

Kelowna Dolphins AGM – June 8, 2021

Attendance: Heather Gardner, Roxane Pomeroy, Alyssa Jackson, Myrna Stark, Cheryl Heffernan, Sarah Verburgh, Kathleen Martin Ginis, Carmen Cocarell, Harpreet Lotay, Paige Pomeroy, Roxane Pomeroy, Darlene Atkinson

Called to Order at 6:05pm.

Agenda Items:

President's Report -

First of all, thank you to all the parents for trusting in our ability to provide a safe environment for all the athletes

Thank you as well for being comfortable enough with us to come to us when you needed to take a break, or were worried or concerned about the restrictions and how they would affect your athlete.

- It was a wild year and so thankful that everyone (athletes, coaches, parents) were able to stick it out with us.

- Finally thank you for filling out the safety forms multiple times per week! we expect that next year there won't be the same exact system, however it is recommended that we continue some of the practices such as staying home when not well (including minor sniffles, sore throat etc), keeping up with the hand washing/sanitizer, no sharing equipment like the bottles, and cleaning of shared equipment (speaker, cones, ect).

- Will update the Dolphins website with the new BCAS guidelines. Fully safety doc will probably need to be looked at and uploaded in August (if required). BCAS restart plan can be viewed

here: <https://www.bcartisticswimming.ca/resources/covid-19.htm>

Athlete Update:

Started the year with a great number of returning swimmers, as well as a few brand new to the club swimmers.

September/October start:

10 Comp

4 Intro to comp

3 Beginner rec

5 Masters

2 coaches, we were unable to secure a third coach as our coaches mainly are UBCO students from Vancouver or Calgary and with remote schooling those students stayed home.

End of Season

10 Comp - 9 in water, 1 land training only

3 Intro to comp

3 Beginner rec

0 Masters (Program suspended in February due to adult athlete covid restrictions)

8 brand new beginners as part of an AquaGO pilot program in April.

2 coaches

Interested swimmers bit unable to provide a program due to restrictions:

1 masters swimmer

9 beginners

Coaching Updates:

Alyssa and Paige are now both full AquaGo (new beginner program) coaches. Will be able to advertise and run this new program next year.

Ava and Izzy Classroom training for AquaGo, plans to complete the final practical skills next season

Julia complete her Competition Coaching certification

The club was able to financially assist Ava, Izzy and Julia with fees this year. (Paige and Alyssa's paid part of training was last season and assisted by BC Artistic Swim (BCAS)

Funding

This was the final year of our Pacific Sport Coaching grant. As we are financially healthy this year, the executive have discussed and agreed to carry the funds allocated for 2020-2021 into 2021-2022. We expect to have a full program and to add coaches so the funds will be very welcome for next season.

We have had several successful fundraising activities over the past two years (thank you Carmen!) with

the need in mind to replace the underwater speaker. Current speaker was purchased about four years ago and was meant to be a temp fix. Now that we have funds we should begin investigation into purchasing a new one. Will need someone to take the lead on that.

Two points on that:

1. I have addresses for all other presidents so that we can reach out for recommendations from other BC clubs on what they use as a starting point.
2. City of Kelowna has put a bid in for BC Summer Games (2026?). As part of the bid gathering process Dolphins submitted a letter of support and had a brief discussion on the need for a new speaker. If the bid is successful I suggest we discuss with the city about assistance purchasing the equipment.

Lane Allocation for 2021-2022

Have not received the starting document from the city yet so no idea if we are looking at the Covid year schedule, pre-covid, or something entirely different.

A few things that I forgot to mention or exec discussed afterwards:

1. Advertising - Ben (Aurora's dad) has mentioned that he could assist with poster creation. Ben is running the water polo club and has done an amazing job with their promotion so we are excited to tap into his knowledge!
2. Have declined advertising in the Kelowna Rec guide. 1/4page black and white ad is around \$350. We advertised last fall and don't feel that it was very successful.
3. Should look at reordering caps. Have reached out to Karol at Tech Suits to see about ordering another 50 (approx \$500 plus tax and shipping last year).

