

President Report - April 14, 2025

This past month (rather week, really) was highlighted by the Comp team's first trip off the island to a swim meet this season. Mable Moran was held in Richmond, BC at Watermania this past weekend and the girls did very well, and most importantly, had a good time. We are very proud of their performances this weekend. The girls performed their Beetlejuice routine to the delight of the crowd. They finished 6th in routine and 5th in the championship!

It was a great event to attend as a parent as the hotel was within walking distance to the pool, what a convenient feature. And it was extra special to see a bunch of familiar faces as the Masters club was in attendance and absolutely rocked it! The girls performed a wicked, rocking routine and placed first! Congratulations to Becky, Jessica, Christine and Lisa, you ladies were awesome out there.

Next up is the Jean Peters Provincial Championships being conveniently held in Nanaimo, BC this year. This will be the first event for the LComp team who will join the Comp team in Nanaimo in May. This is an exciting time for the LComp girls and their parents with it being in Nanaimo. We have an exciting opportunity to support our small club in big numbers so please tell your family and friends to save the date to come watch Saturday, May 17. The schedule is released closer to the date and we will provide these details as soon as we get them. *(Generally speaking the girls will perform their individual 'figures' on Saturday morning, then in the afternoon there are typically solos and duets. Then on Sunday are the team performances. Or something like that.)*

The pool referendum is over. The expansion was not approved. Our club will continue to struggle for extra pool space, but are lucky to have a great, deep pool that we can train in weekly in Nanaimo, it could be a lot worse. Our pool times will not be affected for construction, of course. Does our community need a bigger pool? Absolutely. Hopefully, the City of Parksville will resume conversations in the coming years. Don't hold your breath, though.

I picked up the sound system after the second repair. Coach Lisa has noted it is lacking in volume. We are going to look at it again or test another speaker or something this week. More to come. Not quite resolved, yet.

The swim-a-thon was a great event, once again. It's a fun event, the swimmers did great and I think a whole bunch of personal bests were set this year. Way to go girls!

Summer synchro? Maybe. I have been able to secure pool space for Mon/Wed/Thu/Fri of the first week of July/summer for 2 hours each day, 3 lanes from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. And/or the same 3 lanes for 1 hour on Tues/Thurs night from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm for the four weeks of July. So, we could run an 'Intro to Synchro', or whatever you want to call it, class for 8 hours in mornings, or 8 hours on weeknights. Debbie has offered to coach, but we need another person to be present. Debbie can confirm, but she can work with an AquaGo Assistant which opens up possibilities of Comp kids being the second person, such as Farah or Marina, depending on their summer schedules and interest. We need to figure it out quickly, as I need to let the RDN know tomorrow if we want to do this or not. So, let's discuss this later on, together. Marketing opportunities still exist with the RDN guide book, I believe.

Thanks to Jenny for jumping in and running one last fundraiser before the end of the year, this one if you haven't heard is for Gunter Meats. Got some freezer space? Order some delicious, wholesome grown meat from a local farmer and support the club along the way. Also I would like to highlight Jenny for all her hard work this year and for stepping in and stepping up. I think the fundraising this year has been off the charts, great job! The raffle was awesome and I'm stoked for Gunters. Our volunteers are the life-blood of the club, so thank you, Jenny.

Another huge shout out to Becky for defaulting back to our secretary position, taking meeting minutes and sending out club emails, I am very grateful for her help. Thank you so much Becky!

Speaking of volunteers, we need board members! This is a volunteer board run club. Without our volunteers, we would have two options: fold the club or hire a part time club manager to be administrator. This is very obviously the same tactic Jessica used to perfection about two years ago right now that prompted *me* to put *my* hand up. And here *I* am two years later, asking for *your* help. It's up to *you*, really.

That all being said, I have a daughter who loves this sport. But she is entering high school next year and has openly discussed the idea of not swimming next year due to various reasons. She may have a younger sister who may join the club next year, but that is not a certainty.

That being said, I believe it is a good time to begin the search for the next President of the swim club. From what I understand, it is my duty to stay on as a director or board member for a year. I'd be willing to step into a Vice President or Director-at-Large role to fully support the next person on their journey. And let's be honest here, Jessica, she's the real hero and knowledgeable one, I think she'll still be around, too. I would like to

finish by saying that I am grateful for my time spent in this role and all the support that I have received from Jessica, Becky, Carol, Lisa and countless others, but I think the time is right to make the change.

See you at the pool,
Mark Beuerman
Club President