

April 23, 2026 Rocket City Swim League (RCSL) Board Meeting Huntsville Aquatic Center - Lanai 6:00pm

Board members present

Jeanette Baumgartner
Adam Proud
Scott Thomas
Julie Blauwkamp
Lindsey Carroll

Elizabeth Hughes
Jennifer Newby
Greg Wright
Monica Ludwig

Board members absent

Brian Ham
Sara Covington
Kelly Durham
Hudson Morris

Council Pools

Blossomwood
Byrd Spring
Camelot
Chapman
Greenwich
Hampton Cove
Lily Flagg
Monte Sano

Mt. Carmel
Mountain Springs
Piedmont
Sharon Johnston
Sherwood
Valley Hill
Whitesburg

Absent Pools

Jones Valley
Redstone Arsenal

Call to order - Jeanette Baumgartner (outgoing President)

Thank you to everyone for voting on the new board members

President Report - Jeanette Baumgartner (outgoing President)

Welcome to the new board members

President - Adam Proud (Monte Sano-A)

Assistant 1st Vice President - Elizabeth Hughes (Chapman-C) & Lindsey Carroll
(Camelot -B)

Secretary - Jennifer Newby (Jones Valley-A)

Declaration of Intent Form - due before 1st meet on June 3, 2026. Submit to Jennifer Newby.

Proof of Insurance - due before 1st meet on June 3, 2026. Submit to Jennifer Newby.

2nd Vice President (Dive) - Sara Covington & Kelly Durham

Neither could be present today, so Scott Thomas discussed new business.

Dues - board will review the budget and invoice dues by April 30th. They are due no later than May 15th. Last year they were \$200, but they may change this year.

No new 2026 season updates today

Scott Thomas proposed adding a 3rd Vice President position to be called "Vice President Records for Dive". This is due to the fact that dive has grown and is now digital. This will be voted on at the next board meeting in May.

Treasurer Report - Monica Ludwig

Budget has not been finalized, but will be soon. Invoices go out by April 30th, dues are due no later than May 15, 2026.

Monica said last year swim dues were \$625, but may change this year.

Some C league representatives brought up that they only have 4 meets (instead of 5) and want to know if they still have to pay full amount of dues. Board should discuss this.

It was mentioned that there is a new pool on Highway 72 that is regulation size for swim. They will not have a team this year, but may next year to round out an even number in all leagues starting next summer.

1st Vice President (City Meet) - Scott Thomas (vp@swimrcsl.org)

Readdressed the voting bylaws for RCSL. Every pool only gets ONE vote, which should technically come from swim rep. Max amount of votes currently should be 17 if everyone votes. Coaches only vote if swim rep is unavailable.

CITY MEET - vote tonight on proposed schedule that was emailed to everyone. Proposed schedule is July 9-10 for dive meet, July 11-12 for swim meet. Unanimous "yea" vote to approve.

We have 2 large sponsorship opportunities for city meet:

1. Polos that all officials wear (\$2000) - you will get your name on sleeve. Officials wear all city and in the future at other meets.
2. Bag tags for finalist swimmers (\$2000) - you get your company name on the back.

** These sponsorships will be filled "first come, first serve". Please email Scott Thomas to commit ASAP.

** These 2 sponsors will receive 15 seconds of digital ads at City Meet as well. Digital Ads at city meet are \$300 for 5 seconds. If you pay \$900 for 15 seconds, you can actually run a video. These are run on a continuous loop all weekend. These ads will run "1st come, 1st serve". Email Scott Thomas to commit.

Printed Heat Sheets:

Unsure if we can continue printed heat sheets. Our previous company sold and is now requiring 2 weeks advanced notice for printing.

Someone proposed checking into Allied Photo.
Ads were compiled by Scott Swing in the past. Will have to have 1 new volunteer to take this over to move forward.
Question was asked if digital ads will be less expensive if there is no longer a printed heat sheet.
Scott asked for feedback from all pools about questions/concerns/feelings about discontinuing printed heat sheets. Or email him with a volunteer who can take over compiling those printed ads.

