



Annual General Meeting

Community leaders through swimming excellence

Thursday, May 13, 2021

7:00-8:00pm – Online

Zoom link: [Click here to join the Zoom meeting](#)

Password: 696010

Meeting ID: 980 4209 1031

Agenda

1. Call to order – Kathleen calling meeting to order at 7:07
In attendance – Sharmel Evans, Gurinder Sangha, Kamaldeep Rai, Jason Caspick, Jessica Jensen, Kathleen Trites, Kurt Murphy
2. Approval of the Agenda – May 13, 2021 – Kam and Gurnider
3. Approval of the Minutes – October 21, 2021 – Jason and Gurinder
4. Reports
 - 4.1. Equipment Manager – Gurinder Sangha - \$6600 in 2019, 2020 \$7900, hopefully back to normal there will be a big demand for equipment.
 - 4.2. Registrar – Kathleen Trites – start of 2019 season at 174 swimmers, January 2020 at 179 and when into lockdown in March at 176 swimmers, approximately 48 swimmers in summer season
 - 4.3. Secretary – Kathleen Trites – all meeting minutes are up to date
 - 4.4. LMR Director – Jason Caspick – no new courses, no new parents to sign up for courses. Once we get up and running will look at who is signed up and ask parents who don't have appropriate courses to start pushing
 - 4.5. Officials Director – Jason Caspick – nothing to report
 - 4.6. Volunteer & Fundraising Director – Kamaldeep Rai – Nina left and Gurinder was starting to learn the system. The points were going well – parents were getting more involved and did not have to look for volunteers. Money refund for 30 families -who did 25% of points requirements met.
 - 4.7. Head Coach – Kurt Murphy – as submitted for 2019/2020 season (see end of document.) During lockdown coaching staff was still employed. As a staff extremely grateful to continue to work during the lockdown. Newsletters, dryland, gaming stuff done by staff. Beginning of 2020 season had some movement from non-competitive to competitive. Turnover was good from season to season. Normally see 25% of club leave – saw less leave the beginning of the season. No more changes to schedule except regionals Monday and Wednesday late evening. Sophie was brought on.
 - 4.8. Treasurer – Jessica Jensen – shared financial statements. We were on track for a normal year – ended in what seems like a positive position with a net profit of \$140K - \$20K additional grant from gaming, CEBA small business loan program – borrowed \$60K. As long as we pay back \$40K in 2 years we keep \$20K so we

recognized the \$20K for 2019-20 season. Wage subsidy program – significant amount approximately \$38K – covered the coaches to be able to keep them employed. Expenses dropped significantly. This current season will much different – need to look at the 2 seasons combined.

4.9. Vice-President – Jason Caspick – nothing to report

4.10. President – Wojciech Apanowicz – A shortened 2019/2020 season has seen many challenges for us related to COVID-19, but we were also able to complete some of the goals that we set in previous years.

The club started the season on a strong note with great registration numbers. Everyone on the Board of Directors/Coaches was excited to continue to build on the 2018/2019 financial success, and continue to work towards more competitive aspect of a Club.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers for their hard work over the course of 4 years on fundraising for new blocks. DSSC was able to purchase new starting blocks and pool flags with club logos in 2019, and with the help of the City of Delta we were able to get them installed in early 2020. DSSC hosted a small opening ceremony that included the Mayor of Delta, Mr. Harvie, high city officials, and Sungod management.

Our two main goals for that season were to plant strong community roots and create stronger relationships with local officials as well as pool management. We were able to achieve some of these goals with the adoption of the 112th street between Monroe dr. and 72nd. We also started laying grounds for collaboration funding with the pool. We have made great strides to become a community recognized club that would be known as a strong performer in and outside the pool. Unfortunately, our season has come to a sudden halt due to COVID-19. As we were getting ready to host our first meet of the season, I would also like to mention that all the volunteer spots were filled by club members. The COVID-19 pandemic stopped all in water and dry land training, all future competitions were cancelled, and we were left in the unknown. The Board of Directors has quickly moved to Zoom meetings to handle important club decisions. We decided to keep full time coaches employed, as we felt that this would secure DSSC stability for the future. Financial well being of the club was taken into consideration and with the strong growth of this past year we were able to accomplish exactly that. Coaches developed dry land programs to help maintain athletes' strength and conditioning throughout the pool closure, and kept our swimmers motivated to stay in good physical and mental condition.

