



NOTICE: WCRA Annual Meeting
Thursday, 11/15, at 7pm
Cafeteria at Wakefield Forest Elementary
(4011 Iva Lane)

The purpose of this annual meeting:

- 1) Reports by the current Board Members and Swim, Dive & Tennis Representatives.
- 2) Presentation and Review of the 2018 Actuals to Budget; Presentation and Approval of the proposed 2019 Budget.
- 3) Review and Vote on proposed changes to the WCRA Bylaws (see Proposed Changes to Bylaws on page 3)
- 4) Election of the following Directors for a two-year term:
 - a. Brian Collins for Vice President for Operations
 - b. Brad Otto for Director for Long-Range Planning
 - c. Kim Marshall for Treasurer
 - d. Summer Manos for Director for Membership (one-year term)

PLEASE NOTE: Per WCRA Bylaws, the presence of 15% of the Association membership, either in person or by written proxy as set forth below, is necessary to constitute a quorum of the membership to conduct business. If you cannot attend the Annual Meeting, please sign this proxy and return it by:

- mail: WCRA, P.O. Box 1248, Springfield VA 22151
- in person: drop it in the Secretary's mailbox (8211 Mockingbird Drive, Annandale)
- email: scan and email to secretary@wakefieldchapelrec.org

Proxies must be received by the Secretary prior to start of the Annual Meeting (7pm on 11/15).

Proxy Form

I/We, bonded member number _____ **[Member Number]** of Wakefield Chapel Recreation Association, hereby appoint as my/our true and lawful proxy:

Secretary of the Wakefield Chapel Recreation Association

[check one box] **- OR -**

 [print the name of your proxy holder]; proxy holder must be 18 years of age and attend the meeting in person on your behalf

CHECK ONLY ONE:

- My/Our Proxy is to be used for **Quorum purposes** only.
- My/Our designated proxy holder may vote on all matters at the November 15, 2018 Annual Meeting as he/she so determines.

Member(s) Signature(s)

Date



WCRA Fall 2018 Newsletter

IMPORTANT Dates:

Annual Meeting – November 15, 2018

Annual Dues – May 1, 2019

Opening Weekend – May 25, 2019

**WCRA Opening Weekend
May 25, 2019**

BOARD NOTES

PROXY: Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 15, at 7pm at Wakefield Forest Elementary (4011 Iva Lane). If you cannot attend, please return your proxy to help us ensure quorum to conduct WCRA business.

Another great year at WCRA: Thank you to the many volunteers who work together to make WCRA a special part of our community – we are truly your neighborhood pool and tennis club! Thank you to the social event hosts and coordinators who keep the fun happening all season long and thank you to the many members who work to make WCRA programming like Swim, Dive, Tennis, and activities so successful. We welcome and encourage every member to attend a Board meeting (or read the monthly minutes online) to learn more about WCRA, and to see where you can lend your skills, talents and time to keep WCRA the great community asset it is. As bond-holders, WCRA belongs to each of us – please help your Board and Reps in their efforts to keep improving it for all members!

Pool Management Contract: This past season was the first under our renewed contract with Premier Aquatics. After review and discussion, the Board has extended the contract with Premier Aquatics to manage the WCRA facility for the 2019 season. Overall, we received positive feedback from members, but there is always room for improvement. We have already communicated some specific areas for improvement by Premier next season and we welcome input from members on suggestions to improve the facility management in the coming year.

Communications: Thank you to Susie Kleinman for maintaining the WCRA email system and website to keep our community connected and informed!

Membership Dues: Dues for 2019 will continue at the same rates set in November 2017. The 2019 WCRA Budget includes dues amounts by membership type as follows:

Bonded Member Annual Dues – \$475

Military Membership Dues – \$500

Temporary Membership Dues – \$600

Thank You: Many thanks to Melissa Aune, Susie Kleinman, Cara Schmitt, and Katina Scott for serving on this year's Nominating Committee.

