

**Titans Water Polo – Executive Board Meeting**  
**1900hrs to 2200hrs**  
**Nepean Sportsplex, CPR Room**  
**March 6, 2007**

**Approved Minutes**

In Attendance:

1. JP Caron, President
2. Hurd Stein, Competitive Director
3. Deanna Barry, General Manager
4. Dave Hart, Head Coach
5. Nicole Le Saux, Special Events Director
6. Cathie English, Fundraising Director
7. Deb Wilson, Registrar
8. Alka Steenkamer, Secretary

Regrets :

Damian LaFlamme, Treasurer; Pierre Tremblay, Past President; and Paul Massel

Alka Steenkamer quickly raised a number of issues from the January minutes. JP indicated that Damian will present the financial report for the first two quarters of the 2006-07 season as well as the Auditor's report at the March 20<sup>th</sup>.

JP stated that the Titans are still working on enticing Water Polo Canada to hold their Leadership Development weekend during Titans Weekend (September 14 to 16, 2007) in Ottawa.

Deb raised a question from a parent that was wondering why the breakdown of tournament costs/expenditures was not posted on the web-site. Deanna indicated that there may be some privacy issues as a number of individuals are mentioned by name in the spreadsheets. The Club has no problems sharing the tournament template and policy with any parents and parents should be encouraged to raise all specific questions regarding tournament costs to the General Manager.

During the first part of the meeting Dave Hart proposed a new Club operational model for 2007-08 based on the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model. The proposed model includes 5 programs each lead by a Club Director (i.e. ILWP; Academy; Cadet/Youth; Performance Polo/National Developmental Centre/Performance Developmental Centre; and Adult Program) delivered over 5 time blocks/phases (i.e., club training; shift towards team training; team training; intensive team training; and stay in shape). It is proposed that for the 2007-08 training season Club athletes will be assigned/registered under a program rather than being assisted to a team. Next year, game days will be held for both the Academy and Cadet/Youth athletes. The benefits of this model: 1) this structure should allow for more children to participate; 2) allow for larger base of athletes to run house leagues at the program levels; 3) allow for a fee structure

that reflects the level of participation of athletes – recreational athletes, travelling athletes, athletes interested in enhanced performance, athletes invited to participate in developmental centres, etc.; allow the Club to recruit new coaches (this model requires less of a personal time commitment) to build up a community of coaches; allow development opportunities for our referees, specifically during house league nights; and allow kids that do not want to join traveling teams to continue participating in house leagues.

Special attention will be given to strengthening the ILWP to program. Perhaps the age range will be reduced with the oldest kids joining the academy/cadet/youth programs. The number of pools will be reduced to four: Orleans, Brewer, Pinecrest, and Walter Baker.

Performance Polo will have offered to a broader range of athletes, however participation in the National Development Centre will be by invitation only. There are plans to have a development centre for both men and women in Ottawa. The participation in these Centres will not conflict with regular training.

There was some discussion by the Executive about how this new model will be communicated to the members. Also, the Executive discussed the need to name a Director for each program. Business plans will also need to be developed for each area identifying objectives and targets and a budget needs to be determined for each Director.

JP listed other positions that are needed in addition to the Directors positions, Head Coach, General Manager and Executive positions: Volunteers in charge of Communications; Volunteer in charge of Referees, Equipment Manager, Merchandising Manager, Fundraising Director, Volunteer in charge of Capacity Building and Interaction, etc.

Regular meeting (Part II):

Highlights from General Manager's Report (attached):

1. Paul Herbert has stepped down as Stay-in-Shape Manager. Action: Deanna plans to put together a short job description and she will advertise this position in the Titans News. Also, the Club will give some more consideration about how the Stay-in-Shape and the Carleton's summer water polo program can complement each other.
2. Deanna is looking for a volunteer for the Intake program. This program will run three times a week for the month of June. Action: Deanna to find volunteer. Also, the Club needs to think about how best to engage high school water polo students in the Club programs.
3. Polo-Tech will be offered this summer by Pierre Fiset (National Junior Mens Assistant Coach). The program will be run out of the CEGEP, 2 or 3 days a week for three weeks; it will work around Camp Olympia.
4. Plans for the Summer Camp are well in hand.

5. Action: The Club needs to recruit a Banquet Chairperson(s) soon. Ginette Sharp and Nicole Le Saux have run the event in the past and could offer advice to the volunteers.

Report from Registrar:

1. Deb Wilson had nothing major to report other than the ILWP coaches have not been registered in the OWPA database.

Report from Competitive Director:

1. Hurd reported on a meeting he attended with the other aquatic clubs. One of the points reported on was that Nepean Sportsplex will be shut down this summer for a shorter period of time than originally planned.
2. Hurd raised some concerns about the Cadet/Youth Invitational. Additional consideration should be given to ensuring the teams were balanced, especially the inter squad teams. Action: Hurd will submit his comments to Nicole as part of her report on the Invitational.

Report from Special Events Director

1. Nicole will soon table her report on the Cadet Invitational. Action: Nicole (including Hurd's comments) will soon submit her report to the President on this tournament.
2. Nicole is currently focusing her attention on finding volunteers for the Bantam Girls and Boys Provincials that will be hosted by the Club on May 26-28, 2007. Action: JP will follow-up with Dave about securing the names and numbers of teams participating in the Provincial tournament. Action: Nicole will submit some recommendations on use of the computer including evaluation of software for the upcoming tournament.

Report on Fundraising Activities:

1. Ginette Sharp made \$410 profit for the Club in selling the frozen fruit. This was a good, no risk fundraiser that should be tried again next year. Action: The Executive needs to discuss a strategy/approach for fundraising.
2. Alka Steenkamer indicated that Aloysia Pinto (Parent of Nessie) had a number of ideas for fundraising. Action: Aloysia will be asked to contact JP regarding her ideas and possible involvement with the Fundraising Committee.

Deanna announced that Marinka Menard is the Director of the Adult water polo program. She will be sitting on the Executive as observer until the next Annual Meeting when she can be voted into the Executive.

Action: JP will submit an article/transition letter to the Titans News soon identifying the next steps, complete budget plan and announcing a General Meeting in the spring.