



# Marcus Swim and Dive Booster Club Booster Meeting / Parent's Meeting

August 16, 2021  
via WebEx

## Meeting Minutes

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

#### a. Executive Board Members

- i. Sarah Brown - President
- ii. Angie Morrison – VP Spirit Wear
- iii. Janet Smerud – VP Team Events / Fundraising
- iv. Christine Harvey – Secretary
- v. Agnieszka Warcholińska – Treasurer

#### b. Coaches (not present)

- i. Coach Sherry McGuire – head dive coach for all of LISD, celebrated 25 yrs with LISD
- ii. Coach Shannon Gillespy – swim coach, been with MHS since 1994

### 2. Head Coach Brandon Dion

#### a. Introduced student leadership

- i. Team Captains – Sydney Rice & David Armstrong (dive), Maya Nannayakkara (women's team), and Jaeseo (men's team)
- ii. Junior Representatives / Spirit Leaders – Megan Marlin and Chase Dion
- iii. Sophomore Representatives – Paige Wood and Cylas Dion

#### b. Communication for Athletes

- i. First and best way is to come to practice! Information for the athletes will be given directly to the athletes. Coach finds it best to start educating athletes to be responsible.
- ii. He will be using the Remind app and will give the sign on to the new athletes. He has not given it out yet – needs to clean out some old members to make some room.

#### c. Tentative Meet Schedule

- i. A&M Meet - still not confirmed and Varsity only this year
- ii. Some meets are set. Some are still waiting for the final confirmation.
- iii. Coach Brandon did try to select about 2 meets a month.
- iv. Athletes are expected to attend meets. Transportation will be provided to an away meet and LISD rules are that athletes ride on the bus to and from. Home meets will be at the WAC and athletes are expected to get their own transportation there.

### 3. Communication for Parents:

- a. For parents, Coach Brandon mentioned that Sarah Brown does try and send out information (such as change to start / end practice times, meet times, etc.) through emails and social media. She does not receive that information directly from Coach Brandon – but from her own daughter. So, sometimes your own child may beat giving you the information before she can get it posted.
- b. **Social media** – went over the different areas that the booster club posts information, including Facebook (mostly for parents), Instagram (mostly for athletes) and Twitter (for general public). She also mentioned that we have a SmugMug account that we can post team pictures to and share.
  - i. **NEED:** Is there a parent that would like to take photos for us this year - at meets and team events? We are in need a team photographer this year. Please contact Sarah if interested.

- c. **Website** – [marcusswimdive.com](http://marcusswimdive.com). Information that you can find on the site:
- i. **Team Events** – a list of our meets. Be careful to look at the ones that go with your athlete. Some are Swim only, Dive only or Both. Times have **NOT** been decided for the meets. As we get information (even morning / afternoon / evening), we will update the website with that information. TBD in the events means we don't know yet.
  - ii. **Forms / Documents** – several forms for parents on our website:
    1. **Athlete Driving Permission Form** – for athletes that can drive and want to opt out of riding the LISD bus to/from practice to/from MHS; this form is not about just being able to drive to practice from home; it's about opting out of the bus provided by LISD between the pool and MHS/MHS9
    2. **LISD Permission Form** – for when the athletes might miss school due to a swim / dive meet. It's a blank LISD form that can be printed and signed. Coach Brandon does send out permission forms when needed ... this is just a blank as a backup.
    3. **LISD Athlete Transportation Release Form** – all athletes are required to ride the bus to/from school athletic events (aka. Meets). But, if you have a valid reason that you need to drive your athlete / pick them up early from the meet ... this is the form to use and fill out. It is to be sent to Coach at least 48 hours in advance of the event.
  - iii. **Scholarship Information**
    1. Booster Club gives out 4 total scholarships to Senior athletes. There are 2 more scholarships that MHS athletes (along with FMHS swim athletes) are eligible for. The list is on our website
    2. All of our scholarship stuff goes through LEF ... and LEF hasn't updated their website with this year's dates. As soon as they do, we will update the link and the deadline dates.
  - iv. **Meet Results**
    1. Complete meet results for the meets that MHS has attended for the last 3 years are on the website.
    2. Also, for returning athletes, their times from last season are listed under Events & Competition (in back office / black bar on left of screen) and then Meet Results. We will continue to enter times for athletes going forward this year. It's a great way to set personal goals for the athletes during the season ... beat your best time!!
  - v. **Diving**
    1. Our team is very loaded with swimmers. We have 6 divers this year. However, their contribution to the team is quite strong. When MHS goes to meets as a full team and it is scored against other teams, MHS does very well because of our divers. Please always help support our teammates going off the boards.

