NEW YEAR/WINTER 2024

The Empty Netter

All Things Solivita Water Volleyball Club!

Poolside with Rob

Greetings Volleyballers!

Well it's that time of the year again - time to pay your dues to renew your membership! For those of you deciding whether or not to renew, I'd like to relay some vital information about the process.

Thanks to all of you, our club is very popular with a current membership of 114. Our pool time is limited and while we hope to address this issue with the Solivita Club Management team, they also have to consider other community member needs. While we have a waiting list of over 30 people who want to join our club, we are holding off on any newbie classes until we have a final paid membership number for 2024. That number consists of dues collected by the deadline of 3/1/2024.

If any current member does not pay their dues by 3/1 and they wish to come back into the club in the future, they will be placed on the wait list with other newbies. Therefore, even if you are not planning on playing much this year but you do want to play in the future we suggest you pay the annual dues of $15 to keep your membership active. All members can use the scheduling tool to add an exception for the time they wish to hold off on playing.

Now that the business part is done, read on for info on our Olympics Tournament, Pot Luck Dinners, Fundraisers and more!

Rob



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STEPS COMMITTEE
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STEPS

Dennis DeWulf - Committee Chair

The STEPS Committee was quite busy last fall and is looking forward to 2024 with new Committee members and new processes. Let's take another look at each area STEPS covers.



SKILLS

The 2023 updated Skills Chart was forwarded to all members and has been placed on our HOA site as a PDF document under Water Volleyball>Committees>STEPS. Please be sure to familiarize yourself with each category and the necessary skills we look for to see improvement in each area. If you are looking to improve your skillset, this is a great tool to help you concentrate on all areas of your game.

TRAINING

The STEPS Committee continues to look for opportunities to provide our members with training clinics to improve your skillset. We have conducted Setting and Power Hitting clinics and are looking at Defensive Skills as the next area for training. Keep your eyes out for email invites.

EVALUATION

We've previously discussed the process of Evaluation – after observation of the member by the committee, 3 out of 5 STEPS committee members must agree on each of the 10 category scores that then make up your final score. We have not highlighted the amount of time spent on this process. In the last quarter of 2023, ALL members were evaluated with the Committee meeting weekly and often multiple times per week. The discussion of each category for each member causes our meetings to last from 3-4 hours each. Not what many consider "retirement!"

Going forward, we are looking to concentrate more time on the other areas STEPS covers by streamlining the evaluation process. Since all members have been reviewed last quarter, those scores will be considered a baseline. Only members whose play "stands out" either good or bad will be considered for re-evaluation. While we will continue to consider evaluations for those requesting them, remember that we have just recently evaluated your play.

PLACEMENT

Reminder - the goal is to get 10 people into the pool who can compete with one another. Your "score" is not your end state - being placed in the right level in order to fairly compete with one another is the end state. Our club has seen a great deal of player improvement so while you may be getting better, others are also increasing their skills. We believe our recent evaluations have met the goal of getting you in the right level with at least a 90% accuracy. Again, if it becomes obvious that you are no longer playing at your current skill level, good or bad, the Committee will consider a re-evaluation.

SCHEDULING

We have decided to implement a more standardized schedule for game play at all levels. A consistent set of games will allow members the opportunity to block time on their busy schedule for a fun 90 minutes of water volleyball. The number of games scheduled per week per level is directly proportional to the size of each level. While game days will be consistent the times may change/ alternate between 5:30 and 7:00.

Level 1/2/T - Mon, Wed and Thur
Level 3 - Wed, Sat
Level 4 - Tue, Wed
Level 5 - Tue, Wed, Thur
Level 6 - Mon, Tue, Thur
Level 7 - Tue, Thur, Sat
Men's/Women's Games will rotate between Mixed and High on Saturdays

Reminders- don't forget to set your correct availability and exceptions in the system to ensure everyone gets a fair amount of first round invites. Also, declining games you do not want to play in helps others when recruiting unfilled games.

BIRTHDAY BOX

January	February	March
John Robinson	Jeff Carter	Denise Carter
Corliss Stallworth	Fred Heinrich	Bryan Olson
Laura Andrews	Mike Luddy	
Barbara Ferrer	Nancy McCloud	
Kathy McCarthy	Bob Miller	
Pat Miller		
Mike Moran		
Robert Moss		
Paul Williams		



FINANCE - RICH ROEHL, TREASURER



DUES ARE DUE!!!!

Reminder to drop your $15 check, payable to Solivita Water Volleyball Club, at Rich's house located at 844 Jasmine Creek Rd. You may also leave your check with Rich or Lisa when you see us at the pool!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Our next Social Committee Event will be held on February 23rd at the Cooperstown Pavilion from 5 to 8PM. Join your fellow club members with a Getting to Know You Theme, lots of Food and Games!!

Contact the Fun Team with questions or to RSVP at SWVBFunTeam2@gmail.com

Jan Gross - Committee Chair

SPRING ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND ELECTION

Be sure to mark your calendar for our upcoming annual meeting and election on March 10th at the Palms Meeting Room. More details and an RSVP will be sent the week of 2/24.

FUNDRAISERS

The Club will be participating in the Spring Yard Sale in April so save up your unused stuff to donate! More info to come.

OLYMPICS

The Olympics were a resounding success for our Club - what a great event! Thank you to all the people that put time and energy into making our Club stand out as an example of of how to make an event special for all attendees. I want to especially thank Lisa for her efforts in designing the format of play and for keeping up with the games daily - awesome job!

The spirit of competition brought out some of the best play many of us have seen in years and while there were a few tense moments, I applaud the competitors for the sportsmanship displayed throughout the event. If you opted not to participate this time around I would highly encourage you to make sure you join in on the fun next time!

Rob