I would like to again thank all of our volunteers for their hard work; we wouldn't be able to do it without you. Thank you to the Board of Directors as well, for making difficult decisions in such a difficult year, and Kurt and his coaching staff Sophie and Erin for keeping the athletes motivated.

4.10.1. Jessica – Wojciech took on a lot last year.

5. Old Business

5.1. Nothing carried over from previous year

6. New Business – no new business

7. Appointment/Election of Board of Directors – no changes this year at this point. Just need an approval for board members to continue. Recruit heavily for next season when we see people in person to get new board members. Jessica put forward motion – everyone in favour.
8. Questions from the Membership – no questions.
9. Adjournment – 7:24pm adjourned by Kathleen Trites

Head Coach's Report
2019-20 Annual General Meeting



May 13, 2021

Training/Teaching

Throughout the 2019-20 season DSSC's coaching staff made great efforts to move cohorts of swimmers from training groups to training groups.

Twelve TAG group members travelled to Edmonton in January. It was the first chaperoned team travel event that DSSC has done in over 10 years. The group had a lot of fun with extra-curricular activities including Mall of America on the Thursday, and team dinner on Sunday night. Swimmers arrived on Thursday, and departed early Monday morning. It was a great opportunity for swimmers to race outside of BC and learn skills and strategies around team travel.

The 2019-20 season was challenging. The COVID19 pandemic cut the season short in on March 14. This was the day before the club's March LMR meet.

During the shut down DSSC coaches provided dryland programming for every member of the club. The Head Coach published weekly newsletters designed to engage swimmers and parents in swimming despite not being able to be in the pool. DAG, TAG and CompDev coaches provided weekly check in meetings via Zoom with the intent of teaching swimming specific skills, mental skills and allowing swimmers to interact with each other in a structured setting.

The club continues to promote 200/400 medley and 400/800/1500 free based training programs throughout all the groups. This creates well rounded senior level swimmers with the ability to swim all four competitive strokes.

Results

The 2019-20 season was quite successful from a training standpoint. Swimmers progressed from Tier 1 to Tier 2 provincial standards quite easily and the club had one new Western national level athlete.

DSSC Highest level qualifiers:

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Sr Nats	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Western	0	1	2	5	6	1	1	1	1
AG Nats	2	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0
AAA	7	7	11	9	3	3	12	19	12
AA	11	9	4	5	6	6	N/A	N/A	N/A
A (LMR)	7	11	11	5	9	16	13	10	18

DSSC is still trying to get more senior national level swimmers. The Head Coach continues to pursue this goal. Retention of senior swimmers will be important. Swimmers will need to remain in the program during their grade 11-12 years in order to get senior national level athletes.

Awards were not given out for the 2019-20 season.

Coaching Assignments

Coach Sophie Fergusson was brought on staff this season to coach the DAG and CompDev groups. Other senior level positions remain constant with Coach Erin Taylor staying on for her 8th season.

The DLC coaches this season were great additions to the staff.

Coaching Staff

TAG – Coach Kurt Murphy

DAG – Coach Sophie Fergusson, Coach Kurt Murphy (Thursday)

JAG – Coach Erin Taylor

Novice – Coach Kurt Murphy

CompDev – Coach Sophie Fergusson

Regional – Coach Erin Taylor (Mon/Tues/Wed), Coach Jaffa Winick (Mon/Wed)


Dragons Learn to Compete Mon/Wed/Fri – Coach Hailey Penner & Coach Holly Friesen

Schedule Changes

DSSC's training schedule from September to March saw increases in pool time on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00pm. Additional Regional group practices were added to accommodate the demand for that group.

DSSC coaches are still trying to manage numbers on the Friday evening. The latest request for additional pool time was denied by City pool managers.