#### 4. **Booster Club Purpose & Offerings**

- a. First off – **Water Polo**. Water Polo and Swim & Dive are all the same families. We just do 2 different sports at different times of the year. Currently, Swim & Dive Booster is completely separate from Water Polo Boosters. Swim and Dive runs from Aug to late February. Water Polo then picks up at the end of February and into May. Starting in the fall of 2022, Water Polo will become an official UIL sport ... and will move from Aug to Oct. There are plans to combine both boosters and become just Marcus Aquatics next year. You will be getting more information about that during the year.
- b. **Booster Meetings** – we are required per our bylaws to have 4 meetings a year. Last night's meeting counts as 1. Sarah will post upcoming meetings throughout the year, if you would like to attend. She assumes most of the meetings will be virtual / online. Agendas will be sent out ahead of time.
- c. **Team Uniform** – the following are the items that your athlete will receive (or have received) from the Booster Club / Team. Coach Brandon sent out a google form last week to have the athletes fill out asking for sizes for some of these items:
  - i. **Team Shirt** – design has been sent to the printers; we should be receiving those in the next few weeks.
  - ii. **Team Backpack** – every NEW athlete will receive a backpack. The backpacks are intended to last all 4 years that the athlete is with the team. If an athlete leaves before the season is

over or even after 1 year, they may be required to return the backpack. Otherwise, the backpack stays with the athlete. So, keep them clean and good shape!!

- iii. **Lanyard** – these were handed out on Thursday to all athletes in attendance. Every athlete should receive 1.
- iv. **Team Suit** – Black suit this year. For the women's team, they had the 2 styles to choose from.. The Cut Out and the Fast Back. The form they used had pictures of both styles for them to choose from. For the men's team, they will be going with the speedo-type / brief for the entire mens team.
- v. **Team Jacket** – They are a red ¼ zip pullover with our swim logo on them. All NEW athletes (including the ones who did not receive one last year) will receive a jacket. The form that Coach Brandon sent out asked for a size from each athlete. Bottoms (to go with the jacket) – we decided last year to let the athlete decide, as long as it's **black**. For bottoms, there are 2 choices to pick from:
  - 1. Whatever you have at home in your closet ... athletes can wear plain black sweatpants, leggings, long shorts, old swim & dive warm up pants, etc. No "booty shorts" or anything questionable.
  - 2. Booster club will be opening an online store later this week. In this store, we will offer affordable black joggers, straight leg sweat pants and a basketball short ... all with our logo on them. You do not have to purchase ... it is only an option of items that are already approved.

#### d. Fundraising

- i. Our fall fundraiser (Vertical Raise) will be intended to go towards the Varsity trip to A&M. Therefore, only Varsity athletes will be required to participate in that. More information will be coming out soon.
  - ii. Fundraising is still important to cover the other team events that we do and to cover administrative costs. We will have things like Bite Nights that we hope the team will roll out for.
  - iii. **Fan Shirts** – we will be selling fan shirts again this year. Fan Shirts are a tshirt with our logo / name on the front and the athlete's last name on the back. Athletes sell these shirts to their friends around MHS (\$20) and collect lots of different ones from all the organizations / athletic groups / fine arts, etc. Swim&Dive and Water Polo do VERY well at MHS because they are so different.
- e. **Team Events** – We know how important these are to the athletes, and particularly the Seniors (traditions!!). We try to plan one or two "fun" things a month.
- i. **Team Dinners** – These are normally once a month either hosted by a volunteer host family or at a location we can fit the team at. We do potluck dinners and a sign up for food items.
    - 1. **NEED:** We are looking for 2 families to host ... one on a Monday in Sept and one on a Monday in October. Please reach out to me if would be willing to host.
  - ii. **HOCO Carnival** -- Erin Matison is leading this for us. Theme is "Game On". Marcus Aquatics will have a booth out there with our fishing game and we will sell bottled water for \$1. We will be looking for athletes to come out and work it. Water Polo is doing a separate booth. I'm sure they will send out details later.
  - iii. **Team Bonding Event** – in the past, we have gone to Group Dynamix as a team. Booster Club covers the cost and a pizza lunch. We may end up there or another similar place.
  - iv. **Banquet** – I would like to move this to the end of February and really need someone to step up and agree to lead this.
    - 1. **NEED:** I need someone to take over Banquet Lead asap!! There are items that need to be started now. Please reach out to Sarah if you would be interested.
  - v. **Senior Night** – This will be Sept 28 and Heather Slack will be leading this evening. She will need a host of helpers to especially do set up. And she could use some help with some of the prepped items. Please let us know if you would like to help her.
- f. **Spirit Wear – Online Store!!!**
- i. This is a fundraising opportunity for us – so it really helps out the team!

