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

Parents meeting 4/20/21

**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**:

* Jerry: The reality of COVID was a bit of disconnectedness. We need to get back to getting re-connected and think we’re on a good path to getting there.
* Taylor - We had a wonderful inter-squad meet this weekend at OPC organized by Coach Brooks and Coach Keaton.
* Casey Freeman had great success at the Paralympic Trials in Texas! Her group back home was so excited for her! She got her OT cut in 100 back and is ranked 17th in the world in the 100 back for her classification. She will compete in OT at same time as Wave 2 OT are happening in Nebraska – she’ll be in Minnesota.

**Celebrate Success:**

* Y Festival was a huge success! From hosting to volunteering to officiating to SWIMMING, it was a fantastic experience. There was a lot of bonding and YOTA won our region. The boys came in first place and the girls came in second. We won the combined title for our region. National results are not fully known yet, but looks like boys were in top 4 and we were overall in the top 6-8 nationally.

**Pre-work:**

* Review minutes from last meeting – approve
* Review Questions - none

**Discussion:**

* Registration Update – pretty stable; hovering right at 530
* Upcoming Meets:
  + Carolina Crown – All-star meet NC/SC swimmers in SC this weekend, several YOTA swimmers participating. Tom H. is a coach.
  + TYR Spring Cup, Orlando, FL – Futures qualifiers and up. This is a new USA Swimming meet. YOTA has 13 athletes flying to FL with Jamie and Tom
  + Added Goldsboro back for 12 & under swimmers only. (post meeting)
  + Beach Meet in Morehead, NC – people are excited. Spectators will be allowed outside the pool gates and not allowed on the pool deck.
  + SwimRVA – There will be a plan in place to allow for a limited number of spectators.
  + USRY – is being voted on this week.
  + UNC-CH hasn’t given NCAC permission yet to host meets.
  + Waiting for options for long-course meet. Could request something short course for the kids.
  + It was noted that it is hard for families when there is more than one meet on a weekend.
* COVID Updates
  + Mask wearing, social distancing & screenings are still happening, but increased lane capacity is allowed not. YOTA is taking a careful and measured approach to that.
  + Inside pools at 75% capacity and outside pools at 100% capacity
  + We may increase a swimmer here or there, want to stay the course with safety protocols right now. Swimming continues to be one of the safest activities to be in.
* Coaching Updates:
  + Tony Carroll has gotten a great opportunity and will be head age group coach at the Nashville Aquatic Club in Tennessee. Job is posted and Jerry has already gotten some great applicants. Jerry will be providing oversight for Chapel Hill and helping coach in the interim. Hoping to get someone on board by end of May. If you know any great candidates, let Jerry know.
* Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) workshop.
  + Sunday, April 25, 4:00 pm via zoom
  + PCA is a National organization whose goal is to make sports an avenue for SKILL DEVELOPMENT and SKILL MASTERY. They work with coaches, parents and athletes to teach that winning and performance is not the goal. Skill is.
  + This workshop will help parents learn how to talk with their swimmers about what really matters…
* College Recruiting Presentation
  + Eagerness from parents for this
  + Possibly a Sunday evening around 7?
  + Was suggested to try to do this in person, outside, if possible
* What Does Success Look Like?
  + Do a video – post on YMCA link, National Web site.
* Strategic Plan
  + Meredith Griffin will help with this, hoping to have first draft in plan – guidance how we move forward 3-5 years based on everything we’ve learned in last two years.
* Site Updates
  + Durham – parents are concerned about the two paid assistants are leaving, down to one head coach spread very thin. Two paid, one parent volunteer. Jackson Cain has expressed interest and was planning on coaching with Mark this summer. They are working on it.
  + Senior II – Wisdom Wednesdays are going great. Parent conferences going well. Really excited. Special guest speakers, talking about mental toughness, communication, leadership. Great lessons and fun bonding.
  + Chapel Hill – looking for schedule for planning purposes. Meadowmont – West Side practice matrix has been planned out and is ready to go. NW Cary will have a summer swim team, so don’t have as much water as we did during the year. Only two weeks that Taylor will be at NW Cary. Can now run practices until 8:15 at night, due to warmer weather.
  + Overall - Jerry is still looking for different places to swim on the Western side of town. Looking for more water in Chapel Hill and Durham because Universities are still not open to rent. Going back and forth with Chapel Hill, but doesn’t make sense yet. Hope Valley Farms – association would have to decide it made sense to invest in long-term in a facility - $80 to $100k to put gas heaters in. Meadowmont is heat pump – we need to go gas. Temperature never dropped below 82.
  + Jerry will be spending more time at age group sites going forward, trying to learn more. They’ve developed a skill development plan for every day in the summer for every group. Helpful when we have coaches leave. If new assistant comes, this is how we do it, etc. We have had a plan in place for older group – but now by week, by practice day – focus at each one of those practices.

**Some things will not change:**

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

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021