



www.ppdswim.org

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How do I know what pool my child will practice at?

A. This information can be found on the practice schedule. The majority of the time the team uses Fremd High School, Harper College and Palatine High School. In the summer, once the Park District pools are open, practices will be held at Birchwood, the Family Aquatic Center and Eagle Pool.

2. What time are practices?

A. Between 4-9 pm until school ends. For our Top Age Group 1 and Senior groups, there will be morning practices offered. "Generally", Pre-comp practices for 45-60 minutes, Novice, Developmental 1 & 2 for 1 hour, Tag 1 & 2 for 1-2 hours, Senior & Senior Elite for 2 hours.

3. How many practices should my child attend a week?

A. Coaches recommend regular and consistent attendance for the best results.

4. Where do I get a practice schedule?

A. On our team website at ppdswim.org, under the "Practice Calendars" tab.

5. Can I watch my child practice?

A. Yes. But we ask that you never interrupt practice by talking to your child or coach during the respective practices.

Shark Shop

6. Do I need to purchase a team swimsuit?

A. Yes except, for Pre-Comp swimmers. Team caps must also be worn at practices and meets.

7. Where do I purchase team suits, caps, etc?

A. You may purchase team suits, apparel, and gear at the Swim Team Store. Team caps may be purchased from our coaching staff. You will be charged through your escrow account for all team caps.



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Coaches

8. How can I communicate with the coach?

A. The Birchwood office phone number is (847) 202-3240. You may also email the coaches through the ppdswim.org website. Keep in mind if you do ask your child's coach a question off the pool deck specific to your child; the coach may not be prepared to address it at that time.

9. How are the PPD groups determined? By age or ability level?

A. Multiple factors such as age, ability, focus, attendance and work ethic determine your child's placement. In the end, it is the coaches' discretion as to which group your child is placed.

Meets

10. How does my child get signed up for meets?

A. Go to ppdswim.org, click the Resources tab, follow down to Parent Education, and follow the tutorial.

11. I have never been to a meet. How can I find out about meets?

- ASK US!!! We would love to have everyone participate.

-As the first meet of the season approaches, there is an email sent out to prepare each family for the exciting experience of their first meet.

12. If I sign up for a meet and can't go, do I need to contact someone?

A. Yes. Please email your child's coach and let them know you will not be attending. You will still be charged meet entry fees for the swim meet.

13. Do kids on the pre-competitive team swim in meets?

A. The pre-competitive team will have a pre-comp race night, in which they will race against their own teammates.



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14. Does my child have to participate in a meet

A. All kids, with the exception of pre-competitive, will be entered into home meets and charged meet entry fees for the meets. If you cannot attend, please send an email to your child's coach.

15. At PPD hosted meets, do I, as a parent, need to be present?

A. Yes. Hosting swim meets is one of the largest sources of income for the team. We need at least 1 parent to help with timing, concessions, check-in, officiating etc.

16. At meets does my child compete against kids their age?

A. Competition is by the age of the child on the FIRST day of the meet. Typically the breakouts are 8 and under, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, and open. Please be aware that your child may suddenly change into a different competition level due to their birthday right before a meet.

17. Do I need to attend all the days offered for a meet?

A. No. However, it is encouraged. You must specify this when committing to attend any meet.

18. Am I allowed on the pool deck with my swimmer?

A. No. Due to liability/insurance reasons, the parents are not allowed on the pool deck. The exception is when we are hosting a meet and you are working on deck or if you are timing at a meet.

19. How do I know if my child is swimming on a relay team?

A. After warm ups the coaches determine who will be swimming the relay. Your child must ask the coach if they are swimming a relay before leaving the pool for the day. All swimmers should plan on swimming relays. This is great fun for the kids.

20. Where does my swimmer go after completing each event at a meet?

A. Immediately after swimming an event, each swimmer must report to the PPD coaches to get feedback.