

SRA UPDATE - WINTER 2017

Southampton Recreation Association
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Board of Directors December 1, 2016 - November 30, 2017

Executive Committee

David Lynch, President (301-1183)
Jeff Spoenlein, Past President (497-9742)
Graham Parlow, President-Elect (516-3606)
VP Finance & Treasurer, Eric Trout (327-2457)
VP Facilities, Jay Bush (338-3797)
VP Development/Membership, Chris Eklund, (357-0294)
VP Programs/Social Activities, Johanna Minich (320-0566)
Associate VP Programs/Social Activities, Anya Barlow (317-0242)
VP Secretary, Stephanie Moore (310-4389)

Directors

Ice, Andrea Bleck-Smith (928-7951)
Pools, Dave Lundgren (272-6124)
Swim Team, Kristin Mullins (615-0806)
Tennis, Sara Brown (Interim Director), (405-7171)
At Large: Pete Svoboda (839-5074) Joe Sites (387-5459)

January 23, 2017

Dear SRA Family,

What was it that brought you to Southampton? What made you join? Why did you stay? For the Lynch family, we were invited by friends, we joined because it was close, but we stayed because of the ice rink! Really!

You see, the summer we joined was cold and rainy. Kay only took the boys to the pool eight times (I counted). I only dropped by a couple of times and may have gone in the water twice. There was also an assessment that year. I did the math. Each of those eight visits would cost us \$135.00! I was ready to quit. Then Kay decided to teach the boys to ice skate. By the end of that joyous winter, they were having so much fun, I decided to bite the bullet, pay the assessment and join for another year.

That spring Kay suggested that Matthew join the swim team. "They say that's the best way for him to learn to swim," she said. "What's involved in being on a swim team?" I asked. "Oh, they practice six days a week and have a swim meet on Monday night that sometimes goes to midnight," she said. "Those people must be out of their minds!" I thought. But, she convinced me, and we spent the summer getting to know swimming and more importantly, many of you! In Matthew's second year, he swam the Butterfly at JRAC Champs, went from "N" to "X" and won the event! Our fate was sealed and our lives were dramatically changed forever.

While the ice rink got us to stay and the swim team became our passion, it is the community we have found here that has truly enriched our lives. At SRA, we have made friends that are different from us. Some think differently about issues or are of different religious backgrounds. Their life experiences are different. They are older or younger. I watch seventeen year olds teach swimming to and cheering for seven year olds. I see adult men playing hockey with young boys and girls. I see women keeping themselves fit on the tennis court. I see an army of happy volunteers cleaning the clubhouse and grounds, raking leaves and spreading mulch. I see a vibrant loving community that has nurtured my family and made me a better person.

That's our story, and I am looking forward to hearing yours! So, find me working a swim meet or at the annual Ice Review or cheering on Kay on the tennis court, and visit with me. Tell me your story.

As wonderful as Southampton is, it is not a utopia. Until I went on the board, I never really knew about all the day to day challenges a facility such as SRA presents. It amazes and humbles me to see all the many repairs and upgrades that are constantly being made by member volunteers. The good news is that prudent fiscal management by previous board members over the last decade or so has put us in strong financial condition. We have been able to keep dues low. This year's increase averages only about three percent across all membership categories.

However, some needs are beyond the capacity of the SRA volunteer army. The ice rink roof is one example. The roof's condition may soon make the rink unusable or unsafe. The board has decided that it is time to replace the roof. Our strong cash reserves have allowed us to consider capitalizing this expense. With interest rates being low and our membership numbers strong, we are looking to leverage our position by borrowing the funds needed. Because this expense will be paid back over a number of years we see the financial effect on the club and our dues rates as being minimal. We are getting quotes for the cost of the project. We realize that there is a limit in terms of debt that can be absorbed by our club and will proceed prudently.

Our second challenge will be with tennis courts. We have been fortunate to partner with Trinity Episcopal School in the renovation of the upper tennis courts. However, the middle courts are in need of at least some refurbishing. We would like to tackle this project this spring as well. However, the current cost for the project may mean that it has to wait until after the next tennis season. We should know more in the next couple of months.

