

Titans Water Polo Executive Team Monday, October 25, 2004

On-deck classroom, Nepean Sportsplex

Present: Pierre Tremblay, President
Douglas Hodgson, Finance Director
Guy Tanguay, Competitive Program Director
Carolyn McGill, Registrar, Secretary
Rosemary Bickerton, Facilities Coordinator
Biljana Pavicevic, Past-President, Special Events Director
David Hart, Head Coach

Call to order at 8:00 p.m.

1. Review of Agenda

2. Status Reports

Head Coach

Information/Discussion: David emailed a full report and several proposals to Executive members prior to the meeting.

1. Girls House League – Response from athletes has been enthusiastic. There should be no financial risk to the club. The league will use University of Ottawa pool times when Titans teams are out of town. David will find a coordinator.

Decision: Proposal approved.

Action: Pierre will confirm with Nancy Snihur that Trillium funds may be used for this purpose.

2. Pierre Fiset – Pierre has left the Hull club and is free to coach elsewhere. David proposes to have Pierre join him on a trial basis as an occasional Academy co-coach. Fees during the trial period may be paid out of Trillium funding, as for a special event. Beyond the trial period, payment for Pierre's services would have to fit within the current coaching budget.

Decision: Approval in principal for a trial period.

Action: David will contact Pierre Fiset to clarify his expectations and report back to the Executive.

3. Enhanced practices for Academy athletes – There is enough interest to hold a separate Academy enhanced (deep end) session, and for younger athletes the session should be scheduled earlier in the evening. David proposed 7:30-9:00 p.m. Sunday at the Sportsplex. Coaching honoraria for Kasia Hart and the cost of an additional half-hour of full pool time (beyond what is already booked for ILWP League Night) are eligible to be paid from Trillium.

Decision: Implement, beginning November 7.

Action: Rosemary will book additional Sportsplex pool time.

4. Shoulder injury prevention clinic – A financial proposal has been drafted. Alison is considering dates.

Action: David will submit a full proposal to the Executive.

5. Additional Caps – It has been determined these are not needed.

Finance Director

Information/Discussion: Doug has been unable to proceed with the audit (due November 1) and the transfer of data to the bookkeeper. The first installment of funds has been received from Trillium.

Decision: The Executive expresses its appreciation to Peter Sonea for his extended and unstinting services as club Financial Director.

Action: Doug will contact Peter to obtain all financial files.

Registrar

Information/Discussion: Carolyn submitted a written report prior to the meeting. 98 athletes are currently registered in the competitive program; and she is proceeding to enter Titans members into the Water Polo Canada online database.

Facilities Coordinator

Information/Discussion: Pools' NLS requirements are adding to our costs. When the Titans do not have two NLS coaches on deck, the Sportsplex charges \$15 per hour for a lifeguard. The University of Ottawa has begun to charge an additional \$13 per hour because our coaches with NLS have not done a skills check at their pool. U. of O. will accept a skills check done at the Sportsplex.

Action: Pierre will contact University of Ottawa to clarify their requirements.

Action: Rosemary will contact Jim O'Malley about Titans coaches doing their skills check at the Sportsplex.

Clem Pelot has advised the Executive that some city pool staff may be implementing new rules regarding NLS in advance of the policy being formally adopted by City Council.

Action: Titans representatives will consult on the NLS requirement when they meet with city councillors.

Coaches' contracts require them to comply with each pool's NLS requirements.

Action: Rosemary will compile NLS requirements for each pool and provide this to David for distribution to Titans coaches.

Most Titans coaches (competitive and ILWP) will need recertification in October 2005. The club's policy is to organize and pay for recertifications.

Action: The Executive will organize an NLS recertification course for October 2005.

Information/Discussion: Rosemary requests that the club find a new volunteer to coordinate pools for ILWP.

Action: Carolyn will advertise the position in an upcoming competitive program newsletter.

ILWP

Information/Discussion: Deanna Barry submitted a written report prior to the meeting. Registrations are at 134, well above the break-even level of 120 athletes. Deanna is working to get NLS certifications for ILWP staff to the Sportsplex.

Competitive program report

Information/Discussion: Each competitive team has a tournament plan in place. Biljana has begun a spread sheet to compile information about 2004-05 tournaments.

Action: Biljana will pass the information to Guy, who will maintain a master tournament list for all Titans teams. Guy will provide information to Rosemary, so she can manage pool bookings for weekends when teams are traveling.

Titans Cup

Information/Discussion: Biljana reported that invitations were sent to every club the Titans are aware of; also the OWPA and FWPQ. Already there are 2 guest teams entered in each division.

3. Old Items**Strategic Plan**

Information/Discussion: Clem Pelot will facilitate a strategic planning session to run on a Friday evening and Saturday.

