

**Stingrays Swim Team**  
**Parents' Meeting**  
October 6, 2005  
5:30 p.m.

In attendance were Charlie Lotte, Kristy McClafferty, Rebecca Griley, Adrian Ureche, Angelica Mendez, Mirvat Kamel, Chin-wen Chang, Sophia Yuen, Deepal Ruwanpura, Virginia Strand, Cheri Harutoonian, Hang Vu, Jared Meyer, Yvette Aslanian, Kim Le, Fariza Corbani, Ellen Ruimy, Lee Eisenman, Marc Roberts, Bonnie Germain, Toni Espera, Maureen Carlin, Frank Baxter, Martha Duran, Polly De La Roca, Jan Lopez, Eric Chen, Agripina & Dorian Serban, Richard & Kathie Hoops, Amy Kent-Berke, Xuan Tran, Karmen Marasovich, Kerri Daniels, Angie Bloomfield, Nellome High, and Teri Mata.

**USA Swimming:**

If you would like a copy of the 2005 SCS Swim Guide please contact your coach.

**Meet Results:**

Gordon Chen and Toni Corbani seem to have quite a lot of Stingray swim records. To view the teams swim records which is up to date, please visit the website.

SBOS Cinco de Mayo BC at Jesse Owens Swim Stadium (May 7-8, 2005)  
- 3 swimmers & 3 Stingray swim records

COLA ABC Meet at John C. Argue Swim Stadium (June 11-12, 2005)  
- 13 swimmers & five Stingray swim records

SCS AA Championships at Canyons in Santa Clarita (June 25-26, 2005)  
- 1 swimmer & 3 Stingray swim records

Metro & Pacific A Minimum Long Course Meet at IHAC (July 23-24, 2005)  
- 4 swimmers & 6 Stingray swim records

Long Course Junior Olympics at Mission Viejo (August 3-7, 2005)  
- 3 swimmers & 2 Stingray swim records

Pacific Summer Championships at John C. Argue Swim Stadium (August 13-14, 2005)  
- 10 swimmers, 1 relay & 3 Stingray swim records

La Jolla Rough Water Swim (September 11, 2005)  
- 5 swimmers

South Gate Swim Club Season Opener ABC Meet (September 24-25, 2005)  
- 39 swimmers, 5 relays, & 7 Stingray swim records

**Upcoming Meets:**

SCS & Swim Pasadena Long Course Senior Development Meet, October 9  
COLA Halloween Surprise ABC at Van Nuys - Sherman Oaks, October 15-16  
TSM BC Short Course Meet, November 5-6  
Downey Dolphins A Minimum, November 12-13  
Canyons Aquatics ABC Cranberry Classic, November 19-20

Please check with your coach before signing up for a meet.

There was concern by some parents to have more notice regarding upcoming meets and to post upcoming meets and entry deadlines on the chalkboard on the pool deck. Currently upcoming meets are posted on the chalkboard only along with a sign-up sheet on the diving board during practice. The sign-up sheet is to help others coordinate carpools and to let the coaches know how many swimmers will be attending the meet, if any.

Meet forms can be downloaded from the internet at <http://www.socalswim.org> and mailed with an entry form obtained at the pool. Most meet forms need to be postmarked two weeks in advance. With the Four Hour Rule in place for most meets, meet forms may be rejected well in advance of the deadline, so mail them as soon as possible.

Occasionally, the meet secretary will email Bonnie Germain a confirmation list of who is registered for an upcoming meet. If the information is available, it will be forwarded.

Can we swim outside our [Pacific] division is possible usually on free weekends which tend to be the holiday weekends. Thus, there has been no decision as of yet regarding which meet the Stingrays will be going to November 19-20.

Listed below is a quick list of some possible upcoming meets that Stingrays may be participating in. Once again, please check with your coach before signing up for a meet.

### **Meet Etiquette:**

**Chair Assignments:** There was some confusion regarding lane chair assignments at the last meet attended by Stingrays. Timing at meets is a necessary evil at swim meets. Even with touch-pad technology there are frequent errors that require the assistance of additional timers. Each lane usually has three timers and the number of timers/chairs assigned to each team depends upon their participation in the meet. At this last meet, Stingrays had 42 swimmers signed up for the meet, of which 39 swam, and therefore was assigned six chairs.

In the past, a sign-up sheet for half-hour slots has been posted by various parents to better organize the effort which has been met with unfavorable results.

It is the teams responsibility to have timers for the chairs assigned to the team for the meet. Therefore, EACH SWIMMER SHOULD HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE TO TIME AT THE MEET. The more volunteers there are, the less time for any one person to shoulder someone else s responsibility.

Comments by some parents to have sign-up sheets again in order to coordinate better the lane chair assignments was made. Switches with parents should be made easily to allow one to watch their kid swim. Often times, the timers have the best seat in the house with plenty of shade, drinks and snacks provided by the meet host.