We will seek to preserve a significant portion of our cash as an ethical reserve in case of an unexpected major repair to, for example, one of our pools or our clubhouse. Dave Lundgren and our pool management company have done a wonderful job keeping the pools in good repair. However, pools leak and valves break. For this reason we need to preserve a ready cash reserve to repair any problems swiftly. Summer is too short! Especially at SRA!

So how can you help? Basically, keep on doing what you already do! Talk us up with friends and neighbors! Invite someone ice skating (yes, we have a guest policy now!). Andrea Bleck-Smith and her crew of ice angels have made the ice better than ever! Bring a neighbor to the chili cook-off! Put an SRA membership sign in your yard! Bring a friend to a group lesson from our excellent tennis pro Jamie Morgan! Keep volunteering! Perhaps you know someone who would be a good board member! Perhaps it's you! Sign your young kids up for swim team! It's fun! And those swim meets? The younger kids get to go home early. After all, we're not totally out of our minds!

Strength and Honor!

David Lynch
Board President

2017 MEMBERSHIP-PAY EARLY & SAVE!

Renewing members only! Pay your annual dues IN FULL by February 28th and take advantage of the early bird rate.

Membership categories are:

Senior-household with one or two adults; at least one must be 55 years or older.

Single- an unmarried member under 55 years old.

Dual- a household membership for two adults, both under 55.

Family- a household of one or two adults with minor or dependent children as members. Family Membership is the only level that includes children.

Additional fees will be charged for childcare providers and long-term house guests, on a seasonal basis. These fees are outlined below. Please contact the office with any questions you may have.

Rates are as follows:

SRA FEES 2017
NEW MEMBERS

	Dues	Initiation Fee
Senior (one or two people- one person must be 55 years of age or older, and no children are included)	\$280	\$280
Single (no kids)	\$450	\$280
Dual (two people; no kids)	\$540	\$460
Family	\$650	\$460

An initiation fee applies to all new members. For dual and family memberships, the initiation fee is \$460. For senior and single memberships, the initiation fee is \$280.

The initiation fee can be paid in full with the initial membership fees, or can be paid in two equal installments, the first due with the initial payment of membership fees and the second due by March 15, 2018.

Associate Tennis Membership (Single) \$280.00 (Dual) \$390.00

Available as a Single or Dual only, no family. No initiation fee required. Must be referred by a current member in good standing. Full use of tennis facilities, lessons, tournaments, and tennis social events. No clubhouse, pool, or ice rink privileges. If an Associate decides to become a full member, the fees paid in the current calendar year will be applied toward regular membership rates.

SRA Fees 2017
RENEWING MEMBERS

<u>Category</u>	<u>Jan 1 thru Feb28</u>	February 28
Senior	\$270	\$280
Single	\$440	\$450
Dual	\$525	\$540
Family	\$635	\$650

Email Distribution Lists

Are you missing out on SRA fun? We send out a lot of information via e-mail. We have two e-mail distribution lists: one for general SRA news and one for swim team. If you're not getting SRA e-mails and would like to, please e-mail the office @ sra2office@gmail.com and let us know which list or lists you wish to be added to. Sign up today to get the latest and greatest SRA news!

ANNUAL DUES

Statements for the current year's dues are issued by January 15th, and are due upon receipt. Fees may be paid by check to our SRA Office, or you may pay online through our secure website at www.sra-fun.org. Fees posted currently on the website reflect the Early Bird Discount. As of February 28th, the rates posted will be the regular rate. Any other SRA activities or events that require payment must be paid in full at the time of the event.

BABYSITTERS, NANNIES OR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS -

Members in good standing may obtain a special membership for a babysitter or child care provider for an annual fee of \$75.00. This fee can cover multiple individuals, but only one child care provider may be present during each visit. The fee may be added to your annual dues at the time of renewal, or paid separately. Members should provide SRA with the names of all child care providers so they will be recognized by our gate guards. Child care providers are not allowed to use SRA facilities unless accompanied by the member's children.

