

**AAFSC Board Meeting
Minutes
February 15th, 2022, at 7:15pm. Zoom**

7:18pm: Call to order by President Carmen Fox

In attendance: Warwick Anderson, Anjali Bhandari, Erin Donovan, Ann Dougherty, Craig Forsyth, Carmen Fox, Mary Johanson, Jenny Land, Karen Meints, Ann Nicklas, Jennifer Nguyen, Matt Oonk, Bonnie Shay, Camille Ziolek.

Apologies:

Minutes and Agenda Approval

Motion: Approval of minutes from January 18th, 2022: unanimous approval

Motion: Approval of agenda: unanimous approval.

Update on the New website progress: Abbey Mock and Jenette Maitz:

- Abbey and Jenette have done an exhaustive search for a suitable platform for the new website.
- The software they have found is used by gyms with class-based facilities.
- The website can limit which members can book which sessions.
- The forms that are currently sent out and must be signed on paper can be signed digitally on this site.
- The office staff will spend less time chasing up waivers etc. Members will not be able to register for sessions until all their waivers are signed.
- A second location can be set up to run the Hockettes and the money will be paid directly into the synchro account.
- The process will be much more straightforward.
- Jenette then showed the board examples of what the website will look like.
- Beta testers will be needed to evaluate the new website and members will need tutorials on how to use it.
- It would be good to get the new website up and running before the new membership year begins.

Motion: That the office staff should proceed in developing the website as presented at the board meeting on February 15th with an aim to roll it out on May 1st.

Proposed: Jenny Land, **Seconded:** Anjali, **Unanimous approval.**

Committee Reports:

Finance committee: Warwick Anderson, Craig Forsyth

Warwick has sent out a summary and report to the board members. The Hockettes have had a lot of outgoings in the past month which is reflected in the numbers. The club's finances are ahead for the whole year.

Hockettes: Erin Donovan

- The Junior Hockettes earned a silver medal at the Mozart cup in Austria. The teams have also just competed at the Midwestern Synchro sectional competition where everyone worked very hard to stay safe.
- There is an event exhibition and critique on Saturday February 19th at the Ice Cube.
- Next month the junior team is competing at the Synchro Nationals in Colorado.
- The junior team is also in contention for an alternate spot for the World Championships.
- Jenette is working with Erin to set up the sign-ups for next season's tryouts on April 9th and 10th.

Learn to Skate (LTS): Mary Johanson

- LTS sign up is open for the spring session. Many skaters have signed up already. The club is going to get to 600 LTS members by the end of the year. There are 591 members now. Mary is responding to lots of emails and questions.
- Three Special Olympians will be performing in Royal Oak on Saturday afternoon.
- Mary is planning on organizing an event for the Special Olympians in April.

Competitions: Ann Dougherty.

- The plans for the Margaret Faulkner Springtime invitational (May 19th to 22nd) are moving along.
- Registration is 95% ready to go live.
- The medals will be new this year.
- Ann will be starting to recruit volunteers after Melody on Ice.
- Ann will discuss moving the dates (or not) of Springtime with Steven Pottinger following a request from him.

Office Report: Craig Forsyth

- The office is very busy. Jenette has been setting up a sample website and Abbey and Mollie have been proofreading it and making suggestions.
- The spring LTS sign up opened on Friday and there have been a lot of questions from potential new members.
- Jenette has been helping Erin coordinate the volunteers for the exhibition on Saturday. She has also been helping with the Hockette tryouts sign ups.
- LTS has nearly 600 members. Last year the LTS membership total was 293.
- The club has 495 members which is an increase of 5 members since last month and an increase of 23 since this time last year.
- The profits from club ice are up but the club needs to be cautious because that can change very quickly.
- Spring ice sales for March, April and May will open on Sunday February 20th.
- The discounts for the quarters will be activated on March 25th.
- Some vendors' sales commissions are still due.
- The Porter pins are still selling online and more have been ordered. The club is selling \$20 to \$100 in pins each week.

HR Update: Bonnie Shay

There was a coaches meeting last week on zoom which was well attended.

Any Other Business:

Melody on Ice (MOI): Camille Ziolek

- MOI plans are moving fast. MOI is one month away.
- The picture night went well. Camille would like to thank Carmen for her work on that.
- Stacy Noel had done an amazing job on the costumes.
- The photographs are back, and they are working on the programs.
- The videographer and the locker rooms are also booked.
- Emily and Meredith are working on the choreography.

DEI: Erin Donovan and Matt Oonk.

- They had a meeting two weeks ago and are working on the DEI information and statements to put onto the website. Matt and Erin will send it to Jenette now so she can start uploading it as soon as she can.
- A variety of music has been played during skating sessions which has been well received.

Safe Sport: Jennifer Nguyen, Jenny Land.

- Jenny and Jennifer are moving forward with safe sport in the context of figure skating.
- They are looking at how SafeSport can support MOI
- They are designing a model to be applied to other programs.
- Jenny and Jennifer have reached out to the coaches and they have had a positive reaction from them.
- Julie Parks from U.S. Figure Skating may do a parent-oriented Safe Sport event during Nationals.

Governing Council Update: Ann Dougherty

- The club is sending the following delegates to the Governing council. Ann Dougherty, Jim Achtenberg, Bonnie Shay, Craig Forsyth, Warwick Anderson, and Carmen Fox. Jenette Maitz will be attending as an observer.

Any other Business.**Awarding small stipends for special achievements to skaters.**

- In the past the Hockettes who attended Mids or the Nationals were given punch cards to spend at the Cube Cafe.
- The club needs to develop new awards and it needs to be written down so that the coaches and skaters know what to expect.
- In the past Evan Bates has received a \$200 gift card when he has competed at the Olympics. He has now competed at the Olympics 4 times and this award should be revised.
- The Banner in the Olympic rink also needs to be updated and Craig suggested a bigger banner at the front of the building. Carmen also suggested a plaque to honor him as well.

Club Mask Policy.

Washtenaw Health Dept has assessed that Washtenaw County will be a medium risk level for covid from February 28th. This means that masks are optional for individuals who are not experiencing symptoms or have not been exposed to someone who has Covid. Individuals and organizations can still enforce the mask rule if their circumstances require it. Ann Arbor Public schools have not decided yet. Carmen has discussed wearing masks with the club's medical advisory board and wants the club to hold off on changing the mask policy until after MOI which ends on March 21st. Masks will always be worn in the club except when the skaters are performing on the ice until after MOI when it will be revised.

Coaches meeting.

- A survey was sent out to all the coaches and the topic items were set from the responses. The meeting was recorded for those who were not able to attend.
- Craig and the Office staff introduced themselves and gave an update on what they were doing.
- The coaches need to have a meeting every 6 months.
- Carmen will send out the recording and the notes she took to the board by the end of the week.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54pm

Date of next meeting: Tuesday April 19th, 2022

