

Arlington Aerials Parent Association (AAPA)

Wednesday, March 19, 2019

6:30-8 PM

Attendance

The following Board Members were in attendance: Melissa Bomberger, Cheryl Johnson, Ann Henshaw, Ali Chen, Dan Wielechowski, and Sharon Drewer. Heather Nemirow, Krista Citron, Angie Rollet, Carolyn Kunic, Michelle Hijl, Mike Hughes, Marlies Lepore, Maija Paegle, and Carly Meyer also attended.

Congress

A request was made to have AAPA contribute to the cost of a hotel room for congress for a coach bringing her dog, because she needs a room by herself because of the dog. The current tradition has been that we have paid for half the room for each coach (coaches have shared rooms). Melissa Bomberger made a motion to pay for all of the cost for this coach, minus the dog fee, on a one-time basis; Cheryl Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed. We agreed to discuss paying for each coach to have their own room at future away meets and congress at another meeting; we will look at how much was paid in hotel room costs this season in order to determine what the cost will be.

Minutes

Ann Henshaw made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting; Sharon Drewer seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer

We have about $13,000 in the bank, which is low for this time of year. This is because we covered the cost of all of states, all of the home meet fees for our gymnasts, and half the new leotards. The balance is also low because we had to refund 75% of the cost of Sunday of the home meet to people who could not compete because of the cancellation of the meet due to snow. Twelve families have not paid the meet fee payments yet. Discussion revolved around having families have to pay all of the fees at the beginning of the year (by September 30), before practices begin in order to simplify things for the treasurers and provide a pool of money to pay meet fees from. It was noted that other private gyms require that fees be paid up front. Ali and Dan will have a budget available in the beginning of the summer and can determine the amounts that parents can expect to pay at the beginning of the summer so people can plan ahead. Ali Chen made a motion that parents have to pay one lump sum payment by September 30th; Melissa Bomberger seconded. The motion passed.

Ali requested that we get an outside accountant for the purposes of financial review and tax review. She expects that those two things would cost $1000 total. She will get more information and we will vote next meeting.

Walk-On Items

Carly would like to have training in the fall, including a sports psychologist (mind), Body Dynamics to talk about common injuries (body), and Tony, someone Carly knows, to come potentially the first weekend of September to talk about why kids do gymnastics, coaches’ attitudes toward kids, and parents’ approaches to talking with their kids (soul). Carly is working on setting this up. This would be attended by gymnasts, coaches, and parents in the fall. She will look into how much this will cost (airfare, etc.)

Carly also mentioned the possibility of developing a training room supported by Body Dynamics - they would be here at the gym set hours for gymnasts to take advantage of if they have injuries or concerns. Questions were raised about how that would work with medical insurance, whether it would be physical therapy or athletic training, and how it would be paid for. Carly has spoken with Pete in the county and if we decide to proceed, he will bring it to the county and see what is required. Carly will ask Body Dynamics to present at our next meeting with a detailed proposal.

Melissa Bomberger mentioned that she would like to start recruiting people for AAPA earlier than last year, in the spring to the beginning of summer - last year we had good response from families that had not been involved before.

Action items to discuss at the next meeting: coaches appreciation night - maybe June 6 - and senior gifts. Ann Henshaw offered to help coordinate senior gifts (5 Xcel and 2 JO). Rec meet 5 PM and party afterward on June 15th. Tigers meet is March 30th, 2 sessions on Saturday. Parents were interested in another spirit wear order, or can parents order directly.

Maija also noted that parents were reminded recently if they were in arrears with Arlington County, so that may have been confusing for people if AAPA also approached them about owing money.

First round of tryouts (for pre-team) was Saturday - 70 kids tried out. Will probably have Stars and Dynamites next year. Will have another class of Rising Stars (hasn’t existed for a while). Will have 10 kids in each.

Next round of tryouts will be for Level 3 girls. Boys tryouts are May 4. Xcel tryouts are June 8th.

Carly suggested having a practice leotard that would be optional for kids to buy. The adapted class would use those leotards to go to special olympics gymnastics competition.

We discussed that it would be helpful to have a fundraising chair, a spirit wear coordinator, other roles. We also need to decide what coaches are getting for spirit wear - we had discussed $50 worth of spirit wear that they can choose, but had discussed tiers of subsidization for different levels of staff (rec class coaches, for example). Will plan to sell aerials merchandise during the rec meet/party.