Coach Report – Coaches' Report – Kelowna Dolphins 2020/2021 Season

- The coaching team wants to express how grateful they are to the parents and executive for their support during this past season. This was an especially challenging year all around. The club had to abide by completely new policies, which took up lots of time and resources. Our athletes also struggled with various times of required self-isolation, age restrictions, feeling unwell, virtual fatigue, and various injuries (outside of practice)
- Our Recreation level programs had very limited opportunities to perform this season, but they were able to practice at least! We were limited in capacity due to COVID restrictions unfortunately.
- Our Competitive level programs accomplished the following:
 - o Intro to Competition Duet Routine – placed 1st at Mable Moran (Rec Provincials)
 - o Land Routine Solo – we had the first and only athlete to compete a land routine in BC and the

judges gave huge praise

o Competitive Combo Team – placed 2nd at Jean Peters (Provincials)

• The focus from BC Artistic Swimming this past season was to celebrate and show all the things we could do, rather than to focus on all the things we couldn't.

o The coaches and athletes learned how to compete virtually and how it takes some extra work and some time taken away from regular practices

o The coaches are so proud that our Competitive Athletes stuck with it!

• Some reflections from our Competitive Athletes were about missing things like:

o Travelling to away competitions o Fun team bonding activities (we did do some ballet & AIReal Yoga at the end of the season with funding received from BCAS)

o Adding highlights to routines o Fancy suits and all the things that make our sport unique and special

o They are all HOPEFUL for next season

• What our club might expect for next season:

o Growth – adding to our coaching team will allow for us to welcome more Rec Swimmers

o Hoping for all these programs to run – AquaGo!, Intro to Competition, Masters Rec, Masters Competitive, Provincial Stream Competitive

o Nearly normal competition season and normal training schedule:

§ Virtual Summit (October) § Hybrid Training Meet #1 – Interior (November)

§ Hybrid Training Meet #2 – Lower Mainland (December)

§ Training Meet #3 – Island (February) – virtual option

§ Mable Moran – Lower Mainland (April)

§ Jean Peters – Interior – Kamloops (May)

§ BC Summer Games (trials in April @ MM, train through to July, compete in Prince George in July)

Treasurer Report – Cheryl shared that we have \$16,173.00. A lot learned this year on automatic deposits. Now the bank includes info on who has deposited. All outstanding bills have been paid. This is a fantastic number – how did we get from being in debt to being in the red? We reduced fees for the team members due to less pool time. This was our final year of the coaching grant – this was unexpected money – overall approx. 3,000. Down at least one coach this year, less pool time and we

were paying for less coaching time. We got much better at reminding people to pay their fees. Fundraising has been really great – thanks for Carmen for this. Our current speaker has been okay, we've had it repaired once. We need to look at replacing it with something more powerful. We need someone to take on some research to see which model is best. We need to spend some money going forward, we have funding to hire additional coaches and bring on additional swimmers.

Nomination/Vote In 2021-2022 Executive

Treasurer – Cheryl agreed to let her name stand for 2021. In by acclamation.

Secretary – Roxane agreed to let her name stand. In by acclamation.

President – Heather would like to step down as president. VACANT.

Vice President – Sarah agreed to let her name stand. In by acclamation.

Past President – Heather agreed to have her name stand for this. In by acclamation.

**Heather will attend the CLUB President meeting next week.

Next Season Discussion/Suggestions on financial priorities for the next couple of years (new speaker? storage at the pool? other?)

- Speaker on the agenda.
- Lane allocation document should be coming out next week. Historically everyone stays with their times but we don't know what this looks like for next year. This is a bit of a wildcard. Next year we will need the deep end of the dive tank.
- Summer Games 2026 and the speaker – Heather wrote a letter of support for the Kelowna 2026 bid. As part of the bid process, we did mention we didn't have a proper sound system. The city said this wouldn't be a problem if Kelowna gets the games.
- Carmen has agreed to carry on with fundraising for 2021.

Sharing of any details we have on next season - this may be a short discussion as so far information is limited! We'll share what we know about

Roundtable:

Alyssa – really excited about next year. Fun will be the number 1 priority. She is in talk with her old Club in Nelson to see if we can do a buddy club get together.

Heather – Vaccines – not something we are able to require team members to have. No everyone can have the vaccine. The more people vaccinated – the quicker we get back to normal. The safety plan will need to be updated eventually.

H2O maintenance plan – usually one of the first 2 weeks of Sept. This is the norm. We can do dry land

activities during this time. Hopefully we'll be in the water mid sept.

Kathleen - might still be some small safety things in place. Kathleen has agreed to continue with revising the safety plan as needed for next year.

Myrna - thank you to everyone who contributes. Emails from Heather keeping us all up to date have been so helpful.

Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm.