



FASTLANE

Club news and information

April/May 2009

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Introduction & Executive News:

Where has the time gone? It seems like just yesterday was the beginning of short course. April was the beginning of long course season. April also saw our club reach their goal and won team champs to get back into division 2.

May was a busy month for meets. We, as a club, attended 4 meets during the month of May.

Work has been on going with the revision of the bylaws and should be ready to be adopted at our Annual General Meeting (AGM) (see date below)

Coach Dan has created a list of club records which we will be posting on our website. This is a great way for your swimmer to see how they stack up against the swimmers of the past.

There will be one final Fastlane released in July to sum up the season and Fastlane will be shutdown for the summer. There will be emails and a brief Fastlane in late August just to prepare everyone for the new season.

IMPORTANT DATES:

JUNE 18, 7pm AGM

JUNE 22, 4:30 – 5:30 fun swim followed by the year-end banquet 6-8pm at Joey Calzone's.

Past Meets:

We had great success in the pool over the last two months.

April;

Long course started with Neor #4 in Sudbury. The club sent 16 swimmers to this meet and was very successful for the first long course meet of the season.

Second meet in April was team champs were 20 swimmers represented the club in Brantford. They were successful in getting the club out of division 3 and back into division 2 by winning the meet.

May;

The first meet in May was Neor #5 in which 16 swimmers traveled to Elliot Lake. Six new swimmers made their debut at this meet and did extremely well. Next was East Side Mario's meet in Sudbury. Nineteen swimmers attended this meet and even though the

Competition from Southern Ontario was tough, our swimmers did not back down and showed the talent we have as well.

There were two meets on the same weekend, one in Thunder Bay and one in North Bay. Thunder Bay, being a long course meet, saw 12 of the level 1, 2, and some 3's attend this meet. Teams from across Northwestern Ontario and Minnesota gathered for this 3-day meet. These 12 swimmers brought home 61 medals of which 38 were gold.

North Bay saw a small but determined group of 4 swimmers attend their meet. Even though their numbers were low, this group of swimmers made SSMAC's presence known to the rest of the clubs.

All meet press releases can be found on the SSMAC web site and online at www.sootoday.com, www.saultsports.com and www.saultthisweek.com

Upcoming Meets;

June 12 – 14, Jeno Tihanyi LC Championships, Sudbury

July 2 – 5, LC JR Provincial Championships, Etobicoke

July 16 – 19, Age Group Nationals, Montreal

Check out the website www.ssmac.com for complete schedules, newsletters, press releases and links to our proud sponsors



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Fundraising news:

APRIL 6 we had a pasta dinner/sports nutrition talk/pep rally/ fundraiser for Team champs at Joey Calzone's. This was an educational and a fun filled evening. Thanks to Kim Fisher for her time and knowledge that the swimmers and their families can use. Thanks also go out to Gord Widgett for helping to organize this important event.

Shop and Support.

So far Shop and Support has brought in just over \$1,820 for the club by just ordering the cards you use everyday. So you can see, it is an easy way to raise your fundraising commitment funds. Remember, you can order cards for friends and family members as well and get the credit towards your account. The order dates are on the SSMAC calendar that can be found on the website. We are now order only once a month to save shipping charges. The next order is June 13. Shop and support will shut down for the summer. If you want to continue, please contact Janice at 946-5748, or ssmac.shopsupport@gmail.com

FUNDRAISING BOTTLE DRIVE

The Executive approved a liquor bottle drive to raise money for the club during the holiday season. We had ten families contribute to this fundraiser raising \$192.10. We will continue this fundraiser on an on going basis and if you accumulate bottles or get them donated by family and friends, please contact Rob and he will arrange a time to pick them up. These included all returnable beer, wine or liquor bottles. The total of money collected from these bottles will be taken off of your fundraising commitment. With a couple of long weekends coming, it is a good time to ask friends, families and neighbours to save those bottles.

Anyone collecting bottles over the summer can contact Rob for pick up and credit to your account for next season.

Most everyone has reached or exceeded their fundraising commitment for the season. Those who haven't are very close and will be contacted over the next few weeks regarding the balance owing. If you have any concerns or questions about your fundraising efforts or commitment status, please contact Rob at ssmac.fundraiser@gmail.com

REMINDER***

IMPORTANT MESSAGE: If you eat at Joey Calzone, bring your receipts to the SSMAC office. We would like to thank Joey Calzone's for his support of our club and the recent swim meet. We need to show him the support we as a club give back to him, as we are in the process of renegotiating a new contract with him for meet sponsorship. So please collect those receipts and place them in the fundraiser file in the office.

Anyone interested in part of a fundraising committee or has an idea for a fundraising event please contact Rob Rock, Fundraising chair, at ssmac.fundraiser@gmail.com

GETTING INVOLVED:

At the upcoming AGM please consider running for a position on the executive or getting involved with one of the newly created positions from the new bylaws. We are still looking for someone who would like to start up the social committee. This position requires someone who would like to plan a couple of events through the year to promote team building. They could work in connection with the fundraising committee and make the social event a fundraiser as well. There are many other positions available, which help towards your participation points as well as get you involved. Please contact the executive if you are interested in becoming part of this important part of the club.



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Extra Credit:

We would like to recognize the accomplishments of our swimmers out of the water as well as learn a little more about them.

Unfortunately nothing was submitted this month and I am sure with track and field many of our swimmers did well. For everything that was missed, we would like to congratulate you on your hard work.

We would then like to take a moment to recognize the following SSMAC swimmers for reaching the Top 50 ranked swimmers based on their short course results.

Ranking in the Top 50 for both Nationally and Provincially for their respective age groups were Brian Lee, Shane Rock, Kalen Critchley, Kyle Matthews and Christopher Carlyle.