DSSC's regular season schedule until COVID cancellation:

		 2019-20 Training Schedule					
		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Top Age Group (TAG)	AM		5:15-7:30am		5:15-7:30am		6:45-9:00am
	PM	3:45-6:00pm	4:00-5:00pm	3:45-6:00pm	4:00-5:00pm	3:45-6:00pm	
Developmental Age Group (DAG)	AM			5:45-7:30am			5:45-8:00am
	PM	3:45-5:30pm	4:45-7:00pm		4:45-7:00pm	3:45-5:30pm	
CompDev	AM						5:45-8:00am
	PM	5:15-7:00pm		5:15-7:00pm		5:15-7:00pm	
Junior Age Group (JAG)	AM						7:00-9:00am
	PM	5:30-7:00pm		4:00-5:30pm		5:30-7:00pm	
Novice	AM						
	PM	5:30-7:00pm		5:45-7:00pm		5:30-7:00pm	
Dragons Learn to Compete A	AM						
	PM	4:00-5:00pm		4:00-5:00pm		4:00-5:00pm	
Dragons Learn to Compete B	AM						
	PM	5:00-6:00pm		5:00-6:00pm		5:00-6:00pm	
Dragons Learn to Compete C	AM						
	PM	6:00-7:00pm		6:00-7:00pm		6:00-7:00pm	
Regional	AM						7:30-9:00am
	PM	4:00-5:30pm 6:30-8:00pm	5:30-7:00pm 6:30-8:00pm	5:00-6:30pm 6:30-8:00pm	5:30-7:00pm		

The club was shut down from March 4 and re-opened for summer swimming on July 4th with extremely limited space. Pool time was limited to 24 swimmers. Summer swimming practices were held at North Delta Outdoor Pool. The Head Coach created a training schedule that allowed the greatest number of swimmers to participate with higher priority to competitive groups.

DSSC's July/August Schedule:



2019-20 Summer Training Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Top Age Group (TAG)	8:45-11:00am	7:30-8:30am (dry)	8:45-11:00am	7:30-8:30am (dry)	8:45-11:00am	9:15-11:00am	
Developmental Age Group (DAG)	8:45-11:00am	7:30-8:30am (dry)	8:45-11:00am	7:30-8:30am (dry)	8:45-11:00am	9:15-11:00am	
CompDev		8:45-11:00am	7:30-8:30am (dry)	8:45-11:00am			6:45-8:30am
Junior Age Group (JAG)		8:45-11:00am	7:30-8:30am (dry)	8:45-11:00am			6:45-8:30am
Novice		8:45-11:00am	7:30-8:30am (dry)	8:45-11:00am			6:45-8:30am
Dragons Learn to Compete A	9:00-10:00am		9:00-10:00am				
Dragons Learn to Compete B	10:00-11:00am		10:00-11:00am				
Dragons Learn to Compete C		9:00-10:00am		9:00-10:00am			
Dragons Learn to Compete D		10:00-11:00am		10:00-11:00am			
Regional		8:45-11:00am		8:45-11:00am			6:45-8:30am

DSSC Starting Block Purchase

DSSC purchased new starting blocks for Sungod Recreational Centre. The Spectrum Kick plated blocks were purchased through a grant, DSSC fundraising. The City of Delta paid for the installation of the blocks and the sinking of new mounts.

DSSC coaching staff and volunteers are responsible for day to day maintenance but the blocks are the property of the City of Delta.

Observations

Post COVID Rebuild

Due to the gathering restrictions imposed by City of Delta staff members (24 swimmers per pool), the club has seen a significant decrease in ability to provide pool time to swimmers in sufficient numbers. This has resulted in a significant decrease in membership.

DSSC coaches and Board of Directors members will need to make a large registration push in subsequent years in order to return the club's numbers to pre-COVID levels.

This would be a great opportunity to redefine group structures, group progressions and expectations and to relaunch with those ideas once pool numbers return to normal.

Raising Competitive Profile of DSSC

It is the goal of the Head Coach and DSSC's coaching staff to raise the competitive profile of the club over the next few seasons. Although provincial and national rankings are not the be all and end all of swimming they are important. DSSC's 35th place finish at Provincial championships is not where the Head Coach would like to be.

