

## MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order @ 7:04 pm by Shanda D.
2. Attendance

26 Voting members present – we are at quorum.

Voting Delegate	Club/School	# of Votes
Melanie Vollman	Thom Collegiate	1
Carolyn Parr-Hillestad	Tommy Douglas Dance	2
Kyla Moffatt	Airbourne Cheer Athletics	1
Sandra Kirtzinger	Prince Albert Cheer Explosion	2
Jennifer Ingham	Gridders Cheerleading	3
Leah Maier	Miller Catholic high school	1
Ashley Herchak	SCA Judge	1
Karla Persson	Luther College POM team	1
Bonnie Chepil-Kvamme	Estevan Comprehensive School Cheer Team	1
Sydney Marshall	Twin Lakes Cheer	3
Katie Smith	Infinity Athletics	3
Chantel McDougall	Channel Performance	1
Taylor Dea	Prairie Fire Cheerleading	3
Cassidy Meshke	Western Athletics	3
Leslie Stevenson	Warman Ultimate Cheerleading	3
Cassandra Moyer	Rebels cheerleading athletics	3
Jill Lavertu	University of Saskatchewan Dance Team	2
Michelle Greer	Marion Graham Cheerleading	1
Breanna Allegretto	Tommy Douglas Cheerleading	1
Brandie Ouellette	John Paul II Collegiate	1
Todd Knihnitski	University of Saskatchewan Cheerleading Team	1
Alex Fecke	Warman Community Middle School	1
Amber Letkeman	Thrive Dance SK	1
Kristen Robertson	Marion Graham Collegiate Dance	2
Lila Chanthaseng	Alumni All Stars	1
Carley Weisbeck	Boss Athletics	3

Observers	Club/School
Ashely Tedford	Estevan Comprehensive
Ashley Nargang	Thom Collegiate
Shanda Dziurzynski	SCA President
Lisa Dunbar	SCA Athlete Director
Ashley Stevenson	SCA Coaching Director
Jenn Dubois	SCA Member at Large
Jana Orynik	SCA Member at Large
Kristen Slinn	SCA Member at Large
Melissa Marzolf	SCA Member at Large

Alissa Stewart	SCA Staff
Ailish Irwin	SCA Staff
Mishayla Kapell	SCA Staff
Kendra Jackson	Board Nominee
Ana Kuzenko	Board Nominee
Rachel Vogelsang	Board Nominee
Aubree Carlson	Board Nominee
Krista Gerlich-Firtzgerald	Cheer Canada President
Rena Fauchon	John Paul II Collegiate
Julia Klippenstein	John Paul II Collegiate
Nastashia Sheehan	Prince Albert Cheer Explosion

<b>Absent</b>
620 CKRM Rider Cheer Team
Aden Bowman Collegiate
Bedford Road
Bravo Dance Co.
Dance Elements
Prince Albert Dance Company
Centennial Pom
Biggar Cheerleading
Walter Murray Collegiate

**3. Announcement of Voting Members Present**

26 voting members present for a total of 46 votes

**4. Acceptance of the Agenda**

Motion: Kyla Moffatt (Airbourne) Seconded By: Taylor Dea (PFC)  
Passed [x] Denied [ ]

**5. Acceptance of 2023 Spring Membership Meetings Minutes (Available on the website):**

Motion: Taylor Dae (PFC) Seconded By: Melanie Volman (Thom Collegiate)  
Passed [ x ] Denied [ ]

**6. President's Report**

I will begin with a **Membership Update** for this season. We are currently at approximately 2500 registered SCA members, which is the highest number of athletes we have had to date! As you know, our funding from Sask Sport relies on our membership numbers and it is important to ensure all participants are registered in the system. The SCA has once again launched a sponsored ad campaign on social media (Facebook, Instagram and YouTube) advertising our sport. We are hoping that the campaign combined with the recent successes of our all teams in Florida, will give our sport the boost we need and that all teams can see an increase in participation province wide. If you come across one of our ads, please like and share!

The Board was very pleased to offer Ailish a permanent, part-time position with the SCA in her role as admin assistant to the executive director. Among many additional responsibilities, Ailish's main task was to organize the coach certification database and to ensure all of our coaches and CITs had completed all

of their requirements. I'm sure many of you worked with Ailish to ensure our coaches were successful in their certification for this season. Ailish has also been part of the merchandise and event planning task teams, helping our events to run smoothly and professionally.

