

Golden Gate Speed Skaters
Club Organization Meeting
March 17, 1990

I. Participation.

Many thanks to everyone who participated in our first club meeting and especially Sally Schirber for initiating the get-together. Also, thanks to everyone who brought the delicious dinner. What a great turnout we had!

John, Cheryl, and Joel Vinson; Tom, Anne, and Stephen Cooney; Mary, Greg, Karen, and Scott Wong; Jim Minami; Paul and Nicole Albert; Gordon Marshall; Susie Hartman; Sally Schirber; Gabe Kingsley and Debi; Bonnie and Chris Buja; Joe Hauer; Tai Day; Kristen, Whitney, and Eliot Temple; Sara Laufer; Annette, Lore, and Barbara Shaffer; Jaime Quan; and Mike Murphy. (Did I misspell your name? Please let me know...B.)

II. Reports.

Club Historian. Mary Wong reported that the GGSS had its second anniversary last week. She showed off the first posters that she and Greg hung in the ice rinks and bike shops to promote the first skating session. Many thanks to Mary and Greg for their continued work to promote speed skating in the Bay Area!

Treasury. Sally Schirber, money collector extra-ordinaire, reported a balance of \$1500 in the treasury and a cash flow of \$17,000 over 2 years. Many thanks to Mary for her work as Secretary/Treasurer last year.

Racing. Greg Wong and Chris Buja reported on the racing programs we've had this year. Starting with the Turkey Sprints in November and concluding with the Gold Rush Series this spring, all the events have been well attended. Greg (or was it Jim?) sees several racing series next year and brought up a few questions that the racing committee will decide:

1. Are the current awards appropriate? Should every racer receive something (a ribbon or pin) for participating? (The general consensus was yes to both questions but the committee will determine the implementation.)
2. Should we have some time trial standard which guides which racers participate in which divisions?
3. For the Gold Rush, if a racer changes divisions, how should the points be awarded?

Someone asked, "How much does a race cost?" It really depends on the awards...

\$200	Ice Rental	\$200	Ice Rental	\$200	Ice
\$30	Ribbons	\$100	Medals	\$350	Trophies
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\$230		\$300		\$550	

*** Greg (Chairman), Chris Buja, John Vinson, and Tai Day volunteered to be on the racing committee. Mario Rulloda may also join them.*

*** Gabe will build a bulletin board so that we can post information about speed skating and the results from meets -- maybe even personal best times.*

Sara Laufer (and Bob?) are working on a developing interest in speed skating in Stockton by possibly hosting a 4th of July meet at the Stockton rink. The cost of the ice is \$130 per hour.

Fundraising. Gabe Kingsley reported that our fundraising efforts have been successful to date with the T-Shirt printings and the support for the Gold Rush Series. Our latest foray into the world of fundraising is the new GGSS pins which could raise more than \$2500 for the club to help buy badly needed equipment such as safety pads. The pins are selling for \$4.50 each or in quantities of a dozen, \$4.00 each. Gabe explained that we are giving folks a bargain since the market price for pins of the same quality is between \$5 and \$6.

Johan Nowack is selling pins at the Worlds this weekend and Mary reported that we have an opportunity to sell pins at the Nationals (March 31 - April 1). Sally Schirber and Gordon Marshall will be working at the concession table at the upcoming Nationals in L.A. Gabe encouraged everyone to help sell pins that we can work towards building a better club.

Membership. Mary mentioned the various ways we are trying to get new skaters -- the notice in the San Jose Mercury News, an upcoming notice in City Sports, and posters in local bike shops. Mary and Greg's number is listed on all the promotions and most new skaters talk with the Wongs first about how to borrow or purchase skates. She meets with them at the first session, gives them a packet of information on speed skating including the ASU's introductory brochure and our news letters.

Equipment. Jaime Quan is managing the skate box now. Novice skaters can rent skates for \$30.00 for an unlimited time and will receive a \$10.00 refund when the skates are returned. The one time rental charge will be \$1.00. Sally Schirber will manage the finances for this effort. The club requests that any skates currently not used by novice skaters please be returned.

Ice Time. We now have over 40 skaters regularly attending the Sunday sessions. Jim Minami and others suggested that we extend the sessions to 1 1/2 hours so that the skaters can get an adequate workout.