Board Meetings: The WCRA Board meets on the third Thursday of each month from 7pm to 9pm at

the Sprague Center. All members are welcome to attend, and we encourage your participation. If you wish to include an item on the agenda, submit your request one week in advance of the meeting to secretary@wakefieldchapelrec.org. Occasionally the meeting schedule will change to accommodate availability issues, any changes will be posted to the website: www.wakefieldchapelrec.org and facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/wakefield.chapel.rec.assoc/>

Documents: The governing and organizational documents (i.e. WCRA Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, Board Meeting Minutes and other policies) can be found on the website: www.wakefieldchapelrec.org.

Proposed Changes to WCRA Bylaws: Working within the WCRA Bylaws for the past year, we've identified some areas for possible improvement. After review and discussion, the Board elected to move forward with pursuing four changes to the Bylaws, subject to approval of the WCRA membership. The proposed changes are underlined below:

Page 1, Article II, Section 3. Membership – Membership in the Corporation shall not be denied because of race, religion, color, national origin, gender (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political affiliation, marital status, age, or disability.

Page 3, Article IV, Section 1. Right to Assign – The Board shall not refuse approval of any such assignment because of race, religion, color, national origin, gender (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, political affiliation, marital status, age, or disability.

- Why? This change (in two places) is designed to reflect our commitment to an inclusive recreation association that is open to, and reflects, the diversity of our community. This aligns our Bylaws with current federal, state, and local law, is good for recruiting purposes, and codifies the inclusive status of our existing membership.

Page 4, Article VI, Section 4. Nominations (sentence 2 / line 3) – The Nominating Committee shall nominate ~~at least~~ one (1) member of the Corporation for each elective office of the Corporation.

- Why? This change is designed to more clearly define the job of the Nominating Committee – to search for and evaluate all possible candidates for elective office and to select the single best candidate to nominate for each. This clarifies that the Board does not want the Nominating Committee to present multiple candidates for any one office (which the Board would then narrow down to a slate of one candidate per position to present to the Membership), but that we trust the Nominating Committee to make the best recommendation to the Board and to the Membership, without Board intermediation.

Page 4, Article VI, Section 4. Nominations (sentence 4 / lines 6+) – Such submission shall be in the form of a Petition for Nomination, shall be signed by the candidate or candidates to be nominated and at least ~~five (5)~~ one (1) other members in good standing, and shall be presented to the Secretary of the Corporation ~~on or before October 1~~ no fewer than seven (7) calendar days before the scheduled Annual Meeting of the year in which the election is to be held.

- Why? This change is designed to allow more flexibility for members interested in running for the Board. The current Bylaws timelines for Nominating Committee appointment (60+ days), Annual Meeting notice (30+ days), and Petition for Nomination (October 1) conflict in such a way that a candidate must submit a Petition for Nomination BEFORE the Annual Meeting date and slate of candidates is even required to be announced to the Membership. This change will remove that schedule conflict and allow much more time for any interested member to submit a Petition for Nomination and run for office “from the floor,” even if they are not selected by the Nominating Committee or if they choose to run after the Nominating Committee has already presented their slate of candidates.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Danny Hetzel

What an epic season at WCRA – it was truly a blast with our amazing community! As President, I worked with a fantastic Board, which made my job much easier, so a huge thanks to the Board for all their efforts behind the scenes to make WCRA an awesome place to spend the summer. And a special “Thank You” to the Director for Social Activities Season, who kept the fun happening all season long!!

I would also like to thank our Team Reps for Swim – Cathy Read and Martha Murray, and Dive - Courtney Collins and Izabella Thomas, who helped continue our successful Wahoos Swim & Dive programs – keeping them fun while teaching kids great swim & dive skills. You’ve been wonderful Team Reps and we are grateful to your service to our pool community!!

We would love to find a volunteer to take our tennis program to new heights. Let me know if you are interested in being our Tennis Representative (coordinate clinics, social events, juniors, etc. – you will not be teaching tennis!!). Like Swim and Dive Reps, this job can be shared by two or more people.