GUEST FEES - Guest fees are \$5.00 per person per visit. All guests are expected to adhere to SRA rules and by-laws and must be accompanied by an SRA member.

LONG TERM GUESTS – These may include, but are not limited to family members visiting during the summer, or club members who regularly provide child care to non-member’s children. Rates for long term guests are \$20.00 per week or \$50.00 per month per guest. All long term guests must be registered with the SRA Office and must be accompanied by a member when visiting. Long term guests are not eligible to participate on swim team or in tennis leagues.

Ice Season 2016-2017

Here at SRA we are jumping into our 55th year of ice. Did you know our little rink has hosted Scott Hamilton, and had International Champions teach? The rink has quite a history. Today we have 11 group classes, our beloved hockey clinic, and we are home to the Richmond General Mites twice a week practices. We have over 120 regular participants in classes, clinic, and practice.

Exciting news, the Ice Committee has created a **guest policy!** The guest policy will roll out in the next few weeks. Look on the counter at the rink for policy information and guest waivers. *It is imperative to keep our rink that each guest and supporting member sign a waiver each time the guest comes.* A fee of \$5 is required and a collection box will be installed in the rink.

How is SRA able to do all this and more? Our volunteer team includes 8 ice makers, a crew of 12 doing continuous ice maintenance, 5 on rink repairs, and many more helping with management and special events not to mention the 10 to 20 who help with the Ice Revue. Additionally we now have an ice committee that meets once a month. Look for posted meeting dates or contact Andrea (928-7951) and join us. So, don’t forget to dust off your skates, turn in your forms and make the most of the year round SRA member recreation. See you at the rink!

Important Reminders:

Don’t forget to sign your **Annual Ice Forms**. Families must sign both the waiver and pass code agreement BEFORE skating each season. Forms can be found on the counter inside the rink, or can be printed off the website and turned into the office. PLEASE **Do Not share the pass code** or ask for the passcode from other families who are not members. Call the office (804-272-7401) or text Andrea (804-928-7951) for the code if you have forgotten.

Remember rink hours are 9 am and 9 pm. This is for your safety and to be considerate to the neighbors.

The **ice schedule** is posted on the SRA website under the ice or calendar tabs. A schedule may also be posted on the door. The most updated schedule is online. In case of in climate weather and lesson cancelations, visit the SRA website, ice page. Cancellations will be posted here.

Always **check the Ice Temperature** and Ice conditions before skating. The gauge should read 25 degrees or lower for skating to be safe. If the temperature is above 25 or if there are any other immediate ice issues call Phil Mattes at 804-874-1104.

Don't forget to **sign the Rink Log** any time you use the rink outside of lessons and clinic. THE rink use log book on the podium at the rink entrance. Please sign in when you arrive to skate and let us know your name, how many skaters were with you, along with the date and approximate amount of time you skated.

Need a **bathroom**? The pool ladies room is open for all family members to use when at the rink. There are heaters placed in the room to prevent pipes from freezing during cold temperatures. Leave these on. Please remember to turn off lights and close the door securely when leaving.

The annual **Ice Revue** is scheduled for Saturday, February 25, from 7-9 pm. This is the exciting and entertaining culmination of our ice lessons program put together by our incredible coach Allison and her many volunteers. Please come cheer on our skaters and enjoy the company and talents of your fellow SRA families. All are encouraged to come and volunteers are needed. Look for participation and sign-up forms at the rink.

Be kind to our rink, take care of it, use it, and love it. This is our rink, be SRA proud!

Winter Social Events

It's great to get together with your summer friends over the winter! Our social committee is planning some fun events for the coming months. Be sure to put these on your calendar!

Chili Supper. Stop by with the family and warm up with a hot bowl of chili. February 26 from 6-8:00 p.m. This will be an RSVP event so plan now! Details forthcoming.

Ladies Social. March 18th from 7 - 10 p.m. Art fun for adults only. This was a popular Ladies' Night event in the summer. Bring a beverage and a favorite snack to share. This will be an RSVP event. Details forthcoming.

