

Titans Water Polo Executive Team Wednesday, June 8, 2005

On deck classroom, Nepean Sportsplex

Present: Pierre Tremblay, President
Hurd Stein, Competitive Program Director
Ed Sennema, Finance Director
Carolyn McGill, Registrar, Secretary
Doug Hodgson, Treasurer
Nicole Le Saux, Special Events Director
Rosemary Bickerton, Facilities Director
Cathie English, ILWP Executive Member
David Hart, Head Coach

Call to order at 7:30 p.m.

This was a special Executive meeting to review the Head Coach's proposals for the competitive program next season. David provided drafts of: his letter to coaches, the 2005-06 team practice schedule, and a budget for 2005-06 coaching costs.

Letter to Coaches

- The coaches' contracts will be tied to specific outcomes in the Titans' new strategic plan. The club needs to balance winning with other objectives and the need to sustain growth.
- There will be new reporting requirements and higher professional standards for coaches.
- Next season David will focus on mentoring Titans' coaches.

Practice Schedule

Some pool time slots have been re-assigned. Youth and cadet teams share practice times. Other key points in the draft:

- Half an hour of compulsory dry land practice is added to each practice.
- "Saturday is Game Day" – Alternating weekends, the 4 boys teams and the 4 girls teams will have a 7.5 hour session at the University of Ottawa (two pool sessions, dry land training, presentations, and a break). David will design the program for each Saturday. The goal is to break up compartmentalization in the competitive program and to facilitate the transfer of knowledge. This is a significantly new approach in terms of logistics, and in terms of commitments from athletes and coaches.
- The Thursday afternoon pool time at U. of Ottawa is assigned to a Co-ed House League (pick-up scrimmages). The Executive will decide whether to budget this as a break-even program, or to subsidize costs. Coaches must be consulted about their participation in this program. U. of Ottawa time can't be cancelled, so David suggests that athlete sign-ups be obtained before September.

Player Depth

David provided the following estimates for 2005-06. Numbers for returning athletes are not firm; and there are always unpredictable “walk-ins” in the fall.

1. Boys

Youth – 10 returning

Cadet – 17 returning + 5 born in 1991 ILWP graduates = 22. There will be Cadet A and B teams with 11 members each; team configurations to be determined. The program can accommodate up to 26 boys.

Academy – 22 returning + 6 new intake = 28 + 4 reserves = 32. Status of an athlete will be based on ability and commitment. Reserves will have full training privileges and will be invited to identified competitions.

Total estimated competitive male athletes = 64

2. Girls

Youth – 13 returning

Cadet – 20 returning + 4 1991 ILWP graduates = 24. There will be Cadet A and B teams with 12 members each.

Academy – 16 returning athletes + 12 new = 28 + 4 reserves = 32.

Total estimated competitive female athletes = 69

Coaching Requirements and Budget

Points from David’s proposal:

- Team coaches to be paid based on their qualifications: NCCP level plus experience (not seniority with the Titans). To be eligible for their budgeted remuneration, coaches need current NLS certification. David has to recruit 2 new team coaches.
- Enhanced training is split by gender. These sessions were formerly covered by the Trillium grant and now have to be included in the competitive budget (\$6,000 for coaching plus pool costs for approximately 24 sessions).
- There is a contingency fund for coach replacements. In the past David has often covered for absent coaches at no cost to the club.
- The Coed House League was not included in this draft budget.

Pierre thanked David for his presentation to the Executive and said it was very useful information to have in advance of upcoming discussions on the 2005-06 competitive program budget.

Adjourn at 9:35 p.m.