

SRA UPDATE - WINTER 2018

Southampton Recreation Association
3201 Chellowe Rd., Richmond, VA 23225
804- 272-7401

sra2office@gmail.com
www.sra-fun.org

Board of Directors November 1, 2017 - October 31, 2018

Executive Committee

Graham Parlow, President (516-3606)
David Lynch, Past President (301-1183)
Ken Ratliff, President – Elect (852-9434)
VP Finance & Treasurer, Sean Cantrell (355-2467)
VP Facilities, Jay Bush (338-3797)
VP Development/Membership, Chris Eklund, (357-0294)
VP Programs/Social Activities, Johanna Minich (320-0566)
VP Secretary, Stephanie Moore (310-4389)

Directors

Ice, Andrea Bleck-Smith (928-7951)
Swim Team, Jamie Maccaroni (202-465-5439)
Pools, Dave Lundgren (272-6124)
Tennis, Sara Brown (Interim Director), (405-7171)

At Large: Pete Svoboda (839-5074); Alex Bolin (307-1686)

January 30, 2018

Dear SRA Members,

Joining Southampton has been one of the best decisions our family ever made. At first the decision to join was made because of the great facilities and all the activities offered at Southampton. We soon discovered that Southampton was more than just a pool, or tennis courts, or an ice rink. It is a place that has become our gathering place in the summer. A place where both our kids and us adults have made lifelong friends. A place where everyone is welcome. A place that prides itself on our ability to get stuff done using the vast talents that exist at Southampton. A place you are happy to be at and can't wait until you return. Southampton has become a second home. I hope your family loves Southampton as much as my family does. I can't wait to see you at the next event!

The Board continues to be good stewards of the club's resources. Due to the strength of our membership and financial position, we held dues relatively flat for the 2018 season. In addition, we've also been able to address some long-term maintenance needs, some visible and some not. In late summer, thanks to our partnership with Trinity Episcopal School, we resurfaced the middle tennis courts. This past fall we replaced the roof on the ice house, a long overdue need. The family pool now has new tile around

the edge. This coming spring, we will be re-plastering the competition pool and making some upgrades to the electrical systems through-out the facility.

The programs offered at Southampton continue to evolve and seem to get better every year. Our ice season is in full swing and offer lots of options to our membership. Our swim team is gearing up for another exciting and fun year. Our tennis program has undergone a significant overhaul this off-season. We've decided to partner with Tennis Central to expand our tennis offerings and bring more stability to the tennis program. We are really excited about this partnership. You can read more about Tennis Central below.

One of the many things that sets Southampton apart is the pride we take in the facility. We've met with other pools to see if we can do things better, share insights, challenges, etc. The main thing other pools always comment on is the large number of volunteers we have, a luxury they don't enjoy. We run and rely on volunteers to keep Southampton going. There are lots of opportunities to get involved, from the Spring clean-up days, to helping at a swim meet, to participating in our special projects days. Keep an eye out on our website, the club email, or our Facebook page for the dates of our next volunteer events.

Finally, the Board recently establish a number of committees to help with the running of the club. We are looking for members to join. We now have a Pool Committee (works with our pool operator to run the swimming pools, address issues); a Membership Committee (establishes and executes plans to retain and increase membership); and a Swim Team Committee. While the Swim Team has an army of volunteers, the Swim Team Committee will help oversee the direction and operation of the swim team. If you have any interest in joining these committees, please contact the office at sra2office@gmail.com.

Please feel free to contact me or the other board members should you have suggestions or questions.

Sincerely,
Graham Parlow
Board President

2018 MEMBERSHIP-PAY EARLY & SAVE!

Renewing members only! Pay your annual dues IN FULL by February 28 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.

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

Rates are as follows:

	Jan 1 thru Feb 28	After Feb 28
Senior	\$275	\$285
Single	\$445	\$455
Dual	\$530	\$550
Family	\$640	\$660

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 at 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 15, 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 29, 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.

INITIATION FEE

FAMILY OR DUAL - \$500.00 SINGLE OR SENIOR - \$300.00

A one-time initiation fee applies to all new members. It may be paid in full at the time of membership, or split into two payments, half due at the time of membership, and half due by March 15 of the year following new membership.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

FOR TENNIS ONLY SINGLE - \$ 280.00 DUAL - \$ 390.00

Available as a Single or Dual membership only, no Family. No initiation fee required. Must be referred by a current member in good standing. Associate Tennis members have full use of tennis facilities, lessons, tournaments, and tennis social events. They do not enjoy pool, ice rink or clubhouse privileges. If an Associate Tennis member decides to become a full member, the fees already paid will be applied toward regular membership rates.

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.

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 \$15.00 per week or \$35.00 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 2017 - 2018

Our coaches and crew have kept the rink running smoothly and beautifully. Figure skating lessons and hockey clinic have been a great success. Members and guests have made good use of the hours between classes. Now it's almost time for the Ice Re-veue. Thank you all for your love of the SRA 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](tel:804-272-7401)) or text Andrea ([804-928-7951](tel: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](tel:804-874-1104).

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 24, 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.

Winter Social Events

We'd love to get together over the winter! Our social committee is planning some fun events for the coming months. Be sure to put these on your calendar!

Chili Cook-off. Stop by with the family and warm up with a hot bowl of chili. February 18 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. You should have received a sign-up genius invitation via e-mail for this event. Please sign-up to attend using this sign-up genius invitation.