- ii. It will open later this week and go until **Aug 31**.
  - iii. It's all online, like last year ... and you can pay with credit card.
  - iv. Delivery will be to the pool and handed out to your athletes. If this is a gift (birthday, christmas, etc) ... and you don't want your athlete to see it, then please reach out to Angie or Sarah and let them know. We will arrange for a separate delivery.
  - v. Some of the items we will have had in the store are:
    - 1. Fun tshirts for the whole family
    - 2. Hoodie and a sweatshirt
    - 3. Baseball cap
    - 4. Yard signs
    - 5. Car decals
    - 6. PJ Pants for cold, early winter mornings or worn out afternoons
    - 7. Bottoms for the before mentioned Uniform: joggers, sweatpants and basketball shorts.
  - vi. Angie might need to add or subtract some items after the store opens, because shipping and supplies have been a little dicey this year.
  - vii. The goal is to have the items you ordered distributed to you 2 weeks after the close of the store.
- g. **Meals for Meets** – Laura Stevenson is our lead on this. When your athlete goes to a HS meet that runs through lunch / dinner (sometimes breakfast), the booster club provides a meal for them.
- i. Meals consist of a sandwich, chips, cookie and a water. Athletes need to prepare themselves that this is not a 7 course meal. For those that have an “endless black hole” for a stomach, they should bring snacks to the meet as well. Fuel / food = energy. And these meets can run long. And the athletes sometimes get bored, and that means hungry.
  - ii. The FORM. During registration on our website, there is a spot where you click on a form to fill out for meal choice. This is required for EVERY athlete!! Let Sarah know if you didn't see that form and she can send to you separately.
  - iii. The form has 5 choices of restaurant – Corner Bakery, Jasons, Panera, Chick-fil-A and Which Which.
  - iv. We tried to include 2 entrees to choose from (lots of time a turkey or ham sandwich), a mostly vegetarian option and a gluten free option.
  - v. **Gluten Free** ... NOTE: most every restaurant we deal with has a disclaimer that they cannot guarantee that there wont be cross contamination of glutens. If your athlete requires gluten free, please just choose the gluten free option and then contact Sarah Brown / Laura Stevenson to talk about your athletes food allergies and the food options.
  - vi. **Meal Volunteers** .... Sometimes, we need help picking up the meals and delivering to the meets. It's probably the easiest volunteer job we have!!! Everything is paid for and the restaurants do a great job of packing things up for us. We just need a parent to drive to the restaurant, open their trunk and load the meals. Drive to the meet, and most of the time Coach Brandon will send out some “volunteer” kids to come carry the meals into the building for you. Please let Sarah know if you wouldn't mind grabbing some meals for us sometime. I will add you to a list to rotate through.
- h. **Volunteer spots for Meets** – We will be hosting some small and large meets this year. There is NO way to host meets without parent volunteers!!!
- i. This is normally how Booster Club subsidizes its income – by hosting meets.
  - ii. The bigger meets (Duel in the Pool, TISCA, Kyle Tilley and Regionals) are all ones that we normally host.
  - iii. We could really use HyTek, Colorado Timing and for the future, Officials. No training set up set up right now, but we hope to have information about that over the next few weeks.
  - iv. **TISCA** (Nov 19-20) and Regionals are both big 2 day meets. TISCA is a qualifying meet that is normally a 30+ team big event. Prelims are on Friday and Finals are on Saturday. Please look at the dates for this meet and see if you can help us out.

