

Hello, welcome to the 2017-18 Quicksilver Team Meeting. Or what I like to call, the easiest way to earn 3 volunteer hours. For those of you that do not know me, I am Megan Blitzer. I am the current president of QSS. I have been the president now for 1 year. This meeting signals the beginning of my second year of my 2 year term. This last year has come with many ups and downs, but one thing never faltered and that was the dedication to this team and to you. I'd like to take a few moments to describe our Board of Directors....

The Board is a group of volunteers that work with the coaches to help make the team successful. Just a reminder, Quicksilver is a nonprofit organization and the only individuals that are paid are the coaches. We always need help.

Our dues go toward coaching costs and pool rentals, so our fundraisers throughout the year and volunteer hours are very much appreciated and needed.

The Board officially meets once a month with Andre, the Head Coach. We also communicate with him often via email, texts and at the pool.

The coaching style and team management is Andre's responsibility, as Head Coach. We give advice on many issues and vote on key team decisions, but our job is to support their vision and help make this team better.

The Board consists of:

Me, the President  
Vice President - Jason Smith  
Finance - Bob White  
Secretary - Robert Bogart  
Fundraising/Marketing - John Green

I would like to take a moment, here to honor John Green. This is John's last meeting as a Board Member. We are going to miss him. John, is the reason why I am here and honestly, why most of you are here too. Thanks to his social media savvy. John was our President for four years and was my mentor for the last year. While helping me out, he served as our marketing/fundraising chair. Thanks to him, we raised over \$20,000 for the Annual Giving Drive. He has promoted us across all of social media acquiring quite a presence. We have over 600 followers on Instagram and 1190 followers on Facebook, nearly double from last year! But, John, along with his wife, Karen are now official empty nesters. Lauren, their daughter, is off to Stanford, swimming with Leducky and Manuel. So, let's wish John well and give him the thanks he deserves!! (standing ovation :-))

Ok, back to business...

We do need to fill his vacant position of Fundraising. So, if you are interested in this position. Please come talk to me. Juliya Alvarez, (please stand) has graciously stepped up to take the role of Social Media Chair. She will utilize our Shutterfly account for photos on social media. I will post the link on our website. Well, I won't, but our new Webmaster Volunteer, Jason Jane will!

The remainder of the chairs on the Board are:  
Membership - which is vacant  
Social - Mark George  
Head Coach

We will begin elections soon. You will be receiving an email regarding it. In addition, the Board can appoint people based on interest and skill. If you have a desire to be on the Board, please see me or Jason Smith.

Andre will speak to the swimming accomplishments later, but some accomplishments I wanted to mention from the past year are:

1. Had our first annual Holiday Party and successful Toy Drive for Toys for Tots
2. Successful Annual Giving Campaign (AGC) fundraiser, which I mentioned earlier, raised over 20k and bought:
  - Lane lines
  - Meet computer and software upgrade
  - Omega starter
  - Banners
  - Harness for starter
  - 8 QSS Team Tents

This year, I would like to go BIG. I want to try something new. I want to host a Swim-a-Thon in March. Coach Andrew and I will lead, but I will need help from Fundraising and all of you. This will be a super fun way to get your volunteer hours.

One thing on our super wish list is a new scoreboard. The cost is about \$100k. I would like that to be our goal this year!! If you want to help us reach this goal, either talk to me after or shoot me an email.

Another BIG thing this year, we are now a Tritonwear team!! With Tritonwear, the swimmer simply places a sensor under their cap. This sensor provides metrics based on stroke, pacing and other aspects in both real time and over many workouts. It's more than just an extra coach, it's like having a personal coach for every athlete.

Coach Andre has been utilizing this with his Senior Teams. He will provide a demo after the meeting. You will find a "Day in the Life" of a Tritonwear athlete in your handout. This will give you a better understanding of the program. Subscriptions to this program are available. Jason Smith, our VP, will talk in more detail about the Tritonwear subscription model.

A few housekeeping items:

We are going to try something new for birthday celebrations. We will no longer distribute cupcakes on the last Thursday of every month, instead the coaches will have a birthday celebration within their specific groups. The kids will get a QSS cinch bag and swim through the gauntlet, do a cannonball, be sung Happy Birthday. Whatever the coach decides is most fun for the birthday kids and their teammates.

Pre-Bronze and Bronze no longer have hours requirements.

We have decreased the volunteer hours to 20 for Silver and 25 for Gold and above.

The good news is because of the size of our membership, we have been able to reduce the required volunteer hours, but we must implement a new system that guarantees that swim meets run smoothly

This change will be in regards to timing. Something that I noticed a lot last year was that we were always short timers. Timing is an essential part of being a swim parent.

Without timers and volunteers, we couldn't have meets and our swimmers would never be able to compete! Which there were times when meets were put on hold because QSS did not have timers! This should not happen. Our swimmers work for hours in practice in preparation for competition, so we want to make sure we are doing the best job we can in helping them get an accurate time. Plus, the kids love to see their parents' involved and being an integral part of the competition.

So, we are now going to adopt an industry standard. Each family is responsible for timing 1 hour each day your child competes at a meet. There are 2 exceptions to this requirement: is if it is your very first meet or if you are a working official. Timing and volunteer hours are now two separate things. You now have a service hour requirement and a timing requirement. Once, the meet entries are available and we know who is registered we will send out a sign-up to those attending. You will be able to choose your 1 hour slot.

I will be sending out an email detailing this new timing protocol.

Please complete the survey that I sent in the most recent email. This survey will help us find the right job for you. We really want volunteering to be something you want to do and not what you have to do.

We have changed the committee structure. There are still some that remain, like membership, clean-up crew, marshals and tent crew, but other that that we will return to posting all other jobs on our site. With, Jen Primmer's help, we hope to post jobs well

before the events to give you all time to schedule. Plus, we are going to create many more opportunities to earn hours, with more social functions and especially with organizing the Swim-a-Thon for March. I will be hosting a meeting within the next month to discuss the requirements of the swim-a-thon. So, be on the lookout for that email, if that sounds like fun to you.

Which leads me to our NEW annual calendar for both Age Groups and Seniors. You should have received a copy from your child's coach, if you did not, the age group calendar is now live on our website under the Calendar button.

Another button to pay attention is to our partners' Swim Outlet button. When you purchase through our team store we see an 8% return to the team. So, please click that button on our website for all of your swimmer's needs.

Speaking of the website, keep an eye on it, good things are happening on there, thanks to Jason Jane!

#### SOME BIG THANK YOU'S

Johanna Applebaum  
Nancy Vierra  
Nancy Keslin  
Jen Primmer  
Angela Sheffield  
Yolanda Livingston  
Pavadee Piasai  
Erica Krishnamurthy  
Brett Bynum  
Tune Duong-Toy  
Juliya Alvarez  
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David Saljeseth

