aquatic Club "ABC" Long Course (LC) - April 17-18
- entry forms due Monday, April 5
 - first long course meters meet (length is 50 meters) of the season

Team Picture:

Jackie Keene presented some samples and prices of photographers to take the team photo. She also proposed a photo date in early June with the swimmers wearing their team swimsuit.

Coaches' Comments:

Chooch reminded parents that we need more kids to participate in the swim meets. He also mentioned that we re-institute a phone committee to remind families about upcoming meets and Pierce pool closures.

Chooch shared with the group that his daughter reported that the money collected from the "SMA Swim-A-Thon" represented the largest donation from any one group that they [SMA] have ever received. While they correctly characterized Chooch as "awesome," Chooch was quick to point out that it is also all the swimmers who deserve that title. The San Diego chapter of SMA spoke with Chooch and mentioned that they are available to help with future "Swim-A-Thons."

Positions available:

Looking for a way to stay informed about team news, be involved with a minimum of time commitment? Anyone interested in attending monthly meetings and to being a team Secretary to take and prepare minutes, please contact team president Charlie Lotte <pclotte@earthlink.net>. The current secretary, Karyn Greenstone <kginca2@earthlink.net> is able to help assist or share in these responsibilities if you wish to contact her.

Meeting adjourned approximately at 6 p.m.

Karyn Greenstone
Secretary