



Approved

FAST Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 24, 2009

Board Members Present: Renee Haynes, Walter Dauksher, Lance Holter, Rob Huey, Bill Spahn, Randy Pritchard, Krista Nero, Lisa Hill, Todd Campbell

Missing: None

1) Call to order

Meeting called to order at 7:42 PM by Randy Pritchard.

2) Approval of minutes from 02/24/09 Board Meeting – Approval was done via email prior to the meeting.

3) Membership Report – Randy Pritchard

193 Regular Swimmers – This is about ten swimmers more than in March of 2008.

9 HS Prep Swimmers – Membership in this group has fallen off due to the end of the girl's high school season and the start of the boy's high school season. The HS Prep Group will be shutting down at the end of March. The group will start-up again in September. Bill and Evan are optimistic about the chances for increased membership in the HS Prep group this fall.

20 Masters Swimmers – Each month the master's group continues to grow. There are a number of swimmers participating in the master's state meet in early April.

4) Coach's Report – Bill Spahn

Bill reflected on the SC State meet noting that he received many, many compliments from other coaches and parents on the way the meet was run. He believes the way the meet was run is a positive reflection on the team as a whole.

In 2008, FAST was 9th at SC State. Prior to the season, the coaches were hoping FAST would move into the top five this year. The coaches are thrilled with the team's vault from 9th to 2nd in a single season. Bill called the 2nd place finish, "...an awesome achievement." Bill added, "The coaches on this team work incredibly hard with the swimmers in each age group. I honestly believe the kids swimming for our team receive the best coaching in the entire state!"

FAST has ten swimmers who were invited to the Catch the Spirit Camp based on their performances at the SC State meet. The only other team in the state with more qualifiers is STARS.

Glee has been invited to be a coach at the Catch the Spirit Camp.

The coaches consider anyone who attended Silver State or SC State a member of the FAST state team.

Bill discussed "super suits." Bill was pleased that none of the kids from FAST wore advanced technology suits at the recent state meets. Bill applauds CSI's new ruling that bans such suits from 14&U age group competition. Bill has some concerns that FAST kids swimming in sectional level meets might be at a competitive disadvantage unless they are allowed to wear the advanced suits. At the recent sectional meet, Bill noted that of the 32 swimmers in the finals of a particular event there were only TWO swimmers not wearing high tech suits. One of them was from our team. Bill is waiting for USA Swimming's upcoming ruling on high tech suits before making further suit decisions for FAST sectional level swimmers.

There is a new ruling out that prohibits the teaching of diving to new swimmers in water less than six feet deep. As a result, silver and gold swimmers just learning to dive will need to learn in the deep end of the pool. A motion was passed to allocate \$1,200 for the purchase of TWO portable starting blocks to aid in this training.



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Bill spent a few minutes describing the delicate balancing act that goes on between the local high schools and FAST during the high school swim seasons.

The following is a list of ideas Bill submitted to the board based on a coach's brainstorming session. No action was taken on any of the ideas. Bill presented them as potential options for growing and improving the team.

- It may be in the interest of the team to form a new "Platinum" group. This group would take the top swimmers in the two gold groups and have them swim together at the same time.
- A market may exist for a "pre-competitive" group. This group would be made up of six and seven-year-olds who are not yet ready for competitive swimming. The group would serve as a feeder group for the competitive portion of the team.
- As the master's group continues to grow, additional practices may be made available.
- If the team expands the master's group, the high school group, and potentially adds a pre-competitive group and a new platinum group additional coaching resources may be needed.
- FAST continues to look for additional swim lanes in which to conduct practice.

5) **Treasurer's Report** – Todd Campbell

Financially, the team is staying "on track."

Cash from the CD was used to cover the costs of the SC State Meet. Team is still waiting to be reimbursed from CSI. It is unclear how quickly the reimbursement will occur.

An application has been made to extend the credit limit on the team credit card, so it won't get maxed out paying for the June travel meet.