**Timing:** Swimmers train hard to improve and drop time. I see so many parents sit in the chairs and a (swimmers ) time is overstated...fractions of a second matter to them. Please stand and look over at the wall. When any hand touches the wall, stop the time. It is the ref s responsibility to disqualify a swimmer for an improper finish. —Bonnie Germain

### **Beach Party:**

The summer beach party was a success but got off to a rocky start. Thanks to Charlie Lotte for smoothing things over with the officials from Leo Carrillo State Beach.

### **Swimsuits & Swimwear:**

Question — Who can drive by Conejo Swimworks in Thousand Oaks to assist in picking up merchandise?

### FOPP:

If the pool is not self-sustaining... goes the opening line the administration has used to close down the Pierce pool in the past. Out of this thinking, the Friends of Pierce Pool (FOPP) was founded in 1993 to show the administration the community support for the Pierce pool. This year's FOPP swim-a-thon will be on Sunday, October 29, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

### Coaches Comments:

Brenda De la Cruz will be leaving in December to pursue other interests. Chooch will be looking for another coach to replace her.

There will be a section meeting in Culver City about combining the Metro and Pacific Sections back into the Olympic Section. The Olympic Section was broken up into the Metro and Pacific Section nearly a year ago. Another alternative may be to re-align the sections due to swim meet participation.

Swim Practice: Parents on deck need to help out. Interrupting the coach during practice is not acceptable when it affects the quality of attention the swimmers in the water receives from the coach. Committees need to be formed so that the workload can be shared should one parent not be on the deck for any particular evening. A committee to handle simple tasks such as helping new parents with paperwork after their child has been accepted after trying out for the team. Paperwork, such as the USS registration form, that will involve the coach's signature after inspecting the birth certificate. Other paperwork such as the team registration form and meet entry forms can also be easily handled by a parent on deck.

Swim Meets: Swimmers need to show up on time at swim meets for a proper warm-up. The coaches would like to speak with their swimmers prior to their event for additional preparation tips before a swim. Also, to take notes on which heat and lane they will be swimming in.

Relays: Parents may not be aware of relays at meets, but occasionally there are if the meet does not go over on time. At South Gate, there was a mix-up regarding relay cards. Chooch apologizes, we're going to have mistakes, but ultimately the decision of who swims on a relay is up to the head coach.

Hosting a Meet: Any team may be rejected from swim meets if they do not host a meet. For Stingrays, a simple one day BC swim meet could be held here. With everyone's help it could be quite successful and a great fundraiser for the team.

(FYI - it looks as though we will be hosting or co-hosting a meet next year, probably the latter and probably with EDGE.)

### Response to Coaches Comments:

Bonnie Germain mentioned that we could hold a meet here with help from all of the parents. At other meets, the senior swimmers could come early to help and cheer for the younger swimmers.

[Assistant] coaches seem to be leaving often and the high turn-over rate seems excessive. — Mr. Hoops

The turn-over rate is bad for continuity, but maybe it's just a phase we're going through. — Mr. Lotte

What are our needs? Can you put together a better way to get volunteers organized for a meet in order to make this a better team? The kids need to be held responsible for their folders, meet forms [and upcoming events] or they won't swim. The parents need to know what you need. — Mrs. Aslanian

Mrs. Carlin volunteered to help Chooch with information for new parents

### Team Picture:

Virginia Strand mentioned the photographer said it would be up to five weeks from September 15 for the photos to be ready.

### Team Roster:

The current roster, September 2005, is now available. The team now has 71 swimmers and 60 families, an increase of 4% and 3% respectively from the previous month. Since the last parents meeting (May 2005), it is an increase of 31% and 22% respectively.

If your email address is not listed on the current roster than you may miss notices regarding this parents meeting, upcoming meets and other events.

Once a team registration form has been received the following items can be compiled: a team roster, sign-in sheet, email list, and file folders.

Sophie Yuen has volunteered to maintain the file folders in the file cabinet at the pool. Please check your file folders in the swimmers drawer for important information, such as, meet forms, medals, ribbons and other items.

For corrections or a copy of the current roster, please see Jared Meyer or Charlie Lotte.

### Monthly Dues and Yearly Fees :

Monthly Dues — \$65 — discount for additional children

Team registration — \$75 per year

USA Swimming — \$50 per year

- goes to SCS swimming in Santa Barbara
- insurance for swim meets and swim workouts
- one year magazine subscription to Splash

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There were suggestions for more meetings and a later time to accommodate working parents. Therefore, the next parents meeting will be November 2 at 6 p.m.

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President: Charlie Lotte

Secretary: I.M. VACANT

Vice-President: I.M. VACANT

Treasurer: Bonnie Germain

### Activities:

- Awards Banquet: I.M. VACANT
- Beach Party: Charlie Lotte
- La Jolla Rough Water Swim: Charlie Lotte
- Team Picture: Virginia Strand
- USS Meet hosted by Stingrays: I.M. VACANT
- Yearbook: Jared Meyer

### Club history:

- Swim records: Jared Meyer

Meet forms: Fariza Corbani

Merchandise: Bonnie Germain

New membership liaison: Maureen Carlin

Printing services: Adrian Ureche

Roster & sign-in sheet: Jared Meyer

- File folders: Sophia Yuen

Webmaster: Jared Meyer

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