The Head Coach would like to raise this profile through the retention of senior level swimmers, increasing the desirability of summer swimmers to come to DSSC to train as well as creating more competitive groups and growing the competitive roster from 40 competitive swimmers (not including LTC and Recreational groups) to 100 swimmers. This would include the changing of recreational group practice times during prime time (4:00-7:00pm) to competitive groups.

Hiring of Older Longer Term Coaches & Development of Junior Coaches

DSSC head coaches and managers, in order to see continuity of the Mini Dragons program, need to invest in older, more experienced coaches. This will prevent wholesale turnover of the staff when they graduate high school. It also allows the program to reap the benefits of training a coach in house, and paying for certification over the course of more than 2 seasons. (As the average age of new coaches is 16 and the average age of high school graduates is 18). Hiring of older coaches or graduates may alleviate this problem. This may involve a higher wage and guarantee of hours.

DSSC coaching staff should also begin a coaching mentorship program so that junior coaches can be grown from the swim club. This is a benefit as they will already know the DSSC brand, the terminology and best practices. (Not started yet).

Concerns for the Future

Give Back to SunGod Recreation and the Club's Expansion

As DSSC gets bigger and our numbers grow the Board, and coaching staff need to be conscious of the space that the club takes up and monopolizing space that we use.

The Head Coach and some members of the Board have had conversations regarding this during DSSC's Year End Fun Meet. DSSC has gone from a club of 60 (2009) to a club of 180 (2018). This means that group events get bigger (and we still host them in the same space), and the club takes larger and larger portions of the pool. As renters the club does not give back to the facility other than in fees. When we utilize space that isn't paid for or inherently not booked (or not needed to be) we take space from paying patrons within the facility.

In the future DSSC may be required to book further venues for Year End Meets, club breakfasts and registration nights.

Remove Need for Gaming Funds in Future

As greater numbers of non-profit groups request gaming, DSSC's share of funds decreases. DSSC could potentially lose 40,000 dollars in the next season. It is the goal of many swim coaches to remove the need for gaming completely from their yearly budgets. Currently DSSC is dependent on its gaming grants. Could it be possible to receive gaming, but not be dependent on it? Use of gaming funds could be for things in excess of salaries, pool costs and day to day operations. What is the viability of corporate sponsorships and grants and bursaries?

Retention of Senior Boys

Over the past 2 seasons DSSC has lost boys ages 15-18 years. The Head Coach must be more mindful of creating an environment where boys of that age may progress and mature.

Part of this may be not having a single coach actively coach these athletes for a long period of time (8+ years).

Club Travel Meets/Camps

As swimmers age and mature as competitive swimmers they risk of boredom rises as well. Coaches/programs tend to repeat meets, club events etc. Training camps and away meets can be a way to shake up the routine from year to year.

With consultation with the Head Coach, would it be possible to plan a training camp during Xmas break or spring break? Swimmers can fundraise to keep costs down.

TAG group attended the Edmonton Keyano January Long Course Invitational. This was done as a travel meet in January 2020.

Use of Excess Funds for Scholarship/Travel/Finance Senior level Training

Through long term planning excess monies could be deposited into an account, accumulate interest and be used to offset travel costs, create a bursary/scholarship or provide financial aid to families to offset training costs. At year end, profits could deposited through a holding company (terminology) that provides this service for clubs thus resulting in a zeroing of income and no effect on gaming applications.

Use of High School Credits to provide Earlier Swim Practices

Swimmers who have achieved a minimum of a BC AAA time receives 1 credit equivalent. The students must apply for this credit on their own. At a Western level swimmers would have achieved 2 credits, AGN 3, Sr Nats 4.

The goal of the initiative is to utilize those credits to move practice times from 4:00-6:00pm to 2:00-4:00pm. This would allow for more study time, earlier bed time and the ability to use extra time for online courses (career planning/home economics).

This initiative would be limited to AAA swimmers only and is optional. The program could be implemented by September 2015.