Long-time volunteer, Mishayla Kapell, was brought in once again as our technical service advisor. Mishayla continues to be instrumental in implementing the electronic scoring system, providing design work for SCA, BOTW and Provincials as well as her continued work on for all of our IT platforms and services.

At the beginning of the season the Board and Staff completed our 2023-2027 strategic and operational plan, which has been posted on our website. I encourage you to all read through the plan to gain a better understanding of the direction we are heading over the next three years. This strategic plan took the board several months of meetings, planning and discussion and we are pleased with the directives and initiatives we have set for the next few years.

The SCA Social Media committee continues to work hard to provide updates and material to our members online – keeping our current members informed as well as working to recruit new members.

Speaking of committees, the SCA will be doing a callout for committee members in June. We will be reaching out to the cheer community to help fill these gaps. This is an excellent way to get involved and we hope that either you consider applying or that you encourage some leaders within our community to apply.

### **Coaching Update**

In September, we were excited to host our annual Coaches conference in Regina. Our conference offered expertise from national and local professionals including Kelli Stamp, Kierra Pelz, Brayden Obed, and Leslie Stevenson, providing a unique opportunity to learn new skills, grow and develop programs, and to network with others from within our Cheer community! In total we had 80 registered coaches attend our conference, as well as several SCA board members (who also coach). The conference was targeted for ALL cheer and performance cheer coaches in Saskatchewan. Offering our high-level sessions, levels three and above, ensured we provided educational experiences for our high-performance coaches. The addition of the owner's circle provided our gym owners, who are primarily high-performances coaches, the unique opportunity to learn from experts in their field along with the chance to collaborate with each other. Next year's coaches conference will be the second or third weekend in September in Saskatoon.

Last summer we are proud to say that we were successful in filming our Coach Certification Training Videos, which were on our strategic plan initiatives for many years. Through these training videos, coaches will learn the fundamentals of teaching level specific stunt and tumbling skills, while gaining insight into questions they may be asked during their in-person exams. These educational videos will assist coaches to learn safe, effective teaching methodologies for level 1/novice through to level 4/advanced. Cost to access these videos is \$50 for a six month subscription and they are available on our website.

We were able to offer 2 sport injury, prevention, and care workshops this year in order to assist all of our certified coaches complete or update their training. 10 coaches took advantage of these free workshops!

This year, we continued to offer virtual in-person certifications, which began in August, for cheer coaches. Our examiners conducted over 72 exams. In addition, we certified or re-certified 31 performance cheer coaches through our online certification exams.

Our Current Coaching spreadsheet and coaches in SortLomo have been ratified, and we have a combined total of over 230 CITs and Certified, active coaches in Saskatchewan!

### **Officials Update**

The SCA “sent” five representatives to Cheer Canada’s virtual “Train the Trainers” refresher course: Carley Weisbeck, Ashley Herchak, Ashley Stevenson, Alissa Stewart and Kristen Slinn. Following the training event, all of our SCA clinicians worked hard to prepare scoring and judging material for our judges’ training.

In October, the SCA collaborated with Cheer Canada to offer International Cheer Union Performance Cheer Judges’ training in Regina. The SCA was fortunate enough to subsidize the cost of this training for TEN Saskatchewan performance cheer judges and coaches, six of whom were successful in reaching certification. We are excited to hopefully see some of our Saskatchewan judges on the stand at future ICU events!

In November, the SCA provided in-person Cheer Canada judges’ training on the Cheer Canada scoring system in both Regina, with the option of joining virtually. We brought in Marcy Kuzemchak for her expertise, which was a huge benefit to our members during training. This training was recorded and made available to attendees for reference. Additionally, we had ten attendees from outside of Saskatchewan join our training, either in-person or through Zoom.

This training included judges’ training for Skill Identification, All Star Cheer (including Global, Prep and Novice), Scholastic Cheer, & Performance Cheer (Dance). 42 individuals signed up for the training. Judges’ training is free for all SCA members and open to judges, coaches and athletes.

The SCA provided judging services for Battle at the Border, Winter Knockout, Best of the West, Warman Cheer Classic and Provincials. Building off previous years, we were able to use the electronic scoring platform, which allowed judges to input scores directly to the scoresheets, adjust scores accordingly and provide more comments and feedback. Future plans include moving to a paperless platform where coaches will be able to access scoresheets quickly.

