

February 12, 2007



Dear Parents:

First, the board of directors and the entire swim team would like to thank you for your support, donations and hard work which helped to make our "Last Chance" swim meet a great success. I can't say how proud I am of the parents, the swimmers, the coaches and the aquatic center staff. Everyone came together to deliver our first sanctioned swim meet raising just over \$5,000 for our team. Henry Ford once said, "coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, but working together is success." I am very proud of our success and of our team effort – THANK YOU!

Second, I wanted to give you an update on the fee structure that will be going into effect beginning March 1, 2007. As many of you know, we have been working with the Parks and Recreations Department and the County over the past 6 months to establish a fair and equitable fee structure for our swim team. The new fee structure will require the team to pay lane usage fees based on the number of lane hours used each month. The new fee structure **will not require** swim team members to purchase an aquatic center membership nor a program pass, this saves each family approximately \$130 per year per swimmer. Monthly swim dues will increase to help offset the new monthly lane usage fees. In an effort to be fair, the new fee structure will not be the same for all age groups. The new fee structure will be more reflective of each group's practice hours, lane usage and coaching time. Listed below are the new fees effective March 1, 2007:

New Fee Structure:

1. Jr. Stingrays 1&2 = \$55.00 per month
2. Age Group & Stingrays = \$65.00 per month
3. Pre Seniors & Seniors = \$75.00 per month

Families with multiple swimmers will receive a \$5.00 discount on monthly fees for the second child, a \$10.00 discount for the third child and additional children in the same family are FREE! The first child is the child in the highest level training group. In addition, any family traveling farther than 25 miles to practice will receive a flat \$10 discount on their total monthly fees.

Also, please note that we are currently working to institute an electronic payment application that will allow you to set up recurring monthly payments online. We strongly recommend that everyone use this payment method once it becomes available. This will make it easier for you to pay and for us to collect monthly dues, which will improve our team's cash flow and reduce our administrative workload. We will be communicating with you very soon about the implementation of this new payment method.



Finally, we are updating our primary means of communication. Traditionally, our team has relied on email as our primary communications tool; however, as swimmers come and go, email addresses change, distribution lists change or if people just forget to check their email, then the communication channel fails. Therefore, effective March 1, 2007 all team communications will be centralized at our team website (www.douglascountystingrays.org). It will be the responsibility of the parents and swimmers to check for new information, meet notices, upcoming events, practice schedules, etc. Randy Kath has invested a lot of time and effort creating our website and we need to leverage it to become more efficient and effective in our team communications. The centralization of the communications process will help to insure everyone has access to the same information and the information is up to date and centrally maintained.

In addition to team communications, we have formed a Communications and Public Relations Committee which will be responsible for all public correspondence. This includes managing newspaper articles, marketing campaigns, team ads, meet invitations, fundraiser flyers, swim clinic notices, etc. Deana Sneyd will chair this committee and will be responsible for creating a positive and consistent voice for our swim team.

We are a young team and I know we are not perfect, but I am very proud of what we've accomplished and where we are going. We will continue to improve and grow and if you ever have any concerns or questions please don't hesitate to contact a board member or one of our great coaches. We are all in this together and in order to make this the best swim program possible we will need your involvement, support and understanding.

Thank you once again for being part of our swim family. I look forward to 2007.

GO STINGRAYS!

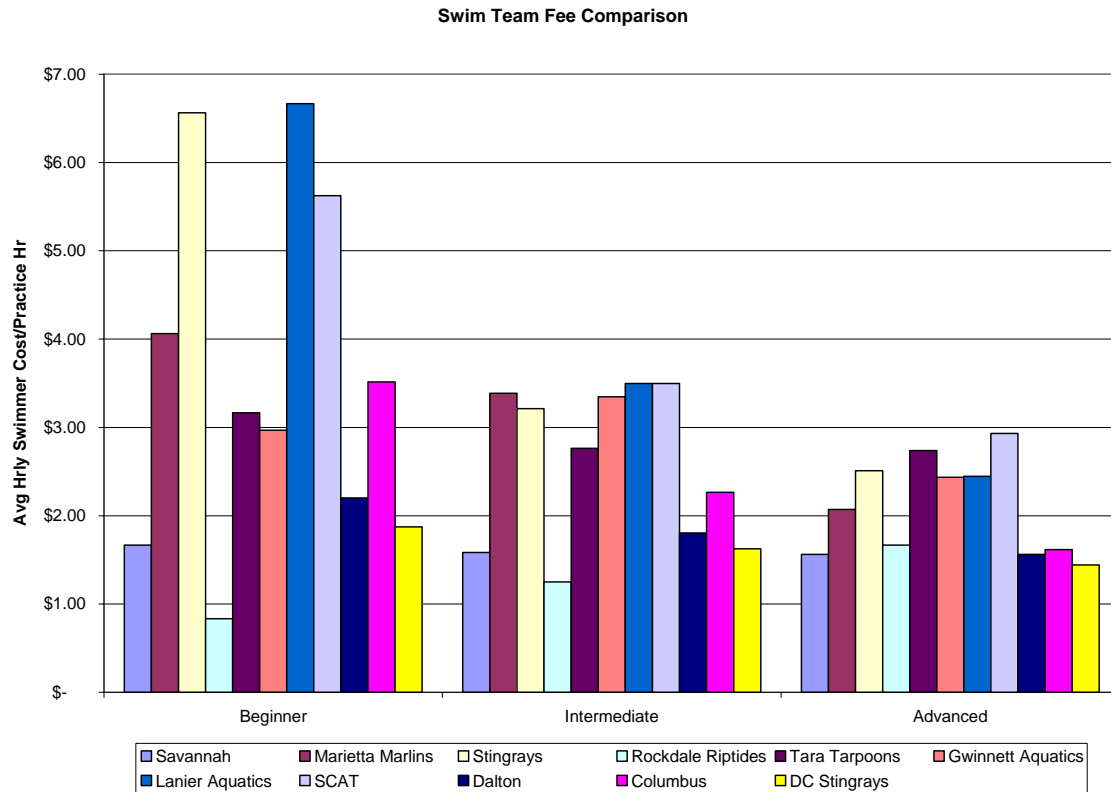
Sincerely,

Michael O. Miller

Michael O. Miller
President - Board of Directors
Douglas County Stingrays



The graph below compares our new fee structure to 10 comparable Georgia swim teams. As you can see our team has one of the lowest swimmer cost structures as compared to the peer group.



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When you take into account the savings associated with eliminating the annual aquatic center membership fee the new fee structure does not represent a substantial increase. Specifically, the Jr. Stingrays 1&2 will have the same annual cost as they did in 2006, Age Group & Stingrays will pay an additional \$10.00 per month and Pre Seniors & Seniors will pay an additional \$20.00 per month as compared to 2006. Please know it is our goal to keep our fee structure as low as possible, yet maintain either a marginally positive or breakeven month to month cash flow. Hopefully, this chart demonstrates the value of our swim team, which has an average hourly swimmer cost per practice hour well below \$2.00 and well below most other teams.