As every member is an “owner” of WCRA, we can always use your ideas and talents. Please seriously consider volunteering and/or coordinating an event and [look for ways that you can help to improve WCRA.](#)

I can’t wait for next summer – see you on the deck!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Melissa Aune, Susie Kleinman, Cara Schmitt, and Katina Scott

We were happy to support our community by working to identify member volunteers to serve on the WCRA Board for the next two-year term. After reviewing the responsibilities for each position and speaking to many interested members, we nominate the following candidates:

Vice President for Operations – Brian Collins

Treasurer – Kim Marshall

Director for Long-Range Planning – Brad Otto

Membership – Summer Manos
(one-year term – ends 12/19)

There are also two non-Board positions for which member volunteers are still urgently needed:

- Snack Bar Manager
- Activities Director

Please contact President Danny Heltzel at president@wakefieldcapelrec.org if you can support WCRA in one of these important positions – your association runs on member volunteers!

MEMBERSHIP

Katherine Schultz, Director for Membership

WCRA had a fantastic year in Membership thanks to the team effort by the Board to reach new residents in the neighborhood. Last fall, the Board collaborated to develop a great brochure made available to anyone stopping by the front desk for information. With help from Michael Fay, we also

reached out to new homeowners in the area. A survey of new members indicates that the primary way new families hear about the pool is still word-of-mouth from neighbors, so if you meet any new neighbors, please let us know and we'll mail them a brochure or drop it by their house.

Our membership is presently comprised of:

477 Bonded Members (up from 452 last year!)

22 Military Families

22 Temporary Families (one-year limit)

521 Total Member Families

At the end of this season, we have only 11 bonds available for sale (all of which are likely to sell in the spring to Temporary Members, as their one-year limit is up and they must convert to Bonded to stay at WCRA). The average time on the sales list this year is only 4-6 months, significantly down from 12-18 months in previous seasons.

We also reduced the number of late fees this season by significantly raising the fee for any dues paid after May 1st (midnight). In 2017, 26 families paid their dues late, but in 2018 only nine families were late – we hope to reduce that to 0 in 2019. And finally, in the 2018 season no member bonds were forfeited for failure to pay.

Opening our membership payment system earlier than usual – in January this year – proved very popular with many families and, as an incentive, this year the Board has decided to offer a graduated dues scale to all members, hoping to further reduce the late payment of dues. The 2019 Dues schedule will be as follows:

- Pay between January 1 and February 28 = \$450 (YOU SAVE \$25 dollars!)
- Pay between March 1 and April 30 = \$475 (Regular Annual Dues)
- Pay May 1 or later = \$575 (\$475 Dues plus \$100 late fee)

Contact – We are always here to answer your questions and sign-up new families, so keep in touch over the winter by emailing: membership@wakefieldchapelrec.org.

OPERATIONS

Brian Collins, VP for Operations

We are fortunate to have a much-enjoyed and frequently used facility, but all that activity also means many things break down and need to be repaired. I am always impressed with how community-oriented our pool is – aside from projects where state and county regulations require professional work, most of these MANY repairs were done by volunteers. Thank you for taking responsibility for your pool!

A list of some of the bigger facility maintenance tasks this year:

- created a community garden
- resurfaced parking lot
- painted main building
- replaced broken valves in toilets, showers, and sinks plus multiple broken lines
- repaired broken locks on tennis courts and guard's office
- stained the bleachers and railing
- replaced the funbrella in main pool

- removed dead trees throughout the facility
- replaced ice maker
- upgraded chaise lounges and picnic tables for snack bar area
- installed new water basketball basket
- replaced damaged drywall
- replaced underwater lights with LED (ongoing – as the old bulbs burn out)
- removed old fencing and created a larger play area for the baby pool
- improved wifi service via mesh routers placed throughout facility
- installed "whole house" surge protectors
- replaced parts of the fence around pool
- installed new gate for baby pool

We also want to thank neighborhood members that volunteered their labor as skilled tradesman:

- Jose Morales, certified plumber
- Kefir Keren, certified locksmith
- Vance Electric

We will continue to improve in the off-season and have plans to give the sheds a fresh coat of paint and replace the deteriorating decking around them.

We always welcome feedback from our members, so please share any constructive suggestions or comments with me via e-mail at operations@wakefieldchapelrec.org.

2017 FINANCIALS

Kyle Durbin, Treasurer

WCRA remains financially stable. During 2018, revenue was sufficient to cover the operating expenses and fund several planned and budgeted facility improvements. Enough revenue was also generated to meet our obligation to save funds for future capital improvements (see **WCRA Bylaws page 7, Article IX, section 8. Depreciation Fund.**)

A full report on the 2018 Actuals and the proposed 2019 Budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, November 15th.