This year we had 23 certified judges who were so amazing and flexible during our season. We also had Mishayla, who worked at most of our competitions as our admin and excel wizard. Our Judges had a very successful season with many traveling to out of province competitions all across Canada including Vancouver, Toronto, Halifax, Montreal and Edmonton.

### **Athlete Development**

From November to January we were happy to offer both our school cheer and performance cheer teams the opportunity to bring in an SCA clinician to help with skill development and routine cleanup. Thank you to Raija McCallen, Rachel Vogelsang, Dani Anderson and Timara Klock for working with our school teams to help them get cleaned up for competition season. Four schools participated in the camps.

In November we also introduced a new camp for athletes in the Level Up series, called “Level up your Performance Strength”. This workshop was offered in both Regina and Saskatoon (which was switched to Zoom) and 21 athletes participated. Athletes who attended received the tools to help deal with the stress and anxiety that can come with competitive sports to help them feel calm and confident when they hit the mat. We are excited to continue to offer different clinics through the Level Up series next season.

This year was the second year the SCA ran Best of the West after purchasing it from Thomas and Janessa Rath in 2022. This year we grew so much that we were able to offer a session on Friday night for our Worlds athletes and specialty routines. Over 1600 athletes participated on over 100 teams! Best of the

West will be in Moose Jaw once again on February 7 & 8 and we will be offering one partial paid and two at large Worlds Cheerleading Bids.

Provincials was held in Saskatoon this year. With over 1600 athletes in attendance, almost every competitive school and club from Saskatchewan was in attendance. We acknowledge there were a few issues with traffic, and we are working on solutions for both the Regina and Saskatoon events to ensure our athletes and parents have a positive experience with drop-off and pickup in the future. We are very proud of how our community supports the SCA and continues to contribute to our growth. Provincials will return to the Conexus Arts Centre in Regina next year, on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Just this past weekend we brought in Sam and Rolton of from Spirit FX Canada to coach our level up camps for levels 1,2 & 3 along with our new program the Level Up Intensive. The Level Up Stunt camps offered six sessions hosted at two of our clubs and had over 150 athletes participate from across the province! It was truly special to see athletes from different clubs and schools work together to learn new skills. The Level up Intensive was successful in Regina, with 12 athletes participating. This intensive camp taught athletes new level 5 skills in stunting, tosses, pyramids and performance.

In April, we had three teams travel to the inaugural Canadian Cheerleading Championships in Halifax to represent Team Saskatchewan. Team ammolite from Warman Ultimate competed in the youth all girl median division and the alumni all-star dance teams competed in the senior hip hop and senior pom divisions. All three teams represented Saskatchewan with excellence and the SCA is very proud of them.

This past season saw many successes from teams from across the province. We had three teams qualify for Canadian Finals: Code Red (PFC), Vogue (Boss) and Notorious (Rebels), all with amazing results. Six of our teams received bids to the World Championships. In dance, with a tenth-place finish, we had Desire from Boss athletics who also represented Team Canada in the senior pom division! In cheer we had Luxe from Boss Athletics, Smoke from Rebels, Peridot from Warman Ultimate, Revolution from Rebels with a fourth-place finish, and bringing home a third-place globe, Fever from Prairie Fire. Congratulations to all our high-performance teams, we are proud to have such amazing representation at these high caliber events.

## **7. Resolutions**

- None at this time

## **8. 2024-2025 Named Director Positions**

a) President by acclamation:

- Ashley Stevenson

b) Judging Development Director by acclamation:

- Anastasia Kuzenko

c) Coaching Director by acclamation:

- Kendra Jackson

d) Secretary/Treasurer by acclamation:

- Kyla Moffatt

e) Dance Director by acclamation:

- Rachel Vogelsang

**9. Nominee Introductions Member At large Director Positions**

- Aubree Carlson
- ~~Caelan Bodnarik~~ - Withdrawn
- ~~Janelle Schaffer~~ - Withdrawn
- Melissa Marzolf

Because no election was required, Nominee introductions were not required

**10. Appointment of a Scrutineer**

Because no election was required, a scrutineer was not appointed.

**11. 2024-2025 Member at Large Directors Election**

Because no election was required, the vote was not required.

