

15 September 2008

SAC Members,

A new season is upon us and your Board of Directors would like to welcome everyone back. The intent of this letter is to bring our families up to date with some of the events that will occur this fall. Together the coaching staff and the Board of Directors (BOD) help to establish the environment that your swimmers train and compete. As a board run swim club, you as members have a say in the direction the club takes. Your input via surveys and communication with the coaches, Judy, and board members help to shape our team. The survey that our members took this past season provided many great ideas that the coaches and board will act upon. Please continue to offer any input that would improve the team. Keep in mind, there are approximately 140 families and only seven coaches, therefore give the coaches an opportunity to evaluate and discuss your input. Additionally, all of our coaches would like to hear from each parent regarding their swimmer but please do this before or after practice. Finally, volunteer. We have a great tradition at SAC with parents that help in the day-to-day business of the club. There are several time intensive needs of the club. We have filled three positions thanks to Karen Eynon (Swim-A-Thon), Jay Klosterman (Cactus Classic), and Bill Bartel (website administrator) but we can always use more volunteers.

Our mission continues to be a nationally recognized competitive aquatics program and to some extent we have accomplished that goal. However, we must continually defend our state standing and strive to be one of the top teams in the western region. We do this through proven and new, innovative training techniques and regimes. With a new season comes some change. The coaches have established new training groups for our swimmers, and by all indications this looks to be another step in making our kids more competitive and our team more cohesive. Along with this the coaching staff has several events planned to build team camaraderie that will be both challenging and fun. This years Swim-a-thon is being planned as a family oriented event. Our goal is a reasonable \$100 per swimmer. As a team we should strive to accomplish this goal. Fundraising is part of our commitment to SAC. We know it is not easy to go out and “knock on doors” or write another check to the team, but if we want to continue the SAC tradition of excellence and provide the best possible environment for our kids to succeed then we all must contribute. Fundraising provides for equipment, travel, clinics for both the swimmers and coaches, chaperone expenses...essentially it is a means to improve our club. Without fundraising our dues would be significantly higher. This leads me to announce a dues increase in January 2009. It has been two years since the last dues increase. The cost of living has increased and this directly affects the operating cost of the team (coaches salaries, insurance, office expenses etc). How much of an increase is to be determined. Before the BOD establishes the new dues structure a detailed budget analysis must first be completed. Additionally, for those that do not reside in Scottsdale a small monthly charge will be added. The City of Scottsdale has requested that this be implemented for non-residents. More information will be forthcoming in our pool-side chat with the parents. Please look for the date and time in the weekly update. Finally, your BOD is here for you. Please do not hesitate to communicate your concerns or ideas. Each of us can be reached at [sacboard@scottsdaleswim.com](mailto:sacboard@scottsdaleswim.com). Also check the Scottsdale swim website for the monthly BOD minutes. Thanks for being a part of our team. See you on the deck.

Gene Dafoe  
President