SOCIAL

Season Crawford, Director for Social Activities

We hope you enjoyed gathering with old friends and making new ones at WCRA's fun-filled, sun-drenched, and water-soaked get-togethers at the pool this summer!

The Opening Day Picnic, hosted by Cary Fichtner-Vu, kicked off the season with great turnout and delicious food from Mission BBQ in May and Melissa & Matt Aune and Cary Fitchner-Vu kept the fun going with a fantastic beer-tasting event in June.

Brad Otto got the Wakefield men together for food, drinks, and conversation at the Annual Men's Night in September, while Jenny Otto and Liz Collins kept Wakefield women partying late into the night at

their spectacular “You Be You” Ladies Night in June. Jillian Heltzel and Jennifer Tran’s July Tween Party had a record turnout, and our youngest members had a blast with floats and treats at the Kid’s Party hosted by the Fay family in July. The adults of Wakefield had the most fun, however, at the epic Beach Shack Adult Party organized by Katrena Henderson & Charlie Tapp in July. Many thanks to Donna Smith and Winnie Kean for hosting the 55+ Adult Party in August, and to Katherine Schultz for entertaining our neighborhood pirates and mermaids with tattoos, a treasure hunt, and more. And to top it off, Jodi Benkarski helped us celebrate the end of an excellent pool season, hosting a festive and delicious Red, White, and Blue Labor Day Weekend picnic.

Perhaps best of all, WCRA’s Family Fun Day – Carnival for a Cure to Parkinson’s raised a whopping \$3,500 for Parkinson’s research thanks to Ashley & Denis Wane, Kay Graft from Weichert Realtors, and generous contributions from the community.

And all summer long, Food Truck Fridays, Trivia Nights with Patrick Smith, and Friday Float Flicks movie nights made WCRA the hottest place to be on Fridays!

Thank you to the hosts mentioned above, the many volunteers who helped events run smoothly, and to everyone who attended. You make WCRA one of the best pools around! See you in the Spring!

If you are interested in hosting or assisting in any way with fun community events next season, please contact the Director for Social Activities at social@wakefieldchapelrec.org.

SNACK BAR

Cary Fichtner-Vu, Snack Bar

The snack bar had another successful year, acting as a convenient service for our members, generating net revenue, and successfully transitioning our snack bar card system. Our biggest sellers are ice cream products, Air Heads Extreme, and Skittles. We have found that healthy options do not sell well and expire more quickly than other options.

Thank You So Much:

- Thank you to all the Snack Bar Workers, with *special thanks* to Matthew Ferrari for an extraordinary management job!
- Thank you with loads of appreciation to all the volunteers who did end of the year snack bar cleaning – what a wonderful group of members!

2019 Season: Applications to work at the WCRA Snack Bar for the 2019 season can be found on www.wakefieldchapelrec.org and are due by May 1, 2019. There will be no extensions or exceptions to this deadline. Personal accountability and self-reliance are important qualifications. Job interviews will be scheduled for the first week of May to select up to 12 employees.

A Member volunteer is urgently needed to take over oversight of the Snack Bar – please contact Cary Fichtner-Vu at [703-861-8259](tel:703-861-8259) or cary@caryfvu.com with any questions or to volunteer.

SWIM TEAM

Cathy Read and Martha Murray, Swim Team Representatives

The Wakefield Chapel Wahoos enjoyed a fun and successful 2018 NVSL swim season capturing the Division II title with an undefeated record of 5 – 0. Ten Wahoo relay teams were selected to participate at the NVSL All-Star Relay Carnival at Lincolnia Park, and sixteen individual swimmers qualified to swim at the NVSL Individual All-Stars meet at Little Rocky Run.