FAST is making less money on meets this season. There are three main factors contributing to the reduction in revenue. The team is paying more money hospitality meals. The current economy makes it difficult to obtain donations. Even though expenses have increased, FAST is committed to providing top quality hospitality to visiting coaches, officials, and volunteers. Secondly, to stay within the CSI four hour meet restrictions, FAST is carefully limiting the number of swimmers in each meet to 600. This limitation reduces the "per swim" fees collected. Finally, earlier in the year, the board voted to reduce the "per swim" fee for FAST meets to \$4.25. The team is earning a little less on each swim at our meets.

6) **President's Report** – Randy Pritchard

- FAST will be turning in bid sheets to host the following meets in **2010**:

FAST Winter Open	January 8 th – 10 th , 2010
FAST Spring Splash LC Open	April 30 th – May 2 nd 2010
FAST LC Open	June 18 th – 20 th , 2010
FAST Mid-Season SC Finale	December 10 th – 12 th 2010

- FAST will be turning in a bid to host the 2011 SC State Championships.

7) **Old Business**

- a) Videotaping equipment

Bill discussed the possibility of Karl Stewart using the video equipment to record swimmers. Karl would then review the swimmers strokes with them. There was some discussion about hiring Karl to perform this function.



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The Master's group has been using the camera at practice.

b) Backstroke Flags

The backstroke flags added to the warm-up pool at SC State added valuable additional lanes. FAST plans to set-up the backstroke flags above the warm-up pool at all future SC meets.

FAST is still working with Epic to design a set of practice backstroke flags that can be used over the shallow end practice lanes. FAST is looking into a system that will allow the flags to be lowered from the ceiling over the lanes during practice and then raised to the roof once practice is complete. Epic is willing to hang the backstroke flag solution from the ceiling in August when the pool is drained. If FAST wants to hang the flags before August, the team will need to figure out our own method of attaching the flag solution to the ceiling. Walter Dauksher and Scott Hill are going to work together to devise a system for raising and lowering backstroke flags.

c) Scoreboard

Epic is currently reviewing a proposal from Colorado Timing Systems (CTS) to replace the existing scoreboard. FAST questioned Epic about the possibility of moving the scoreboard to a new location but was told that was NOT an option. Unless asked for additional input, FAST will not be participating in further scoreboard upgrade discussions with Epic.

d) Spring Banquet

The following discussions were held regarding the spring banquet

- 1) The invitation for the banquet has been sent to all FAST families.
- 2) The Rio can host up to 305 people. There were 244 people who attended last year's banquet.
- 3) Rene Haynes will coordinate with Lisa Hill and Lisa Adams to draft the printed program.

e) Travel Agency Site Attached to FAST Website

The board decided against pursuing YTB International as a method of fundraising for the team.

f) Retaining a Spot on FAST for the 2009/2010 Season

Overall, there have not been any complaints regarding the policy for retaining a spot on the team adopted by the board at the February meeting. The policy was recorded in the minutes. It has been displayed on the website, and it was sent to each family via email.

8) New Business

a) Signature Authorization for Evan Welting

The board approved unanimously to grant Evan Welting the authority to sign checks for the team. This will aid Evan in submitting meet entry payments.

b) May LC Meet

At this time last year, FAST had not even started to accept meet entries for the May LC meet. This year, we already have 400 swimmers signed up for the meet. Reviewing team websites, the FAST May meet is on the schedule for at least two other 200+ swimmer teams. It is almost a certainty that the May meet will be full.



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c) June LC Meet

In December 2008, the board reviewed the fees being charged for meets. It was agreed that FAST would charge a \$7.00 swimmer surcharge and a \$4.25 “splash” fee. The purpose of the surcharge is to pay the cost of renting the pool. The June meet is three full days, so the pool rental fees are larger. It is possible the surcharge fee for the June meet may have to be raised to \$8.00.

d) Next meeting: Tuesday April 21st

9) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Rene Haynes and seconded by Krista Nero. Motion passed by unanimous approval. Meeting was adjourned at 9:32 PM.