



YShark Parent Organization
Pre-Planning Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2007
7:10pm – 8:25pm

In Attendance: Penny Weber, Jill Fletcher, Ray Ilkka, Matt Markey, Jamie Borrello, Andre Borrello, Steven Smock, James Shavrnock, Chet Swanton.

- **High School boys pricing:** Penny informed the group that some emails have been coming in regarding the pricing for the high school boys. Matt suggested that all questions and concerns should be sent to him. The parent organization agreed that a fair price for the boys should be \$120 for the season. Looking at the cost, we cannot pay the coaches if the members are not paying. The boys are able to still participate in Zones, States and 3 “Y” meets. When Heritage does not have practice the boys usually come to the Y for practice, which is always welcomed.
- **Please Come Back Letter:** Penny and Matt are putting together a survey instead of a letter to send out to old Shark members who have not signed up this year asking them why they are not swimming, if there are problems or things we can improve on. Good way to get feedback on the team.
- **Communications Person:** The purpose of this position is to be the “go-between” person between Chet, Matt and the parents. Penny is willing to continue with this position until someone is willing to take it on. It is a big job but making sure the parents are informed is extremely important.
- **Parents need to be checking the “new” website regularly for upcoming information.** The website is <http://webpages.charter.net/ymcasharks>. Once Jim is finished with it they will link it to the main YMCA website.
- **Beginning of the year party:** The Borrello’s are planning a beginning of the year party for all swimmers and their families. We are looking at September 30th from 2:00 – 4:00pm at the YMCA. The party will include volleyball, beanbag toss, and lots of other fun outdoor activities. The pool will NOT be open on that day. Hot dogs will be served and each family will be asked to bring a dish to pass. After eating, the parents will have their first official meeting to welcome all new parents, discuss any pertinent information about the season, hand out welcome folders and then questions will be answered. We are also going to recruit some high school girls to help out with the younger kids while the parents are meeting. Set up for the event will begin at 1:30pm. We need lots of helpers. In lieu of rain, the party will be moved into the small gym. The sponsorship flyers for the Dale Gooding Invitational will all be included in the welcome folders. We can get companies to sponsor for the programs, T-shirts and/or lane sponsors. We would like to try and have every family get at least one sponsor this year.
- **Dale Gooding:** This is our 42nd annual Dale Gooding Meet. We are looking at December 1, 2007 at Heritage H.S. but we are still waiting for a final confirmation from the school. To get the word out and pass out as many flyers and entrance sheets, we decided to call all area high schools and middle schools in order to email flyers to athletic directors, coaches, etc. We want to get as many swimmers involved as possible. We also decided that the \$5 T-shirt fee will just be included in the

entry fee and it will say the T-shirt is included. T-shirts will stay with a blue shade but the logo will be new and improved! We need lots of helping parents and sponsors for the meet.

- **Parent Organization Position Changes:** We all voted “yes” to the changes for the Parent organization positions that will be in this year’s handbook.
- **New Family Contacts:** All parents that hold a position in the organization will be given names and numbers of new swimmers and their families. It is our responsibility to call and welcome all new families to the YSharks. We can answer questions, guide them through their first season and make them feel welcome. We will equally divide up the new families so that no one-committee member is making all of the contacts.
- **Novice Meet:** We are still working on becoming the host of this year’s Novice Meet. We are looking at possibly hosting it at SVSU. There are some obstacles that we will have to deal with first but Matt and Chet are looking into them. For instance, right now they do not have a timing system and concessions could also cause a problem.

Next meeting – Tuesday October 16th 7:00pm at the YMCA. The November meeting will be Tuesday November 13th (one week early due to Thanksgiving).

Notes taken by Jill Fletcher, YSharks Secretary