*** Paul Albert will work with Ice Capades Chalet Management to try to secure 1 1/2 hours of ice time.*

It was also recognized that we need a second session for training.

*** Gordon Marshall will get research available times and costs at the local rinks and work to get us a second session.*

Events. Paul Albert reported that the Ice Capades Chalet wanted to put on one or more exhibition speed skating events. Everyone thought it was a good idea but cautioned that we would need to ensure that the Ice Capades would assist in absorbing the new skaters by helping to supply equipment. It was suggested that perhaps Ice Capades could stock rental speed skates and/or become a local supplier for speed skates.

*** Paul will look into this idea further with the Ice Capades Chalet management to find out more what they would like to do.*

Bonnie Crater is working on a weekend skating seminar and trying to get Pat Maxwell (former National Team Coach) as the guest speaker and coach. Bonnie has written a letter to Pat requesting his participation. She suggested that the club could really make a fun weekend out of it with picnics and barbecues between training sessions. The event is planned for the May or June time frame and there will probably be a fee to participate. However, the ASU or the Southern California Association may subsidize the event. Anne Cooney has volunteered to assist with this event.

*** Bonnie will check on additional funding resources for the seminar.*

Gabe Kingsley and the Wongs will be hosting Inze and Sara Bont next week. Sally suggested that we might have a special skating session and Greg suggested having a pot luck for them on Wednesday. Someone else also mentioned that it might be nice to ask them to sponsor the GGSS somehow.

*** Greg will announce the plans for the Bonts at the Sunday skating session.*

III. Elections.

The club elected Paul Albert as President of the Golden Gate Speed Skating Club. The governing board will consist of the President and Treasurer plus all the committee heads. Board meetings are open to EVERY member of the Golden Gate Speed Skating Club and will be held starting in May on the first Sunday of the month at 3:30 in the meeting room at the Ice Capades Chalet.

The following committees were put together to work on various activities. A (C) means chairman and (?) means not confirmed. If there is a ? by your name, please confirm your participation. In addition, we welcome additional participation

by other GGSS members in helping with club activities.

Racing. Greg Wong (C), Chris Buja, John Vinson, Tai Day, Mario Rulloda (?), Jim Minami(?).

Budget. Garth Alton (C?), Sally Schirber, Mary Wong, Paul Albert, Ferd Shaffer.

Membership. Mary Wong (C), Jaime Quan, Sara Laufer.

Publicity. Sara Laufer (C), Tai Day, Annette Shaffer.

Events. Bonnie Crater (C), Anne Cooney, Sara Laufer.

Equipment. Jaime Quan (C), Greg Wong.

Fundraising. Gabe Kingsley (C?), Bob Stewart (?).

Ice Time. Gordon Marshall (C), Paul Albert, Mark Besinvenga (?).

IV. Association Status.

Either Bonnie Crater or Ferd Shaffer will be our representative at the Southern California Speed Skating Association meetings. Elections will be held soon, according to sources down south.

Contacts at the ASU have encouraged us (GGSS) to start the Northwest Speed Skating Association. The clubs in this Northwest Association would likely include the GGSS, a Stockton club, a Springfield, Oregon club, and perhaps a Seattle club.

Many GGSS members cautioned that if we were to associate, then the Oregon and Washington clubs would probably have the same communication and support problems that we are experiencing with Southern California. It was mentioned by someone that yes, we are 400 miles away from L.A. but 600 miles from Springfield (outside of Portland). Greg Wong, following some conversations with the ASU, suggested that we might act as a foster parent for the clubs to the north and encourage them to break off into their own association when the time was right.

Jim Minami explained one of the main benefits of being an association would be to be able to determine ourselves who is ready to race at national meets. Mary also mentioned that we would benefit from novice money that the ASU would provide. The drawback is that we would need to administer the Association functions including dues, disbursement of funds, race result reporting etc. Also brought up by Mary was the suggested meeting in L.A. by Jerry Search to discuss our role in the Southern California Speed Skating Association.

It was decided:

(1) To ask Jerry to call an association meeting on the 24th at 1:00 at the

Paramount Ice Rink to discuss our needs as requested in the letter we sent to him several months ago.

(2) To table the discussion about forming our own association until late Spring or Summer.