

Spring 2015 Banquet Report

On Saturday, May 31st, Jessica Simons, Mary Turner, Kara McHaney, and I (Lisa) attended a VIP picnic planning event at King’s Dominion. We believe that this venue can handle our needs for the spring banquet. They have several outdoor pavilions of varying sizes to accommodate different size groups, ranging from 150 to over 1,000. Our plan is to hold the banquet in the park at lunch time (maybe 11am-1pm) on Saturday, April 25th and afterwards the kids, coaches, families can spend the day enjoying the park. Board members can retire to a board meeting at a location yet to be determined. At the banquet we hope to have a coach/athlete speaker, and give out the usual SOY awards, etc.

- We are proposing a new award (All State Award? What do we want it called?) that will be based on achievement. Swimmers who are 12 & under and achieve a “AAA”time in two different events, and swimmers who are 13 & over who achieve a “AAAA”time in two different events will receive this award. We estimate that this will be between 400-500 swimmers. This award will be something significant – a t-shirt, a sweatshirt, a towel – that will advertise the award and promote Virginia Swimming.
- VSI will cover the costs of the banquet for all the honorees who attend, coaches who wish to attend, and VSI board members. That will run about \$18 a head.
 - Honorees and coaches who want to attend will have to pay the \$27 park entrance fee that we have negotiated with Kings Dominion (regular ticket price - \$64). This \$27 will get them parking, a day in the park, the banquet, and the fabulous award they are receiving.
 - For board members who are attending the banquet only, we will make arrangement for them to get in the park at just the banquet fee.
 - For others who wish to attend the banquet (parents, friends, whoever) the fee will be the \$27 park entrance plus the \$18, so \$45.
 - And still for OTHER VSI swimmers, family, etc. who may want to come play in the park that day but NOT come to the banquet, their entrance fee will be \$33. These folks will have to pay for parking.

Here are our anticipated expenses based on the above:

500 swimmers x \$18 food cost	=	\$9,000
50 coaches x \$18 food cost	=	900
21 board members x \$18 food cost	=	378
500 swimmers x \$12 award (shirt, etc.)	=	6,000
Other awards	=	1,500
Printing & Mailing	=	1,500
SPEAKER	=	0-8,000**
TOTAL NET EXPENSE	=	\$19,278.00 – 27,278.00

We have not determined the award yet so that cost could vary. T-shirts cheaper, hoodies more expensive. I used \$12 as a reasonable target that leans toward the high side (t-shirts may be as cheap as \$5 a piece). We are also talking about the method of signing up for this event and the delivery of tickets ... We believe we can work all that out. The board has voted us an expense budget of \$19,500 for this event (if I am reading the budget right), so the inclusion of a speaker hinges on the cost of the speaker.

We need the board to do two things for us:

- **One**, give us permission to go ahead and secure the event for this date so that we can get the \$27 ticket price (this is a time-limited offering they have made us so we need to move ahead on it if we want it).
- **Two**, we can get our speaker free through Speedo if we act on the contract with them. This issue falls as part of Zone negotiations, but it impacts our banquet planning and cost so we need to know what is going to happen there.**