In addition to the exciting Saturday morning and Monday night meets, our roster of 244 swimmers – up 7% from the previous year – enjoyed a variety of fun social events including ice cream socials, pancake breakfasts, pre-meet prep rallies, movie Fridays, and the ever-popular end of season team banquet. Our youngest swimmers – the Wahoo Minnows – demonstrated how much progress they made during the season by competing at the end of season Lollipop Meet, which is organized and staffed by our older swimmers. We even had the honor of celebrating the wedding of our new Wahoo Head Coach – Aubrey Love – by throwing her a Wahoo wedding-themed pep rally!

We would like to thank the MANY volunteers that contributed their time and talents to make the season such a success! We would also like to extend our appreciation to those that have already stepped forward to assist next season, including Kris Anderson and Kyle Durbin who will assume team rep responsibilities from Cathy and Martha. Thank you too to Sarah Giddens and Erica Pinkston, continuing as the Developmental Team Representatives for 2019.

Please remember that our team depends on parent volunteers. Aside from our wonderful paid Wahoo coaches, every other role is staffed by volunteers – from meet timers and officials to our social activity coordinators. To ensure another successful season in 2019, please consider how you can volunteer to support your swimmer and the Wahoos Swim Team. For more information please contact Kris and Kyle.

We look forward to seeing you all on deck in 2019! For other swim team information, please consult our website: www.wakefieldchapelswimteam.org. GO WAHOOS!

DIVE TEAM

Izabella Thomas and Courtney Collins, WCRA Dive Team Representatives

Our summer dive team continues to grow strong! WCRA Dive Team was resurrected in 2008, making this past season our 10th year of offering this exciting team sport! Dive team offers a great alternative, or supplement, to summer swim team at the pool and dive practices DO NOT CONFLICT with any age groups who practicing swim. Most of our divers are also swimmers!

Summer of 2018 was a great season for the Wahoos Dive Team! We won four meets, and lost only one of our summer meets within Division V. This division continues to be just the right level of competition for our WCRA divers based on skill and team size.

We had a consistent roster of 36 divers, many of them on the younger side. We are always looking to grow the team and encourage more older kids to try it out even if they've never done it before. Many (most!) of our divers are also Wahoo swimmers and though it can be more challenging for parents to attend meets for both sports, the child athletes themselves love the additional exercise, conditioning, practices, competition, and fun. This year we were able to open dive team registration to members of other NVSL pools who do not currently host a dive team. We welcomed one diver who lives in Mclean where her pool does not have a dive team. She was an outstanding addition to our team, placed first in

all the meets she qualified for, and was welcomed with great enthusiasm, camaraderie, and friendship by the Wahoos Dive team. We hope she returns next summer and we hope to grow the number of kids who opt to join us in the dive well.

Dive meets are held on Tuesday evenings, with an occasional Thursday evening meet added as a B / Developmental meet. The meets move along very quickly and our other Division V teams are all within a convenient driving distance. The dive team is also a small enough group that the kids really get to connect with each other and have a great time at practices, meets, and most especially, "Fun Fridays." Our coaches have been together for many years now and we have enough helpers to devote a good deal of individual attention to each diver to help them grow in the sport. We had a number of divers advance to the NVSL Dive Divisional competition and on to NVSL Dive All-Stars.

New team reps will take over the team for this summer. David Grannis will serve as our Administrative Dive Team Rep, and we are asking any other interested parents to please let us know if you are interested in playing a role in supporting the team. David can be reached at 202-365-6651 and dagrannis@gmail.com.

Looking ahead, we hope more kids will "dare to dive" and join us for an always exciting summer season in 2019!

Please email wakefieldchapeldive@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the Dive email list or if you have any DIVE questions!

TENNIS PROGRAM

Danny Heltzel, President

We had another great year with RJ Tennis, but our contract has ended this fall so we are entertaining others that would like to take our WCRA Tennis program to new heights. We also need Reps to coordinate the kid's program and another to organize an adult program and matches.

The Board is looking to resurface the courts soon and changing out the lighting equipment as it ages. Let me know if you or someone you know has talents to help in these areas, so we can all enjoy nicer courts for tennis.

As a reminder: only tennis shoes and tennis equipment are allowed on the courts. (No soccer, lacrosse, skateboarding, scooters, bikes, pets, etc.)

Please let me know if you have any questions about this. This rule will be strictly enforced especially after resurfacing.

Looking forward to seeing you on the courts in 2019!