**2017-2018 SPOKANE WAVES FEES**

Funding for the Spokane Waves is derived from registration fees, training fees (dues), donations, Swim-a-thon, and other fundraisers, including net income from meets hosted by SWAT. These fees are primarily used to pay coaches’ salaries and travel fees, pool rent, and equipment expenses.  The team operates approximately 11 months each year.

SWAT training dues are a yearly fee divided into nine (9) or ten (10) equal monthly payments for convenience.  Year-round participation by all swimmers is encouraged.  All swimmers are required to pay the yearly training fee.  Swimmers joining in December or later pay monthly installments through July.

Due to the size of our team, it is difficult to keep track of swimmers who take a leave of absence for any period of time. In addition it is extremely hard to prepare an annual budget which takes into consideration the income lost by swimmers who decide to take a leave of absence of any length. The Waves require a 9 month commitment starting in September each year. Swimmers that choose to take a break will still be required to pay for nine months of participation.

Our Spokane Waves website supported by Team Unify is a safe and secure place to register your athlete/s and make monthly payments. For the 2017-2018 season all payments must be made through credit card or automatic withdrawal from a selected bank account. No Exceptions.

Payments on accounts are due by the 1st of each month.  Accounts that are not paid in full by the 15th are considered past due and will be charged a $15.00 late fee.  Your swimmer will not be allowed to swim unless your account is current.  Notification for current invoices will be e-mailed from the website; please log on and check your invoice/account after you receive the e-mail notification.

When a swimmer moves up a training group, the remaining monthly installments will be at the new group’s rate.

A family pays dues for a maximum of 3 swimmers.  If a family has 4 or more swimmers, dues are to be paid for the 3 most advanced swimmers in the family.

* High School:  WAVES swimmers who also compete for a high school swim team only (Women: September-November; Men: December-February) received a 3-month credit toward the yearly fees, posted in September.

**USA SWIMMING REGISTRATION FEE**

USA Swimming (USA-S) and Inland Empire Swimming (IES) are our governing bodies.  Each swimmer MUST be registered with USA-S in order to swim with Spokane Waves.  The annual USA-S fee for the 2017-2018 season is $71.  The USA-S fee posts to the account at registration.

Swimmers who paid a seasonal-registration fee in 2017 must pay the USA-S fee before their first practice in September and will be covered until December 2017.

Swimmers who paid an annual USA-S registration last season are covered through December 2017.  Fees for 2018 must be paid by November 3, 2017, and swimmers will be covered until December 2018.

**MEET ENTRY FEES**

If your swimmer is interested in competing at a meet, the swimmer and coach will discuss the meet and entries, and then he or she can be entered.  Entries for upcoming meets will be requested about 3 weeks before the actual meet occurs.  Since the coaching staff works with the swimmers on a day-to-day basis, the staff has the best understanding of what each swimmer is capable of doing.  Therefore, the swimmer’s coach will assist in completing all entries for meets.   Another source for meet information and results for all Inland Empire meets is the MEETS page of the Inland Empire website (www.ieswim.org).

Invitational meets (more than 2 participating teams) require the following entry fees: $12 IES surcharge, $10 Waves surcharge (covers team relays and coach travel expenses), and $3 per event entered fee.

Most inter-squad or developmental meet fees range from $5-$15 per meet.

All meet entry fees will be billed immediately after the deadline and will post on your normal monthly invoice.  Meet entry fees are non-refundable, even if the swimmer is subsequently unable to attend the meet.

* If your swimmer qualifies for food stamps or for free or reduced school lunch, he or she is eligible for reduced USA-S fees and training fees.  See Registrar for OUTREACH information/application.    All outreach applicants must supply a proof of food stamps, or a letter showing reduced/free lunch eligibility.  Even if you qualified for Outreach last year, you must re-apply for the 2017-2018 season.

**FUNDRAISING:  SWIM-A-THON**

In order to keep fees as low as possible, fundraising is required by each family.  Swim-a-thon is SWAT’s annual and only required fund-raiser, and all swimmers must participate even if he/she is unable to swim in the event.  During Swim-a-thon swimmers collect pledges, either for laps they swim or flat amounts.  This event encourages the swimmers to raise funds from friends, families, neighbors and relatives, or families may choose to donate money themselves.  Businesses that a family frequents may also be willing to sponsor a swimmer for Swim-a-thon.  SWAT is a qualified 501(c)3 non-profit organization; all donations are tax deductible.  The team keeps 95% of all donations, and 5% is sent to USA-Swimming to support national swim programs.  Swim-a-thon is a very fun event with participation prizes and surprises and cool things for top fund-raisers.

For the annual Swim-a-thon, each swimmer is required to turn-in a minimum of his or her monthly training fee.  For families with multiple swimmers, the cap is $250.00.  If you chose not to participate, you will be invoiced the monthly training fee in June or July.  The date for Swim-a-thon 2018 is still to be determined, but more information will be posted on the website in the months before the event.