**12. New Business**

1) Cheer Canada Update

- a. Introduction – Krista Gerlich-Fitzgerald (President of Cheer Canada) & Joanna Law
  - (1) Review of procedures and turnover of board members and staff
  - (2) Age Grids are now online (including performance cheer & special abilities)
  - (3) Pan Am Championships being hosted by Canada in September (happens every two years and rotates around 11 countries)
  - (4) Team Canada Coach Applications will be opening soon
  - (5) Looking into a new development structure that will replace the current Academy program.
  - (6) Cheer Canada Coaching Certification program will be rolling out soon including the NCCP courses.
  - (7) Encourage members to join a CC committee

Questions for Krista:

- Leslie Stevenson asked if there could be more time as initiatives are rolled out such as the coach certification for Worlds 2024 and the First Aid requirement for October 2024. Krista indicated that the Worlds Coach certification process was a result of a last minute IASF requirement and that Cheer Canada had to provide a lot of volunteer work to help coaches. She also indicated that the First Aid requirement would be determined by the PTSO.
  - Jennifer Ingham asked Krista if she could provide an overview of Cheer Canada's finances. Krista indicated that the finances were behind but the 2021.2022 audit is now available. She acknowledged that the numbers are post-covid and do not give an overly accurate picture of where the finances may actually be at. She said that better bookkeeping is now being done and that the 2022.2023 audit will be available soon. Krista went over the major budget lines for expenses which includes staffing, memberships, and Team Canada. She also suggested some revenue budget items that the CC Board is looking at to generate extra funds to support programming.
- 2) **NEW Crossover Policy**
- Shanda provided an overview of the rationale for why the board made this decision.
  - Concerns from Leslie Stevenson:
    - o School athletes can cross over to all star and this isn't fair play. Shanda responded that since they compete on different score sheets and are from different programs. The SCA cannot police.

- Clubs can level down an entire team which she felt wasn't fair play. Shanda indicated that how clubs determine to place athletes on teams is up to them, but it doesn't violate this policy.
  - Leslie felt that this policy affects businesses and their profits, specifically the events that she runs. Shanda responded that the SCA made this decision which is best for all athletes.
  - Leslie would like clarification on what rules she should be following for crossovers. Shanda indicated that since the IASF doesn't have a crossover policy, Event Producers can follow this crossover policy. Shanda said that if an IASF policy comes out, the board can review the policy and make amendments that would align with any new IASF policies.
  - Taylor Dae from PFC voiced her opinion of support, indicating that many EP's already have crossover policies similar to this.
  - **Clarification needed for ICU teams that cross to All Star.** Shanda indicated that the SCA Board should look at this at their next meeting.
- 3) Announce the new 2024-2025 Board of Directors
- a. Thank you to outgoing board members: Jennifer Ingham, Carley Weisbeck, Ashley Herchak, Shanda Dziurzynski & Becky Middleton
  - b. 2024-2025 Board of Directors:
    - (1) Ashley Stevenson – President
    - (2) Anastasia Kuzenko – Judging Development Director
    - (3) Kendra Jackson – Coaching Director
    - (4) Kyla Moffatt - Secretary-Treasurer
    - (5) Rachel Vogelsang – Dance Director
    - (6) Melissa Marzolf – MAL
    - (7) Aubree Carlson – MAL
    - (8) Jennifer Dubois – MAL
    - (9) Jana Orynik – MAL
    - (10) Kristen Slinn – MAL
    - (11) Lisa Dunbar – Athlete Director

**13. Adjournment @ 8:09 pm by Shanda D.**



## 2024 Spring Membership Meeting

May 13, 2024

I embarked on my journey in the cheer community ten years ago, setting the foundation for a remarkable career ahead.

I started my passion for cheerleading at the age of 15 in grade 9 at the Yorkton Regional High School. I spent my 4 years of high school cheering and gaining my love for cheer. In grade 12 I then joined Gridder Cheer as a coach and have been apart of it ever since. Over my years of coaching I have gained knowledge and created a sense of teamwork in countless aspiring cheerleaders. I am always driven to seek growth in myself and as a coach. I feel I qualify for this position as I am a very organized person, I tend to stand for what I believe is right and with my many years of cheer experience and background of cheerleading, my hard work ethic, my commitment and qualifications I feel it would be a great opportunity for me to be a member at large.

Thank you for your time and consideration

Caelan Bodnarik