**Developing Character One Lap at a Time**

Parents meeting 12/07/21

**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 to help us build UNITY.

The purpose of this meeting is to: **Inform, Update and provide Clarity.**

Mission Moment – FDR – “a date which will live in infamy”

* Dan Houtz – shout out to Jen Speerschneider who volunteered the whole meet + Tate and Derek.
* Wendy Medlin and John Newell both volunteered at Cap Classic
* Non-YOTA officials were very happy to be back at Cap Classic. Great feedback. – Jenny Smith

Celebrate: - Turkey – 356 swimmers and Cap Classic - 133 swimmers

Roster numbers: - 585 (plus 70 Prep swimmers)

Pre-work:

* Site updates – share with Jerry any questions in advance. Going forward, want to spend less time on site updates. Please get feedback and questions to Jerry in advance.
* Review minutes from the last meeting – approved
* Send to Jerry any min from your PAC sub-committee meeting

Discussion:

* Facility updates
  + HVF – down to last hurdle… trying to get last inspection scheduled with Durham Dept of Health for the light inspection to be sure we have sufficient lighting for evening swimming. Should be 12/8. West Senior 2 and AGS swimmers have been very patient and resilient. Got a ship date of 12/15 for pool covers. Supply chain issues.
  + Taylor – continuing to make progress. No date when it will reopen, but sometime in 2022, hopefully in the early portion of 2022.
* We Build People campaign
  + YOTA raised over 133K
  + Still don’t have final individual tallies, but development is working on it and will give kudos to the top fundraisers at each site.
  + Julie Harris will get site totals from Tom to her chairs to disseminate to groups
* PAC Committees
  + Review and edit documents of purpose
  + Communications
    - Dan Eck, Chair. How do we use the communication to create a larger sense of community? Seniors… spotlight on seniors. Addition to newsletter, using apps, zooms, YouTube videos.
    - Jerry would like the group to meet again to get some tangible to-do’s
  + Mentorship
    - Tracey Mizell – the whole group will work together. Created a goal sheet, but she doesn’t have it right now. Communications & Mentorship should work together. Struggle with how to get parents to READ or WATCH any information.
  + Programming
    - Will meet on Wed. 12/8/21 to develop goals and objectives.
  + WBPC / DEI – committees
* Upcoming Meets
  + Reindeer Meet – 8 & under at Finley this Saturday. Volunteer opportunities for senior swimmers
  + Winter Jr Nationals – starts tomorrow 5 boys- Ross, Ryan, Reese, Max and Benjamin, plus 2 girls- Clarissa & Chrisna through Saturday. + Michael Volpe but he won’t be representing YOTA because he’s at Duke.
* Age group tech suits – 2 years ago NC Swimming took the lead on banning tech suits for 12U, then USA Swimming followed suit. Then suit makers made suits that were stitched, not bonded, because they didn’t want to lose money. There is evidence to suggest that those suits still do enhance the performance of their swimming. Not as expensive ($125 girls, $90 boys). Thoughts?
  + Tony Volpe – would love it if YOTA banned tech suits for swimmers under 12.
  + Tracey Mizell – whatever YOTA decides. Educating parents about it, but the family should make the decision
  + Michelle Reich – was a nice stepping-stone for the kids
  + Dan Houtz – don’t think we need it.
  + Dan Eck – Communications group had ideas about educating parents from parents with experience using technology
  + Dina Lajoie – if all 12U coaches had a consistent answer, that would be great.
* Officials
  + We need more
* Volunteers
  + Programing committee charter work, but we need to discuss
  + About 125 at Cap Cl and 120 at Turkey
  + Beth Reschke – some parents may be worried that they don’t know how to
  + Dan Eck – explain the why. Meets run by volunteers. Something else we can communicate to parents
  + Maritza – if they could do 1 – 2 sessions per meet that their kid is involved in, that would be great
  + Tony Volpe – make it obvious what the expectation is. Show the numbers. It takes X volunteers to run a meet…
  + Julie Harris – the Beth’s had already organized a committee to handle hospitality going forward. Other teams have a punitive charge
  + Andrea Zimmerman – ton of people nervous to time at the early meet.
  + Brad Perry – can have fun with this on video series

**Remember to share updates with your site**

Through UNITY we can together provide:

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