If you have any ideas for social activities, or want to join our committee, we'd love to have you! Contact Johanna Minich at price_minich@verizon.net

Are you creative? Do you have sports experience ? Do you want to make some extra money in the summer? Do you like to work with kids?

If so, you may be just the person we're looking for! We love to offer art classes and camps to our younger members (4-12+) so if you are a high school or college student who wants to plan and offer some art or athletic camps, please contact Johanna Minich at price_minich@verizon.net. In the past, we have offered basketball, weaving, drawing, stop-motion film making, sculpture and painting. All were met with rave reviews! It can be a week long class/camp or a one day event. We'll work with you to provide some great, creative experiences for our kids.

WANTED: MANAGER - SWORDFISH CAFE

Looking for a fun summer job? We've got the place for you! Stay in the air condition while enjoying a poolside view. We're looking for the right person (or persons) to manage our poolside snack bar, The Swordfish Cafe. The position involves hiring and supervising all hourly employees (we've already got a waiting list) and working in tandem with our food provider. Prior food service experience a plus, but not a necessity. In addition to basic food prep, the responsibilities will include daily accounting for all money receipts, twice weekly inventory counts, setting weekly schedules for employees, and keeping the place clean at all times! This person would also have lots of input in terms of marketing the cafe to increase business. No ideas are too outrageous!

Want to work at the cafe but not be in charge? We've still got positions open. Must be at least 16 years old. C'mon and join the SRA team for 2016!

Contact the SRA office for more info (sra2office@gmail.com).

TENNIS NEWS

Another year, another successful New Year's Eve tennis day! As always we had great tennis, food, and an awesome fire. Thanks to Joe and Jill Wiggins for the firewood starter. And a major shout-out to Jamie for providing beer and designing our flyer.

Spring teams are forming. Let Sara Brown know if you are interested in playing. Sarasbrown123@gmail.com or [804-405-7171](tel:804-405-7171).



Swim Team 2017 Calendar



Information about Spring Clinic and swim assessment will be announced via email in a few weeks.

Monday, May 15:	First day of afternoon practice @ SRA
Saturday, May 27-Monday May 29:	No practice for Memorial Day weekend
Wednesday, May 31:	Deadline for early bird swim team registration and deadline to be eligible to swim the first meet.
Saturday, June 3:	First Saturday morning practice
Saturday, June 10:	Mini-meet(practice meet for new swimmers)
Sunday, June 11:	Swim Meet
Monday, June 12:	First mite party of season
Tuesday, June 13:	Morning practice begins
Monday, June 19:	Swim Meet
Monday, June 26:	Swim Meet
Wednesday, June 28:	Lip Sync
Monday, July 3:	Swim Meet
Tuesday, July 4	Independence Day, No Practice
Monday, July 10:	Swim Meet
Monday, July 17:	Swim Meet
Tuesday, July 18:	Last Mite party & last Mini-Mite practice

Thursday, July 20:	Championship Meet Entry Posted
Wednesday, July 26:	Championship Pep Rally
Thursday-Friday, July 27 & July 28:	JRAC Swim Champs
Saturday, July 29:	Awards Program & Dance Party (for all swimmers & families)

LIP SYNC!!! : Are you new to Lip Sync

Lip Sync is a super fun long standing Southampton tradition! Swimmers, siblings, parents, and coaches are all welcome to participate. You can do a solo routine, or grab as many friends as you'd like. Your act is entirely up to you and can be as creative as you wish, just as long as it remains PG.:)

Most folks like to put together a dance while lip syncing to their favorite song.

Others entertain by adding a theatrical or comedic flair. We usually ask that you keep it under 2 minutes so that we can fit everyone in.

It's a wonderful combination of a little bit of everything and that's what makes it so special.

If you need a little inspiration you can find some videos of Lip Sync from last season on our Southampton Facebook page.

Lip Sync will take place Wednesday June 28th this year so get your acts together!

More info to come!