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 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/athletic activities and camps for our younger members (4-12+). So, if you are a high school or college student who wants to plan and offer some art camps, please contact Johanna Minich at price_minich@verizon.net or contact the SRA office at sra2office@gmail.com. In the past, we have offered 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.

SWORDFISH CAFE

Do you have any food service experience? Do you have ideas to help make our Swordfish Café even better? Now is your chance to show off your leadership and organization skills. We are looking for a group or persons to run the whole operation. If you have any interest or know of someone who may please contact Graham Parlow, graham.parlow@capitalone.com .

We are also looking for day-to-day managers and employees for this coming summer. Employees must be at least 16 years old. Please contact the SRA office to express your interest in working in the Swordfish Café, sra2office@gmail.com.

TENNIS NEWS

I am thrilled to announce that our tennis program will be under new leadership as of the start of this season. To address some of the long-standing limitations of our tennis offerings here at SRA, the board decided to establish a partnership with Tennis Central, a fast-growing tennis management company with special expertise in creating innovative, high-quality tennis programs for clubs, schools and other types of tennis facilities, including public ones.

Tennis Central's approach to helping clubs revitalize and enhance their tennis offerings is grounded in the expertise of its founder, Yann Auzoux. Yann is a former Davis Cup and tour-level player with more than two decades of experience teaching and coaching players at all levels whose credentials include having been named Washington Post Coach of the Year twice and having been voted one of Top Ten Online Instructors in the United States by the U.S. Tennis Congress, amongst many other honors.

His purpose in establishing Tennis Central was to create an organization that would make a contribution to revitalizing tennis as a sport by focusing on its grassroots – i.e., recreational and younger players, and doing so through the creation of innovative, high-quality programs, adapting the sport to the digital age and by emphasizing the social dimension of tennis more than other organizations (such as the USTA, for example) currently do. Having met Yann and heard him explain his vision to me in person, I believe that Tennis Central is extremely well suited as a partner for us as we work on strengthening and expanding our tennis program at SRA.

Helping us work toward these goals will be Yann's close associate and our new Tennis Director Holger Schmidt. Holger, who some of you already met at our Turkey Trot Event this past

November, is Tennis Central's Area Director for Richmond. Holger, who holds a senior executive position at Tennis Central and also heads Tennis Central's partnership initiative with the City of Richmond, has been hard at work over the past few months creating a plan for how to usher in a new era for Tennis at Southampton.

Amongst other items, Holger's plans for upgrading the tennis experience at SRA include:

- More extensive offerings for children & juniors, including bigger and longer summer camps
- Adding more tennis-related social events to the calendar, including mixers, socials, and mini-tournaments
- Offering tennis-specific fitness classes
- Increasing the number of lessons and clinics offered by having a team of instructors instead of a single head pro
- Upgrading and enhancing the equipment used for lessons, clinics, and camps
- Organizing "Open Houses" for individuals and families interested in joining SRA to help us recruit new members
- Enhancing our online presence through the creation of a visually appealing website dedicated specifically to Tennis at Southampton that keeps members

informed about program news and events and communicates more effectively to would-be members that they should consider joining SRA not just for the strength our swim program but on account of our tennis offerings as well

In short, Holger has ambitions for us, and he encourages all of you to get in touch with him either by phone (202-203-8603) or e-mail (holger@tenniscentral.net) if you have any suggestions for how to improve the tennis experience at SRA.

Having heard Yann explain his vision for how to grow and improve our beautiful sport, and knowing Holger's enthusiasm and determination, I am thrilled about our partnership with Tennis Central and cannot wait for the new season to begin!



Swim Team 2018 Calendar



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

Sunday, May 6:	New Swimmer Assessment @ St. Catherine's Pool 2 – 3 pm
Monday, May 14:	First day of afternoon practice @SRA
Thursday, May 17:	Disco Sports Team Suit Fitting and Apparel Sale @SRA 4-6 pm
Monday, May 28:	Memorial Day – no practice
Thursday, May 31:	Deadline for early bird swim team registration and deadline for eligibility to swim in the first meet.
Saturday, June 2:	First Saturday morning practice
Saturday, June 9:	Mini Meet (practice meet for new swimmers)
Sunday, June 10:	Swim Meet
Monday, June 11:	First Mite Party
Tuesday, June 12:	Morning practice begins

Monday, June 18:	Swim Meet
Saturday, June 23:	Flying Squirrels Night at the Diamond – gates open @ 5 pm parade @ 5 :20, game at 6 :05
Monday, June 25:	Swim Meet
Wednesday, June 27:	Lip Sync
Monday, July 2:	Swim Meet
Wednesday, July 4:	Independence Day – no practice
Monday, July 9:	Swim Meet
Wednesday, July 11:	Water Country USA
Monday, July 16:	Swim Meet
Tuesday, July 17:	Last Mite Party & Last Mini Mite Prac- tice
Thursday, July 19:	Entries posted for Championship Meet (Champs)
Tuesday, July 24:	Champs Pep Rally
Wednesday, July 25:	JRAC Swim Champs
Saturday, July 28:	Awards Program & Dance Party (for all swimmers and 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 two minutes so that we can fit everyone in.

Southampton's Lip Sync is 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 27th this year so get your acts together! More info to come.