

**JRRC BARRACUDAS
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
NEW SWIMMER ASSESSMENTS**

Q. When and how will I know if my child has to participate in an evaluation?

- A. All New Swimmers are to participate in an evaluation and can begin signing up on **February 15, 2010** by contacting the Barracuda Registrar at [New Swimmer Registrar](#).

Q. Why are there evaluations?

- A. Whether or not we do evaluations will be determined by the number of returning swimmers registering in each age group. The growth of the swim team has been tremendous and has now allowed us with the opportunity to figure out how to best maximize:

- Quality of instruction for each swimmer
- Amount of instruction for each swimmer
- Availability of the pool for the team

Having evaluations are key to enhancing the team's ability to deliver on the Values of the Team (Physical Fitness, Individual Excellence, Teamwork, Competitiveness, Sportsmanship, and A Great Place to Swim) for every swimmer.

Q. When will my child's evaluation be?

- A. All evaluations are on **Saturday, March 6, 2010** at Johnson Ranch's South Club. The times for the evaluations are listed below. If you have any difficulties with the assigned time for your child, please make the necessary arrangements directly with Coach John Hooten at headcoach@johnsonranchbarracudas.com. ***Please do not bring your child for an alternate time without permission.***

Evaluation Schedule	
11 years old and Up	9am – 10am
9-10 year olds	10am – 11am
7-8 year olds	11am – 12pm
6 year olds and Under	12pm – 1pm

Q. What's the likelihood of my child making the team if they have to be evaluated?

- A. There's no way of knowing this without all of the facts, but we're hopeful that the vast majority (if not all) of those signing up will join the team. Key indicators will be your child's comfort and confidence in the water, demonstrating respect and discipline, listening to and executing on the basic instructions given, and ability to swim.

Q. Why aren't there a clear maximum number of swimmers per age group for each gender?

- A. We are setting target numbers, and trust the judgment of our coaches to make the right choices via the evaluations. Setting an inflexible number would potentially leave us in a situation where the number of "returning swimmers," would not allow us to add new talent even if that person would be a great addition to the Barracuda team.

Q. Does everyone have to participate in evaluations?

- A. No. Returning swimmers in good standing will not have to participate in evaluations. All potential new team members will be screened to determine skill level.

Q. What should we expect at the evaluation?

- A. Expect our awesome and cheerful coaches to help your child feel comfortable while providing some basic instruction on stretching, swimming, and fitness while assessing your child's ability and willingness to execute as requested. We expect this to be less than one hour.

Q. What will the coaches look for?

- A. Your child paying attention, following instructions, and being at ease in the water will be important factors. Additionally, the coaches will assess your child's ability to perform various swim techniques at various distances (depending on your child's age) with the major focus being on freestyle and backstroke.

Q. Why can't the coaches give the swimmers lessons?

- A. We are proud to have an exceptional group of coaches who have consistently fought to avoid evaluations. Unfortunately, we've become victims of their success which has resulted in a large number of swimmers. Being a competitive swim team, swimming with the Barracudas is not intended to be "swim lessons" for young people that do not know how to swim. Our coaches are expected to teach proper swimming technique and stroke mastery to all swimmers. We've been fortunate that over the years our coaches have had enough time, energy, and expertise to competently provide basic swim instruction as necessary while also building a championship recreational swim team.

Q. Is there priority or preference given to any one?

- A. Yes. Assuming all things were equal (assessment of following instructions, displaying respect, swim ability at age level, etc.) siblings of returning swimmers and new swimmers in non-impacted age groups would receive first consideration.

Q. When and how will I know if my child has made the team?

- A. A coach or a member of the Barracuda Board will contact you no later than Monday, March 9th, to make you aware of the results of your child's evaluation.

Q. What can we do to prepare?

- A. We are here to encourage and support your child in this opportunity with the desire that every child can be a Barracuda. You know your child best!
- You might seek personal swimming assistance if you're not comfortable with your child's ability to swim 25 yards unassisted.
 - You may want to consider some help with discipline and focus if your child is frequently admonished for their choices in classrooms or other group settings.
 - You might consider a reasonable persuasion or incentive to help amplify your child's listening skills.