Action: Pierre will poll participants to find a suitable date.

Coaches' Contracts

Information/Discussion: David re-drafted his proposal to meet Executive specifications. Pierre prepared final drafts of contracts and a covering letter. These have gone out to coaches.

Action: Within the next week, Pierre will inform coaches of a dead-line for signing contracts.

Christmas Camp

Action (carried forward): Deanna will provide a budget for the Christmas camp. Jim O'Malley is the source for Sportsplex pool costs.

City Relations

Information/Discussion: A meeting with city councillors has been deferred again. Clem Pelot intends to represent the Titans at an upcoming Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.

Minor Capital City of Ottawa Grant

Deferred until March 2005

Team Accommodations

Information/Discussion: Sharon provided a supplemental written report to the Executive to answer specific questions.

Decision (by email): The Titans will use the services of Team Accommodations on a trial basis until December 2004.

Action: Pierre will request that Sharon prepare information on Team Accommodations for the use of managers and others in the club who are organizing trips.

Policy issue – Rebates to Non-returning Athletes

Deferred

Policy Issue – Revised Registration Administration

Information/Discussion: A proposal will encompass the timing of WPC Contributions, late and incomplete registrations, and other issues that arose during registration for 2004-05.

Action: Carolyn and Doug will collaborate on a proposal to the Executive, for submission in January 2005.

Tournament Conduct Report Card

Information/Discussion: Carolyn circulated a draft to Executive, managers, and coaches.

Decision: The principle of reporting on conduct has the support of the Head Coach and the Executive.

Action: Carolyn will incorporate feedback into a second draft and send it to Pierre for vetting; then circulate the final version to managers.

Policy – Parents Joining Athletes in the Water

Information/Discussion: David confirmed that coaches rarely need to recruit bystanders, but would welcome guidelines for inviting guest players to join practices. Guests will be required to sign a waiver.

Action: Pierre will draft a policy.

Booking Bus Travel in Bulk

Action: Pierre will contact Academy managers to learn what they have done on this front.

Process for Confirming Attendance at Tournaments

Information/Discussion: There is a need for more clarity about administration for Titans' participation in invitational tournaments. The registrar handles entries for provincials and nationals

Action: Guy will convene a team managers' meeting/training session to discuss these and other issues, such as budgeting and conduct.

4. New Items**Water Polo Tournament in Barbados – January 2005**

Information/Discussion: Pierre received an invitation to this event. Biljana advised there are many annual tournaments that may become of increasing interest as the Titans have more Cadet and Youth athletes.

Action: Pierre will forward invitations to Guy, who will maintain a list of annual tournaments.

New Official Club Swimsuits

Information/Discussion: The Titans have a new source for swimsuits that are more durable and distinctive. We may want to consider a new design for our official club suits.

Decision: Deferred to February 2005.

Executive Member to Oversee ILWP

Information/Discussion: This is a key gap in the volunteer roster.

Adult Recreational Program

Information/Discussion: The program is underway at Brewer Pool on Friday evenings, but there are fewer registrations than expected. The coordinator has requested a re-negotiation of the fee for balls and caps.

Decision: The fee is waived.

Action: Pierre will inform Jason Sterne.

Participation at Enhanced Training Sessions

Information/Discussion: Some athletes who do not intend to participate in the provincial team programs would like to attend the Monday night enhanced sessions.

Decision: The wording on the web-site calendar should indicate the sessions are for “athletes aspiring to a greater challenge”.

Action: Rosemary will change the calendar note for sessions as of November 8. Pierre will inform David of the decision, and clarify that this is not intended to impact on the program for the sessions.

Games between Team Ontario Bantams and Cadets or Hull

Discussion deferred.

Bell Canada Volunteering Grant

Information/Discussion: Club member Patti Hutton has informed Pierre that Bell Canada will donate \$500 to a non-profit organization for which one of their employees does 50 hours of volunteer work within a year, to a maximum of \$2500 per club.

Action: Pierre will confirm to Patti that the Titans are interested in this new grant program, and ask her to provide Carolyn with more detailed information for use in a club distribution email or the newsletter.

Girls Task Force, House League and Mentoring Program

Information/Discussion: David provided an email report on the first meeting of the Task Force. The mentoring program is an element of the house league, already approved.

Decision: Proceed with all these initiatives.

FINA World Championships (Montreal, Summer 2005) – Call for Volunteers

Information/Discussion: Interested club members are referred to the Water Polo Canada web-site: <http://www.waterpolo.ca/english/results/results22.htm>

Practice Schedule after Christmas

Information/Discussion: There are likely to be changes. Further discussion deferred.

Adjourn: 9:40 p.m.

Next meeting: Monday, November 8, 2004, 8:00 p.m., Nepean Sportsplex