Assistant 1st Vice President (City Meet) - Elizabeth Hughes & Lindsey Carroll (rolling off Michelle Whetstone & Julie Blauwkamp)

Julie reminded everyone that volunteer slots change every year
Will send out those required slots around the 1st meet
Remember the amount of armbands for coaches on deck is determined by number of swimmers IN city meet.

2nd Vice President (Records) - Hudson Morris, Greg Wright

Greg stated meet schedule is on website
Greg relayed small change from ROC with Hampton Cove v. Mt Carmel in their location to prevent 1 pool in C League from having 3 home meets. Both pools acknowledged.
Greg & Hudson have updated the ROC with administrative changes to match what we actually do. This will be emailed out & will need a vote at the next board meeting to approve. There are NO rule changes in this update.
If you want to propose a rule change, you can email that out. It must be 21 days before it is voted on at the board meeting.
Greg stated that ribbons will be picked up at his house the last week of May.
We will allow 2 invitational meets this year. Monte Sane (May 30th), Mountain Springs (June 13th) and Sherwood (June 20th) are all interested. These pools will come together to decide which 2 meets will take place this year. If you want to host an invitational meet, you must apply to the board and let Hudson know.
Question asked if an invitational meet can count as a “splash” for kids having difficulty making the city meet requirement (especially in C league due to 1 less meet). This has not been approved in the past, but may be considered.
Question asked if there is a “weather policy”. The current rule is that the 2 referees from the home pool will decide when to cancel a meet due to weather. This rule hasn’t changed but anyone can propose a new rule and email it out. **remember must be sent 21 days prior to next board meeting
Greg would like to be made aware of any new “computer” people this summer who are new to Meet Management.

2nd Vice President (Swim) - Brian Ham (vpswim@swimrcsl.org)

Deck training dates have been announced (ALL at 5:30pm):

Wednesday, May 13th @ Whitesburg

Monday, May 18th @ Piedmont

Wednesday, May 20th @ Mt Carmel

** these deck trainings are for both stroke & turn OR starter/ref

Tests will be open for recertification Tuesday, April 28th

RULES for Stroke & Turn certification:

1st time - must do deck training AND online test. Only lasts ONE year.

subsequent times - only take online test. Lasts TWO years.

RULES for Starter/Ref certification

1st time - must do deck training AND online test. Only lasts ONE year.

subsequent times - only take online test. Lasts TWO years.

Each time you take the test, there is a small fee (around \$12)

** Be aware that this clock starts over completely if you let your certification lapse one full year.

If someone is USA certified - they do not re-certify for RCSL. Send in the USA official # to Brian Ham.

The website stays up to date on who is certified at each pool. Please look at this and encourage others to become certified.

Question asked about later deck training dates for people who decide late that they want to volunteer?

2nd Vice President (Records) - Jennifer Newby (rolling off - Robin Derrick)

Next board meeting scheduled for May 21st — will be moved due to GHS graduation

Proposed May meeting now May 28th

Unfinished Business

Jeannette asked Sherwood to speak about their current financial difficulties.

They had a \$20,000 sewer bill and need help raising money. Please share

any Facebook posts about their capital campaign.

New Business

Sydney Clinton from Whitesburg Pool proposed an amendment to the competitor age (this was already send out via email and copied for members at meeting).

She will propose a specific date cutoff of May 31st OR the first dual meet to declare a swimmer's age for the entirety of the season.

One concern of Sydney's is the difficulty on coaches/swim reps (especially new ones) entering entries and forgetting someone's birthday.

Once concern of Sydney's is 17 year old swimmers who cannot complete the season because of a birthday before City Meet.

Once concern of Sydney's is 8 year old swimmers who age up in the middle of

the season and struggle to swim 50 yards.
Question asked about records made by swimmers who may be older at the time of the record. Sydney is proposing an * next to the record to denote this was after amendment made for competitor age.
This will be voted on at next meeting.

Recap

Next meeting is May 28th. There will be at least 3 separate votes taking place that night. It is important for each pool to be represented. Please remember each pool only gets one vote, preferably by swim rep.

Vote #1 - administrative changes to ROC

Vote #2 - 3rd Vice President for Dive added

Vote #3 - Sydney's proposal to amend competitor age

Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm