

March 9, 2005

Dear Families of Chinook,

Many thanks to all of the volunteers that helped to make the Chinook hosted March Challenge such a great success. All of the positions had great coverage, and your club received many compliments. If you see any of the following individuals, please give them a big thank you: Dan Hoover (meet director), Doris McMahon (concessions chair), Steve Preston, Jon Lemke, & Brad Hastings (computer & timing system), Dan & Suellen Taylor (officiating & hospitality) and Bob Keller & Mike Molnar (officiating). These individuals worked the entire meet and were a huge reason as to why things ran so smoothly and ahead of schedule.

Congratulations to all of the swimmers that participated in this year's Swimathon. Our goal of \$20,000 has already been surpassed. For those swimmers that did not participate, it is still not too late to get involved and avoid the \$200 non-participation fee. Simply go to the Swimathon website for forms and instructions. Prizes will be drawn and awarded at the annual banquet in May. Achieving this goal is a great accomplishment. Last year Chinook lost a considerable amount of money, and the board was faced with and made the difficult decision to raise fees. Through our faith in fund raising, we were able to minimize the increase and Chinook should be in the "black" for this swim year.

The next swim meet for Chinook to host is the 86th annual Seattle Age Group Open on July 15th, 16th & 17th at Colman Pool. This year, we will be faced with a very formidable challenge in staffing the meet as the Western Senior Sectional Long Course meet will be held on the same dates at the King County Aquatic Center. Many of Chinook's long-time dedicated volunteers have swimmers in this elite senior meet. Thus, we need help filling the following key volunteer positions for the Seattle Open:

- Co-Meet Director
- Volunteer Chair
- Co-concessions Chairs
- Computer work

Your club truly needs individuals to step up and assume these leadership positions or part of these positions. Individuals that have given so much of their time over the years should not have any guilty feelings about being able to see their swimmers swim. Please don't be shy or scared about getting involved as there is a tremendous amount of talent and assistance that can help out. The Seattle Open has been a standout meet for all of the years that Chinook has been its host. Let's keep up the tradition. If you have any interest in assuming a leadership role for the Seattle Open, please either call me at 425.641.6980 or email me at sanders@simpson.com.

Finally, thank you to all the swimmers, coaches and parents that make Chinook such a fun, family oriented organization to be a part of. You've created a US swim club experience that is second to none in Pacific Northwest Swimming.

Sincerely,

Steve Anderson
President – Chinook Aquatic Club