**Developing Character One Lap at a Time**

Parent Council Minutes 9/7/21

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 build UNITY.

MISSION MOMENT

* Andrea Zimmermann – many kids from Kerr participated in Finley Frenzy Youth Triathlon
* Jerry – YMCA of the Triangle hired new Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Dr. Lisa Scott. Jerry knows her from Susquehanna University. She’ll speak at the Senior training trip at Camp Seagull.

PRE-WORK

* Group introductions
* Review minutes from last meeting – Approved
* Review updated vision statement
	+ The YOTA Swim Team program transforms young people into high character leaders and lifelong champions of the YMCA.
	+ Through competitive swimming we will empower each individual to reach his or her full potential – as an athlete, a YMCA leader and a community leader - by promoting achievement, creating a sense of belonging and facilitating positive relationships.

DISCUSSION

* Roster numbers: 598 swimmers… we are up! Lots of new, young swimmers
* 2021`Year End Celebrations
	+ Jerry – For the most part, everyone enjoyed the smaller group settings. The experience was positive. Individual group celebrations weren’t our initial plan, but it turned out to be a success. Based on that, we’ll probably continue with the individual group celebrations.
	+ Michelle Hardy – feedback that gifts for graduating seniors should be consistent among groups.
* Staffing Updates
	+ There are a shortage of workers – national issue
	+ We found success by promoting from within
		- Sean Fisher, new Kerr Site Director
		- Mark Franz, new AGS/Sr 2 West Site Director
		- Stanley Bass, hybrid role as Durham Site Director and Durham Senior Aquatic Director
		- Antoinette Pujol, a YOTA assistant coach from Chapel Hill will take on a site coordinator role in Durham
		- David McDevitt, new Chapel Hill Site Director
		- Assistant Coaches – a model has been created to show coaches how to progress and what YOTA sees as important to help them become better coaches. Openings at almost every site. Direct potential hires to Jerry if you know anyone.
* Facility updates
	+ Hope Valley Farms, Durham. AGS/SR2 West – primary training location
	+ NCCU – YOTA not swimming at NCCU yet because of Covid
	+ NC State – YOTA not swimming at NC State yet because of Covid
	+ Taylor officially shut down today for 5 months. Will reopen Jan. 1 with DynaDome to replace the bubble. The DynaDome is a permanent structure that slides on rails to open and close. Will make other improvements, too, including new starting blocks. Taylor swimmers are temporarily at NW Cary. After January, NW Cary can be used as an additional pool.
* WeBuildPeople Campaign (WBPC)
	+ 2021 YOTA Goal – $105K
	+ 9/15/21 - 11:30 am – 1 pm Annual Campaign Training/Kick off for APB Advisory Boards & Volunteers, Give/Get, Classy Training. **PAC is also invited to attend.**
	+ Julie Harris is heading this up
	+ Last year we raised $127k
	+ Goes to serve those in the YOTA community and then goes to serve the greater need for the organization. A change is that in the past we had the “swimmer directed” part of the challenge and the “parent part”. Now we can donate directly into the swimmer’s Classy page.
	+ The goal for each group is public info and should be shared by each site director.
* SC Meet Schedule
	+ No additional meets will be added. Document only says “tentative” due to not knowing what Covid will do.
* Committees
	+ Development (WBPC), Communication (newsletter), Mentoring (new families)
	+ This was the original structure… is this still the best structure?
	+ Ideally, each committee will meet approximately once per month and bring new ideas to the group
* Intrasquad Meet
	+ Southeast Raleigh, 9/25/21
	+ Groups: Green, White, Purple, Silver
	+ No parents on deck unless they’re volunteering
	+ Beth S. suggested that this may be a good opportunity for the Mentorship group to do some good work with new, young families.
* Senior Training Camp
	+ Camp Seagull, 9/24-26
	+ AGS, Senior 2, Senior 1
	+ Re: Covid, YOTA is following the camp protocols. Will group in pods. YOTA has decided they will not ask if people have been vaccinated, but YOTA is requiring a negative PCR covid test within 72 hours of departure.
* Officials – We need to recruit more
* 2021-2022 Parent Meetings – zoom links will be sent out beforehand
	+ Sunday, 9/12/21, 4:30 - 6:00 pm (Age group sites) (note time change)
	+ Monday, 9/13/21, 6:00 - 7:30 pm (Senior groups) (note time change)

Through UNITY we can together provide:

**Unique – Nurturing – Inclusive – Transformative – YMCA –** experiences

Next Parent Council Meeting: Tuesday, 9/21/21, 6:30 – 7:30 pm