

Richmond Sailfish
Grant follow up report
July 25th, 2012

To the Pacific Swimming Diversity and Outreach Committee,

This is a follow up report on the Richmond Sailfish swim team and its uses of the diversity grant received from the Diversity and Outreach grant program. Since we started our team in September of 2010 it has been a very busy and exciting start for our team. As we approach our two year anniversary we are excited about what we have accomplished. We have had many children try out the team and we have started to create a solid base of young swimmers that will serve as our foundation that we will build from.

The growth of our scholarship program continues to be our team's priority as we becomes better know in the community. We have had three new scholarship swimmers join our program on 75% scholarships. Additionally, with the help of a grant from the Richmond Community Foundation we have started a lesson program offering 80 children three weeks of lessons for only \$20. We have 4 swimmers that will be joining our team next week at the end of their three week lesson session and will qualify for 75% or 100% scholarships. We are working to establish a year round lesson program to offer low cost or free lessons to local children.

The Diversity grant that we received from the Diversity and Outreach committee has allowed us to expand our workout lengths and introduce dryland training to our older swimmers. We were able to offer our assistant coach more hours and increased responsibilities with her swim groups. We are still working on raising funds for swim equipment (fins, caps, swim suits, etc) but have fundraisers coming up this fall. We took our team to its first long course swim meet with many great successes. One 8 and under received his first B time, and we had a 9-10 girl swim her first 400 meter free.

The Richmond Sailfish are looking forward to having our swimmers compete at meets in the next few months and are working towards getting our first JO and Far Western times. We are planning a duel meet with the Crocket summer league team in August. We have begun having monthly intersquad meets to help prepare our swimmers for competition as well as bringing them together as a team. As a coach, I enjoy watching our new swimmers compete at their first meet, and then see the progress they make as they become stronger swimmers.

I am very optimistic about the future of the Richmond Sailfish and for competitive swimming in Richmond. As an organization we have many challenges ahead of us, but we have an incredible local community that wants us to succeed. We are thankful for the support that we have received from the Diversity and Outreach committee as it has allowed us to broaden the reach of swimming to a new community of swimmers. If you have any additional questions feel free to contact me at richmondswims@gmail.com.

John Schonder
Head Coach
Richmond Sailfish