Ranking in the Top 50 Provincially in their respective age group were Steven Lee, Julia Turgeon, Marina Fournier and Sarah Theodossiou.

Please send any information like this to the newsletter so we can publish and recognize our swimmers outside the pool as well. Please submit to ssmac.newsletter@gmail.com

Birthdays:

June

Kate Mohammadi 1st
Francesco (Franc) Marrato 3rd
Michael Lawrence 6th

July

Rayne Fisher 7th
Charlotte Reich 11th
Steven Lee 12th
Julia Turgeon 20th
Miya Thomas 24th
Charlie Elder 26th
Kyle Matthews 29th

Please contact me if you want me to announce ANYONE's birthday.

Swimmer Additions:

This is a new addition to our newsletter that will allow of swimmers to voice some of their ideas about their experiences with swimming. This is a great opportunity for the younger swimmer to learn that from the older swimmers and maybe even the other way as well.

My First Time at Team Champs
By Alex Gelmych

Team Champs was Awesome! Where should I start, maybe with the bus ride? It was long but the stops were great...eating at Licks was a highlight for me. Our hotel was great. It was fun sharing a room with friends and we never went hungry as we were staying in the "Food Room". We had all the meals and the home baking for the swimmers stored and prepared in our room.

Our team looked great in our specially designed ipod T-shirts - thanks to Rayne F. We were really easy to see, and lots of people commented on our shirts. The pool was really crowded, especially during finals. To add to the confusion, the meet was double ended and there was no marshalling. You really had to pay attention to the events and the program or you could miss your swim. It was exciting to have the opportunity to swim up an age group in the relays. Competing in more relays and earning points for your team really felt good.

Finals were very exciting. You could stand right at the side of the pool and the racers were close, all of the finals swimmers were introduced, and the music was super loud and good. It was like a party. It helped that I wasn't nervous because 10 and under swimmers don't swim in finals!

When we were about to head home on the bus everybody was pooped. The senior boys relay team really woke us up when they showed up on the bus in white shirts and ties. They looked as good as the NHL players arriving for a game. Coach Dan must have been proud.

What a great experience. I learned:

- 1) It's fun to be part of a team, (winning is fun too!);
- 2) To listen to my coaches they, know what they are talking about;
- 3) If your parent is a chaperone LISTEN to them;
- 4) That drinking enough and eatig well actually works;
- 5) To bring a pillow for the overnight ride home.



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Coaches Notes: By Coach Dan

. “Two hundred years of American technology has unwittingly created a massive cement playground of unlimited potential, but it was the minds of 11 year olds that could see that potential”

Craig Stecyk 1975

This quote reflects the Z boys or Zepher skateboard team that revolutionized the sport of skateboarding in the early 1970's. In 2001, the Zepher team was featured prominently in a documentary film titled 'Dogtown and Z-boys' and later in 2005 into a feature motion picture titled 'Lords of Dogtown'.

Dogtown was a portion of Santa Monica, California that comprised the communities of south Santa Monica, Venice and Pacific Ocean Park. Local surfers Craig Stecyk, Jeff Ho and Skip Engblom founded 'Jeff Ho and Zepher Surfboard productions' that envisioned custom surfboard making and design. In the midst of establishing their business they founded the Zepher competition team. The training epicenter of the Zepher surfer team was Pacific Ocean Park Pier (the POP). This neglected piece of real estate had once been an amusement park that had been closed five years previous and was a prestigious area for a small and fierce band of local surfers. This site was considered dangerous and essential testing grounds for emerging Zepher competition team talent.

Skateboarding was inspired in the Malibu Beach area in the early sixty's as an after surfer activity. In many instances the designs of early skateboards were clones of surfboards however with clay wheels and crude wood platforms. Later, urethane wheels enabled the sport to rise to a new level with improvements in performance, stability and by extension, speed. Further, it would enable skateboarders to make surfer inspired moves on concrete. The low surfer style became the trademark of the Zepher competition team. Soon the team was looking for locations to find banked concrete and asphalt that would emulate the world of breaking waves that were their original inspiration. Central to this riding of the virtual waves was an emphasis on style.

In conjunction with the enhancements in skateboard performance was a drought in southern California in the early 1970's. The skaters took full advantage of this opportunity to scout empty concrete pools to further surfing inspired skateboard moves. This truly took the sport from horizontal to vertical. Hundreds of pools across the Los Angeles basin were empty and artifacts to the urban guerillas that the skateboard culture was becoming. Skaters eluded landowners, real estate agents, and police to have an opportunity to master their skills. Pools partially emptied were pumped out in order to skate. Pools that were filled with sand were dug out and skated.

Soon Zepher skateboarders were entering local competitions that included slalom racing and judged freestyle skate events. Considered underdogs and outcasts, the Zepher team immediately inspired a new philosophy of freestyle moves and unconventional style. Judges were confused about scoring the new style. However, there was no disputing the Zepher team had superior skills and significant talent. Manufacturers of skateboards immediately understood the talent and energy of these skaters and the offers quickly rolled into the mix. By 1975, the several national media publications would document the abilities and talents of the Z boys and the "Dogtown" movement would spread across the country. Within three years, members of the Zepher team were showered with endorsements and promotional contracts that allowed them to travel the world.

The Zepher team would eventually disband due to the endorsements, the closure of the Zepher Surfboard productions, and conflicting egos. Many themes exist in the story of Dogtown and the Z boys. These themes included: the evolution and innovation within sport, the culture of sport, the relationships derived through sport, perils of commercialism, mastery to a form of art, and the importance of process to success. Further, it is an inspirational account of love for a sport and the passion that can derive from its participants.

SSMAC FASTLANE is the newsletter of the Sault Ste. Marie Aquatic Club.

Submit content to: ssmac.newsletter@gmail.com or call 942-8657.

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