***Developing Character One Lap at a time***

Parents meeting 2/09/21 – Meeting Minutes

**Statement of purpose:**

***To develop a culture of connectedness within YOTA by “making big feel small”; to unify and improve the YOTA experience and engagement throughout the team.***

As we live into our new season, we are grateful for your leadership help us find AIR.

Mission moment

* Durham – At last parent council meeting we learned of a green group swimmer whose father had passed away. In Durham they collected money to buy gift cards, puzzles, journals, gift cards, etc. for the family.
* Jerry volunteered at a food drive SER YMCA. Several YMCA locations including SER, Knightdale and Durham, are providing food to families local to those Ys. When appropriate with COVID restrictions, it would be good for our kids to get involved in supporting our communities in this way. The Y is planning to get more involved in trying to distribute food going forward.

Discussion:

* Registration update – 530 swimmers
* Crystals – families can complete their set of crystals but YOTA will not be continuing the crystals because of how much they cost. The pins will be the new tradition. Keaton has already made the new one incorporating the AIR concept.
* New sweatshirts to order – now on online store. It was suggested that they add a size chart.
* Because Downtown Durham will be demolished in a year, Hali suggested it might be worth exploring Hope Valley Farms as a practice location. They are adding lights, they have blocks… perhaps heat could be added?
* Upcoming meets
  + MOR Qualifier: Feb. 12-14 in Goldsboro for all 14 & Under needing AG Champ cuts and select 15 & over
  + TAC Qualifier: Feb 14 for select athletes
  + Age Group Champs: Feb 25 – 28 for all 14 & Under qualified athletes at TAC
  + GYSSA: March 5 – 7 in Goldsboro – those not at USRY or AG sectionals.
  + USRY: March 11 – 14 in Goldsboro. All ages that meet qualifying standards.
  + Age Group Sectionals: March 11 – 14 for all 14 & Under qualified athletes at TAC
  + YMCA National Swimming Festival: March 31 – April 3 for all qualified athletes at GAC. This meet is taking the place of Y-Nationals, and has been opened up to YNAT cuts + 2%. 14 teams committed so far.
* YOTA Spring Break dates: March 29 - April 4 for all except Taylor and Y Festival swimmers. Taylor will take the week of April 26th off and Y-Festival swimmers will take off the week of April 5th.
* COVID updates
  + [study with Duke and its findings](https://www.wral.com/coronavirus/duke-study-of-summer-camps-adds-to-evidence-that-schools-pose-little-risk-of-spreading-virus/19508062/)
  + YOTA still following the most stringent CDC guidelines, which are 14-day quarantine for a COVID exposure and a 10-day quarantine for a positive test.
* PAC min posted now on web under the Resource tab
* Strategic Plan – let Jerry know if you are interested in contributing to the Strategic Plan.
  + SWOT review from a year ago
  + 4 questions from last meeting
  + Update vision / mission
  + Survey – Jerry will send out a short survey to YOTA families to gather information on YOTAs value to the YMCA. YOTA families provide a lot of support and engagement in the YMCA programs. Goal is to show our value to the YMCA.
* Site updates
  + No update on timeline for heaters at Meadowmont. Very frustrating
  + Senior 1 East
    - High School Regionals and State meets for many of our swimmers
    - Gearing up for championship season - lots of excitement!
    - Photoshoot last weekend for Senior 1 and all Y Festival qualifiers
  + NW Cary
    - Parents of AGS West are organizing a pre-qualifier Valentines goodie bag to give out Thursday night after practice.
  + Kerr
    - Working on a covid-safe end of short course celebration
  + Meadowmont
    - Kids showing great resilience with the adjustment to swimming at NW Cary because the heaters are out again at Meadowmont.
  + Durham
    - Bad week with air quality last week, but no complaints this week. Putting bandaids on everything in Durham since it will be demolished next year.
  + Senior 2
    - Socially distanced treat this Saturday
  + Taylor
    - Younger kids excited about the meet this weekend
    - Great news about the Dynadome going up at Taylor!
  + Chapel Hill
    - Head site coach, Tony Carroll, has been out for almost two weeks due to a covid exposure. He did not get sick and will be back to the pool this upcoming Saturday. So proud of everyone for how supportive everyone was. Everyone pulled together and stepped up.
  + Finley
    - Kids so happy to be in meets!
    - Would love for Finley to be able to host meets, but will need blocks

Some things will not change:

* Our love for YOTA
* Our passion for Coaching
* Our desire to serve you and this community

Next Parent Meeting: Tuesday, March 9