

# Pine Bush Aquatic Club Newsletter

December 2006

## A Few Words from the President



This year I will be adding a column to each newsletter to help keep swimmers and parents informed and to maintain the lines of communication. Each column will highlight concerns that parents have had over the past month and inform you of club policy.

I'd like to start by congratulating the swimmers and parents for a very successful first dual meet against the White Plains Riptides. It was an exciting meet and it was just the beginning to a very successful season.

At the October 30<sup>th</sup> Board meeting several parents attended who wanted to speak about issues that were bothering them. This is exactly how the club is supposed to work. Remember this is your club so please say something if you have a concern. The parents expressed several concerns which I feel may also be shared by others so I'd like take a few lines and go over those points and the Board's position.



- ◆ *Practice not being offered 5 days a week.* The aquatic club is not the

only user of the pool facilities therefore during some weeks other groups may have the pool. For instance varsity home meets have first priority at the high school pool. The high school boys' varsity season has also begun and we will have to work our schedule around their meets. The boys' varsity meets are listed on the calendar page of the website. We also share PAK with another club on Wednesday's which is why our start time is 5:00 on those days. We are trying to alternate the days a practice group is off when we only have one pool.



- ◆ *I'm paying the same yearly dues but my child is only swimming 45 minutes a session.* This is the first year with the realigned practice groups and it was felt by the Board that when you join the club you are joining for the long term. It is our hope that your swimmer will progress through the various levels to reach the upper groups which swim for 2 hours. Keeping the payment the same for all groups simplifies our record keeping and allows the swimmers to move from group to group as they progress. If we instituted a tiered payment system, moving up a group could only happen at the beginning of the

season. Other local teams with tiered payment schedules will allow you to move up but you have to pay for the entire season at that higher rate.



- ◆ *Practicing 75 minutes a session is not enough for my child to advance to the upper groups.* The Board, volunteer parents and the coaches met to develop the new practice schedule. Our experienced coaches believe that the length of the practice sessions is appropriate for the swimmers to refine their swim technique. Most of the swimmers in this group are under 10 and are not physically ready to move to the group which begins to emphasize yardage. (distance)



- ◆ *Starting practice late due to installing the lane lines.* Some of the parents informed the board of shorter practice time due to waiting for the lanes to be installed at PAK. The coaches and life guards have been arriving early to get the lanes in place before the start time.



- ◆ *Can my swimmer change practice groups during the year?* Yes, the swimmers can move to a different group. Please talk to the coach of your swimmer before practice starts and ask them to evaluate your child for moving up a group. The coach

will let you know if your swimmer is ready to move up. The next step will be to try a few practices with the new group to see if they are ready. If they think the new group is too much they can go back to their old group. The coaches have been looking for kids that could move up a group but you don't have to wait for the coaches to come to you.

Well that was more than a few words. Please contact me with your comments or suggestions.

Email: [gsable@hvc.rr.com](mailto:gsable@hvc.rr.com)

Phone: 361-3737

Cell: 845-346-6059.

I will gladly meet with you to work together to enhance our swim program. Remember Swimming is Fun!



## Thanks!

- To all of the volunteers for our Mini Meet in October. It wouldn't have happened without you.
- Debbie Lapinski who has worked the entire fall making sure that our new swim suits are in!
- Sweet Lil's Deli and Bakery in Bullville for your generous donations to the Mini Meet and our dual meet on November 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Debbie Jacobs for collecting dues.
- Donna Boncek and her fine concession stand crew for keeping us nourished and well fed.
- Gaye Sable for putting together the mini meet program.
- Judy Goldberg for organizing the Pasta Party.
- Coach Heil, Coach Denise, Coach Jimmy, Coach Tracy, Coach Casey,

Coach John, Coach Jeanne and Coach Vicki for working with us.

- Ben Miller , Matt Schomber and Betsy Byrne for alerting the club that our website was down so we could get it up and running again.

## WSSC Invitational



An invitational is a meet where many teams from our league meet and compete. This meet is held at the same pool where our league holds the championship meet in March. All swimmers are encouraged to participate in this meet as it will help to make you more familiar with the Washingtonville pool. Swimmers may pick up the form at the pool or on the PBAC website.

This is a great meet for those swimmers who are not the fastest in their age group. Anyone with a best time faster than the cut off time listed on the events sheet must swim in the “open” events. Swimmers whose best time is slower than the cut off may swim in the events with the cut off time. This eliminates some of the competition which may result in placing higher and receiving medals. In the past Washingtonville has given out nice medals and ribbons for those who place 1<sup>st</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> in individual events and 1<sup>st</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> for relays.

The meet is scheduled for January 13<sup>th</sup>. The day’s events are scheduled so the 10 and under swimmers swim in the morning session and the 11 and older swimmers compete in the afternoon. A swimmer may choose 3 events to swim and our coaches will determine relays. The cost

is \$4 per event. Parent volunteers for classroom monitors are needed. Join in the fun!

## Welcome!



Welcome to Coach Vicky who started working with the blue group earlier this season!

## We Have a Winner!



Congratulations to the Silva Family who won a free year with the PBAC at our Pasta Party! Happy swimming!

## Reminders



- Third payment due on December 18<sup>th</sup>. Mail your payment to Debbie Jacobs at 17 Kimberly Court, Bloomingburg, NY 12721.
- Arrive to practice early so you are ready to swim and can stretch.
- Attend the next PBAC Board Meeting. January 4, 2007. 5:30 pm at the high school. We will be committing the first 30 minutes to parents concerns. Come and help shape your club.
- Parents are responsible for siblings of swimmers and swimmers who are waiting for their sibling to finish practice. Please be responsible and

know where your children are and what they might be up to.



## Classified Ads



**WANTED-** Do you love nachos? Do you love to laugh? How do you feel about “coffee”? We are looking for a *Concession Stand Coordinator* for the 2007-2008 swim season. Interested parties (yes, it could be more than one person) should contact Donna Boncek for on the job training and incite. Work with a great crew!

**WANTED-** Individuals (as many as 4 positions open) who would like to work with others on a grant writing committee for the Club. Find innovative ways to get funds for our club.

## Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!



## Have a Question?



Need help answering a PBAC question? Call Gary Sable, our club President. Call him at: home – 361-3737, cell: 346-6059

Email – [gsable@hvc.rr.com](mailto:gsable@hvc.rr.com)



## Information Is Just a Click Away

Check out the PBAC website at <http://www.pbpiranhas.org/> where you can find:

- Results of all meets
- Look-up swimmer’s times
- Scheduled meets
- Links to other swim clubs
- Club records
- Sign-up for email notices

\*webpage maintained by Matt Taylor, Gaye Sable

### PBAC Board and Main Contacts

- President – Gary Sable
- Vice President – Gary Jacobs
- Treasurer – Toni Rockwell
- Recording Secretary – Gaye Sable
- Corresponding Secretary – Judy Muller
- Statistician – Antoinetta Witte
- US Representative – Eileen Daly
- School Liaison – Jeanne Dion
- Concession Stand Coordinator – Donna Boncek
- Registration and Fees – Debbie Jacobs
- Head Timer – Joe Blaine

Newsletter – Judy Muller