

Coaches Report

May 10, 2004

Much of my time the past few weeks has been spent following up on numerous grants I have applied for, and defending the programs contained in them. I am pleased to say that to date and since the last meeting I have managed to secure just shy of \$5000.00 in various monies that will be utilized to help coaches travel to competitions and offset some pool costs. These grants have come from Coaching Manitoba, National Office and the Canadian High Performance Sports Center. The Sports Centre has offset our travel to Texas for about \$1500.00 and another grant from Sport Manitoba is adding another \$500.00 to coaches travel for this competition. Bottom line is that there will be no cost to the club other than Per Diem.

I submitted an interim report to the Canada Games committee with a budget and training plan. Since they are using our report as the model for other sports I am hopeful that we will see a sizable increase in our monies for training the Canada Games athletes next season.

The team has participated in Dive Canada, Victoria, Thunder Bay and we are now preparing for Calgary and Woodlands, Texas.

Kevin's trip to Dive Canada was a success in that he has proved that he can run with any divers in the world by being top 4 through 4 rounds. Unfortunately he gave up one dive badly and in this league that usually spells disaster. I feel that he is definitely on the right track and I am still optimistic about him for the upcoming trials. Lauren is also working very hard and continues to improve as the trials draw near.

Thunder Bay was an excellent event with many of our very young divers putting in stellar performances. This is one of the best bonding events we do each year and it is important that we always try to travel everyone. Pan Am swept many events and we saw many of our young divers and older divers meet their qualification standards for both age group and senior nationals. Hopefully many of them will repeat this in Calgary and be fully qualified for Age Groups.

Prior to these meets occurring I felt that the morale of the club was falling off. Many of the divers had heard that we would not be traveling to any more meets etc. I think it is critical that what is being said in this room and at our board meetings regarding the financial status of the club does not move out to the divers. The Internet is a scary medium for rumors and gossip.

I believe with the insertion of these monies and the reduction of coaching travel costs we will slowly be realizing a reduction in our proposed deficit. We cannot however continue to shave our coaching travel if we are to continue to improve in the next few years.

I would like to see us get on the ball and start advertising more. Otherwise we do not have a vehicle to keep the numbers coming in other than our board at the pool. The booth that Dallas and Jayne set up should be done a couple of times in the next months to advertise our summer programs. Everything is done except to man it with some volunteers.

We will have a final number for our Age Group qualifiers by the next meeting. Also we will be through the Olympic Trials event.

I am very pleased and proud of our athletes the way they have competed so far this season. I think diving has a very high profile at Sport Manitoba and at the High Performance Institute. Jayne is also playing a very big role in this by keeping us at the forefront by submitting game plans and interim reports that impress them.

Cam was again the runner up in the Junior Athlete of the Year but it is still a great honour to be nominated and make it that far. After dusting off my speech from the 80's I managed to use it this time at the Coaching Awards.

In closing I would like to note that we are again on an upswing with both talent and performance. This will help us bring new athletes into the club and keep our performances high.

I know that our coaches are working very hard to keep things going and to keep the athletes on a positive pace. Both Dallas and Keith should have been at Dive Canada as a training event and these are things we need to strive to get back.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Lambie, Head Coach