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Sean Hutchison
President & Head Coach

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KING families,

As we all know, our country is facing some challenging economic issues. KING will keep that in mind as we plan upcoming seasons. We know that you care about your swimmers and want to keep them happy while learning, building self-esteem, and getting a great physical education. Did I forget having fun, too?

A couple examples of what we are doing to help you be a part of our team and engaged in the entire KING experience:

- KING did not raise dues in September. Yes, you all expect it every year. Why? Frankly, just like most businesses, our costs go up each year. Our costs related to pools are closely tied to energy costs and municipal budgetary needs which are not favorable at the moment. Other external expenses also grow like any other business. It costs more to run so it usually gets passed on to the consumer (our members). KING will do its best to keep costs down so we can keep from raising dues for the program for as long as possible.
- Being aware of travel costs. We know that travel is expensive. No one wants to tell their swimmer 'no' when they feel like 'everyone else is going'. We are looking for local or regional meets to substitute for meets which may have traditionally involved larger travel commitments. For example, in December, instead of attending the Junior National Meet in Austin, TX, our qualifiers are attending the Paul Bergen International Meet in Portland, OR. The meet is actually faster at the top end and will provide an opportunity for international competition as it is always strongly represented by teams from Canada, Germany and France. Although it may not have the 'junior national' title, the meet will provide a better experience for our swimmers and will cost less. Wow! A double bonus! Please see *Note below regarding travel financial assistance from KING Boosters.

For anyone who wonders, there will still be travel meets included in the schedule when we feel it's in the best interest of the development of our athletes.

With that, we are still absolutely committed to providing the best program possible for our members (including having a great experience and feeling a part of the TEAM!).

Finally, thank you to everyone who is a KING (a special 'thank you' to our KING Booster Association). Good luck to you this season, and we look forward to helping your swimmers achieve their potential and gain an enjoyment for the sport.

Sincerely,

Sean Hutchison
KING President and Head Coach

*Note: In an effort to help keep travel costs lower for families, KING Boosters will continue to offer travel subsidies this year. KING Boosters also have financial aid available to help individual athletes attend these travel meets. You will find the financial aid application on the website under the Boosters tab.



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