

Blueback Swim Club Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 28, 2026

7pm via zoom

In attendance: Sarah Meijer, Marina Downs, Carin Henschel, Chris Street, Olgierd Ungehojer,
Nadia Gemeinhardt

Regrets: Nola Sambo, Mike Prest, Leah Sells, Trish Goldsworthy, Keith Goldsworthy

Recording Secretary: Sarah Grielens

1. **Call to Order** - 7:01pm

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

Motion to amend agenda to add 5.5 Current Budget. Marina moves. Nadia seconds.
Carried.

3. **Old Business**

3.1 Approval of Minutes from April 2, 2026

Marina moves. Nadia Seconds. Carried.

4. **Reports**

4.1 Coach Report

- April Mini Meet- 67 swimmers
- PG Moose Meet – 8 swimmers with 66% overall best times
- Whitehorse- Yukon Championships- 5 swimmers with 73% overall best times
- Prince Rupert Regional Meet- 29 swimmers with 73% best times. Terrace placed second.
- BC Summer games- Maelle and Micah attending, Xavier declined. Wildcart spot put forward for Marie-Aude.
- 13 and over camp with Jason Block the breaststroker from Calgary was very well attended- this cost the club \$1500.00.
- Need for regional meeting before the end of the year to discuss: Northern Coaching conference, 26/27 meet schedule, swim camps.
- Planning on how to commute to Kitimat to prep for Divisionals, Provincials and BC summer Games. Small group and will receive targeted training.
- Thinking about the composition of levels for next season and how many spots we will have open.
- Olgierd recently completed a Canadian Coach Association Nutrition course- finding ways to better communicate nutrition prep information for parents.

- Trying to find solution for last week of June – Bronze swimmers as we are losing pool space for the aquatic center to accommodate lifeguard training.
- We may see a drop off in attendance after Terrace meet.
- 2 lanes reserved in Kitimat to take us up to provincials and 1 lane afterwards leading to BC Summer Games.

4.2 Registrar Report

- We have seen a drop in registrations. Down to 94 swimmers and 7 Masters.
- May fees were kept as these recent withdrawals did not give 30 days notice

4.3 Treasurer Report

- Bookkeeper is stepping down. Marina and Sarah M. have been doing a lot of work in the background as a result and have been looking at the different pathways forward for Bookkeeper/Treasurer
- Presented income statement to end of April 2026
- Province suggested showing community involvement line items reflected in our budget
- Pool costs are over projected as extra lanes have been required
- Pool will increase our lane rentals by 2.5% this season and 2.5% next season
- Meet expenses more than projected
- Olgeird to possibly approach city for potential sponsorship of our two regional meets where pool rental would be covered.

5. New Business

5.1 Hiring Committee Head Coach

- Sarah Crawley, Marina and Sarah M. have struck a new hiring committee. Interviewed a very strong candidate currently with Nose Creek Swim Association. Lots of head coaching, lane management, parent communication and various swim software platform experience.
- She is committed to her current job to the end of August but can start earlier remotely if needed.
- **Motion** to extend an offer of employment for the position of Head Coach to Chelanne Wolff. Marina moves. Nadia seconds. Carried.
- The board wishes to acknowledge and give appreciation for the other coaching staff for taking on additional times and duties. The board especially thanks Olgierd for acting as head coach this season!

5.2 Fundraising Points System

- Carin has done a lot of work and is close to having this document complete. With the next season's budget needing to address higher coaches wages, lower membership and the hiring of a head coach, the board will table this new initiative until October/November board meeting once the projected financial standing of the club for 26/27 is clear.

5.3 Fee increase & registration wording

- Noted that this club's budget is based on full year registrations. New policy wording should be developed to address early withdrawals and potential financial penalties. Tabled.

5.4 Grants – received and allocations

- Terrace Community Fund allotted \$3,500.00 to the club. This grant proposal needed to demonstrate operational needs. Grant proposal included a Starter System, back up touch pads and new flags.
- A starter system is mandated by Swim BC and our flags show former sponsors and are not in alignment with our current branding.
- **Motion** to use this grant towards purchasing a new starter system and club flags. Carin moves. Marina seconds. Carried.
- Seabridge Gold allotted \$500.00 towards a swim meet in 2027
- Carin secured a \$300.00 Safeway gift card for the June home meet.

5.5 Budget 2025-2026

- **Motion** To allocate \$30,000 in our current budget towards the purchase of a new score board. Marina moves. Nadia seconds. Carried.

5.5 Budget 2026-2027

- **Motion** To increase swimmer's fees effective for the 26/27 season as follows:
 - Green Fees – no change
 - Red/Blue- 3.5%
 - Bronze- 3%
 - Silver 4.5%
 - Gold 4%
 - Masters 7%

Carin moves. Marina seconds. Carried

- **Motion** To add a \$30.00 equipment fee per member at time of Registration for the 26/27 season.
Carin moves. Marina seconds. Carried.
Noted that the language for the equipment fee should be clear to parents as to what this money is used for.

5.7 AGM planning

- AGM will be held at the pool from 5-6:15pm Tuesday, June 30th. Notice has been distributed by email, facebook and on PoolQ
- Free swim 5-5:45 while AGM is held in the conference room
- Awards on pool deck 5:45-6:15pm with parents in viewing area
- Coaching staff is working on awards winners. Plaques are with the engraver and ready for names
- Vince confirmed will give Skittle count to Sarah G. Sarah G. to prepare Skittle awards for distribution
- Embroidered towels ready for 3 senior swimmers
- Carin will organize cupcake baking...approx. 200
- Secretary and Fundraiser positions will be vacant
- Sarah G to stay on as member at large to address policy renewal to keep the club compliant with Swim BC

5.7 Riverboat Days Parade

- Parade is a large commitment but we have seen increases in registration as a result. Suggest do a call out to parents at the AGM if anyone wants to take that on and board members can support but not lead.

5. Adjourn -8:30pm