- v. **Regionals** (Feb 4-5) is a big 2 day event. We host the 5A (not us, normally in the mornings) and 6a (us, normally in the afternoons). It's 4 full sessions (2 Fri / 2 Sat) ... all requiring tons of parent volunteers to pull this off. The best thing you can do for our team is tentatively think about taking work off on Feb 4<sup>th</sup> - a work day where it is HARD to get volunteers. It's the toughest day to cover for volunteers all year!! Saturday is tough, too ... but Friday during the day is extremely tough to get parents to help with. Especially if your athlete is not swimming in that meet – but that is the very reason to ask you to volunteer! For lots of Seniors, this will be their last meet with the team ... and it would be nice if their parents could sit in the stands and watch. Please consider helping at this meet!
- vi. **Positions we might ask you to volunteer for:**
  - 1. Admissions – take \$ for entry and sell heat sheets
  - 2. Safety Marshal – help guard pool deck door and other key locations in the facility
  - 3. Timers – front seat to great racing; help manually time the swimmers as they race
  - 4. Awards – put stickers on medals and ribbons during the meet

## 5. REGISTRATION

- a. We need EVERY athlete registered on our website. It is open NOW and please register asap!!
- b. Why? Primarily for communication. We will be using Team Unify for team communications for meets, practice schedules, team events, meet results, and anything else parents need to know. Also, this gives you access to your athlete's meet results (their times). Our website has a wealth of information about the season ... AND once Water Polo starts, we use the same website and you will already be in the system, so it makes it way more simple.
- c. The registration fee this year is **\$275** per athlete.
  - i. If you have any issues with the \$275, please just talk to Sarah Brown. She can work something out with you! Just please communicate.
  - ii. When you click on Registration on our website, you will see we have 3 options for payment: Credit Card, Check, and Venmo
    - 1. **Credit Card** – this does come with a \$5 fee. It is clearly listed on the website. If you pay this way, your account will be automatically activated (ready to use).
    - 2. **Check** – you may still write a check. Make it out to Marcus Swim and Dive Booster Club and mail it to the address on our site. Do not hand checks to Coach Brandon!! Your account might take a bit longer to activate, but as soon as we have the check in hand, we will activate it. Submit your registration online and then mail your check.
    - 3. **Venmo** – new this year. @marcusswimdive. Details on how are given during registration. Once the funds are received, your account will be activated. Submit your registration online and then venmo the funds.
  - iii. **How to actually register** .... I created a little video of exactly how to do this, but if reading instructions helps you better, this is how you do it:
    - 1. Steps to register:
      - a. Click anywhere on [marcusswimdive.com](http://marcusswimdive.com) where it says **Registration**.
      - b. Returning members should sign in where it says log in. If you forgot your log in or need your password reset, contact Sarah.
      - c. New Members ... create an account.
      - d. There are 5 pages to get through ... on all, it's important to always fill in anything with an asterisk (\*) = required. THEN scroll to the bottom of every screen and click on the **GREEN** button. On the bottom of the last screen, there is a **SUBMIT Registration**. It is not complete until you click on that last SUBMIT button.
        - i. **Page 1** – Title page; read and scroll to bottom; click on “continue”
        - ii. **Page 2** – Account page (= parent info); Can enter up to 3 emails to get team communications, including athlete, if you want; fill out all spots with and asterisk; scroll to bottom and click “continue”
        - iii. **Page 3** – Member page (= athlete info) and agreements page; follow directions at the top of the page about adding a new athlete or just

confirming returning athlete; there is a hidden little pull down item that is right under the medical part that asks if your athlete is a swimmer or diver – easy to miss; Agreements .. there are 4:

- a. Volunteer info
  - b. Photo Release (for social media sites)
  - c. Meal choice form
  - d. Athlete drivers
- iv. Click on the boxes for each agreement to show you read them.
  - v. At the bottom of the Agreements, click on the green button to move on to the payment screens
  - vi. **Page 4** – Account info; Scroll to the bottom of this page and choose how you would like to pay your activity fee / registration fee (credit card, venmo or check). Then click, “**Proceed to Checkout**”
  - vii. **Page 5** – Checkout; credit cards will be entered here for those who chose that. If you chose Venmo or Check, you will still need to scroll to the **SUBMIT Registration** and click on that.
  - viii. After paying, Your part is done!!
2. Once you have submitted your registration, there is some behind the scenes buttons that need to be pushed to activate your account. If you are new to our team, you will receive an email explaining how to log in and set up a password. This means your account is ready to go and your athlete is registered.

Thank you for supporting our team and supporting the Booster Team this year!! Always reach out to me if you have any questions ... it's my job!

~ Sarah Brown, cell 817-575-9565, email [slbjax9000@aol.com](mailto:slbjax9000@aol.com)