

April 24, 2010

Dear Marlins and Friends of the Marlins,

We are announcing both very sad and tremendously exciting news to all our Team members, past Marlins, and friends.

Over the past three years we have worked very closely with the City of San Mateo Recreation Department to restructure the Marlins as an independent club. This transition was in response to on-going financial pressures within the City, and a belief that the Marlins should be independent of the City's Recreation program - self-sustaining and self-supporting.

The City's budget crisis this past year brought home to us in vivid terms the difficulties the City faces, and the vulnerability of a pool facility that continues to run at a significant deficit. In short, the City Recreation Department cannot in good conscience guarantee continued availability of Joinville as a pool facility for us to call home.

In light of this, as the College of San Mateo has been building their new Health and Wellness facility, we have been talking with them about the opportunities that they might offer the Marlins team. They have opened their facility, selected a management team, and an Aquatics Director. Our Head Coach Scott Williams has been instrumental in continuing a dialog with San Mateo Athletic Club about moving our Masters team to this incredible new pool and health club.

The SMAC has offered us a very generous corporate charter membership package, and many of us have had the opportunity to swim a workout at the new pool and tour the facility. The Swim Committee, with Head Coach Scott's advice and counsel, has voted to accept SMAC's offer. We urge the entire team to move to the new facility as a group.

San Mateo Athletic Club offers us an incredible opportunity to grow our team in a beautiful new 50 meter pool, with excellent coaching, and a full range of training and exercise amenities. They have responded wonderfully to our request to make the rates for membership as comparable as possible with current rates for masters at Joinville.

We will swim with San Mateo Masters and continue to register with USMS as San Mateo Master Marlins - Club 001.

Leaving Joinville will be incredibly difficult - it has been home for almost 40 years. We are very grateful to the wonderful Pool Staff, the Recreation Department, and especially Paul Council for his professionalism and support.

We are looking toward the future - and another 40 years of Masters Swimming with the San Mateo Master Marlins.

Nancy Littlefield, for the
San Mateo Master Marlins
Swim Committee