More information can be found at <http://swimbc.ca/high-school-credit>

DSSC's Request for Further Pool Space – Friday Evenings

In an in-person meeting, the SRC Pool Manager has denied the club's request for the extra lane space on Friday evening 4-7pm. It was felt that it would displace too many users who are looking to lap swim at that time. When asked what information was used to make this decision it was based on the qualitative observation of staff members.

Based on DSSC coaches' qualitative observation there are never more than 2 public swimmers sharing 2 lanes during this time. It would be nice to have quantitative tallies during that time. Could a volunteer be used to get this done? Counts every 10 minutes for pool lane usage for the next 2 months?

Optimization Pool Space for DSSC – updated May 2021

As numbers stand currently DSSC competitive programs are almost full. The club has over 50 Mini Dragons as a feeder source for those competitive programs. It is understood that not all swimmers will want to progress into competitive groups but if even 50% of those swimmers do the club will be over capacity.

It is the plan of the coaching staff over the 2015 through 2022 competitive seasons to do the following:

1. Differentiate DSSC's Mini Dragon program as a Learn to Compete program vs. a Learn to Swim program. It is great that parents are accessing MD programs so that their children learn to swim but that is not the end goal of club. The end result is swimmers who want to learn to compete. Education will begin with parents directly from registration and end goals of the club will be explained earlier. DSSC is a competitive program! (In Progress)
2. Request extra pool time Tues/Thurs in the dive tank to expand filled DLC practices.
3. Lobby the pool management, Parks and Leisure Dept. and city council for the construction of another aquatic facility in North Delta. Parents lobby group will be required to be led by an organized parent rep with a structured plan and presentation. **(Not started)**
4. Access to underused lane space Mon/Wed/Fri from 4:15-5:00pm in the Dive Tank for Mini Dragons programs. (24 swimmer per day increase). (Completed)
5. Access to underused lane space Mon/Wed/Fri 7:00-8:00pm in the Sunshine pool for Regional group (or recreational group equivalent.) (20 Swimmer increase per day increase) (Completed September 2019)
6. Creation of a 11 & under intro to competition group which swims Mon/Wed/Fri PM, Tues/Wed/Sat. AM under the tutelage of a qualified coach. (16 swimmer increase to program, service 14 & under swimmers who are interested in starting competitive swimming and who have a valid chance of playing catch up to current competitive swimmers of their own age). (Completed)
7. Consideration of another 14 & Under Intro to Competition Group depending on what numbers in the pool look like in the next season. Current pool space does not allow for this to happen. Acquisition of the Tues/Thurs 4-6pm time slot would make this more likely to occur or the switching of Regional to Tues/Thurs 7:00-8:00pm and Monday 7:00-8:00pm.
8. Access to Sunday morning pool space in Sunshine or Main tanks. This would allow more groups to train on the weekend.
9. Creation of a Mini Dragons Level 3 group to be swim in the 25m tank. To be implemented January 2016, under the tutelage of the Assistant Head Coach Mon/Fri 6:00-7:00pm. This group will be selected from current and newly registered Mini Dragons who have not been advanced to Novice during the 2014-15 season. (Completed)
10. Request extra lane space on Friday evenings 4-7 to accommodate the high number of competitive groups in at that time (Request denied as of October 2018, Request denied again as of February 2019)

11. Access lane space given up by Sunfish on Tues/Thur 4:00-6:00pm. Switch TAG to all afternoon sessions with Dryland on Tues/Thurs AM.
12. Creation of a "TAG Performance" group to swim Mon-Fri 1:45-4:00pm, Mon/Wed/Fri/Sat AM under the tutelage of the Head Coach. Criteria for entry will be created by November 2015. Application process to be completed prior to school course selection 2016. (16 swimmer maximum, but will begin with 8 most likely.) – **(Not Started – Not applicable at this point)**
13. Creation of a "TAG Development" group to keep swimmers who have not achieved senior standards in the pool and in the club. All swimmers not accepted into the previous group will swim in the group. – **(Completed September 2020)**

It is not the goal of this coaching staff (and most especially the Head Coach) to see any swimmer leave programs at DSSC due to lack of space. It is understood that expansion may be a slower than wanted process and ask for patience when this happens.