

FAQ'S

What is USS Swimming? United States Swimming is the national governing body of competitive swimming. US Swimming is a non-for-profit organization formed to promote and improve swimming in the United States. Each state is a part of United States Swimming.

What is the USS Swimming registration fee and why does my swimmer need that? According to USS rules, each swimmer in JAWS must have a valid USS number to participate. This also provides insurance. The current annual fee is \$63.00. This number is renewed in the fall of each year. JAWS will apply for the number, but you are responsible for the fee.

How does JAWS communicate to its members? The team website is www.swimjaws.com. All current information is posted on the team website. Email is our primary mode of communication. Please be sure to submit an email address when signing up for JAWS.

How will I be notified if there is practice time change or cancellation? If practices are suddenly changed or cancelled due to scheduling conflicts with pool, inclement weather, or last minute school cancellations or closings, a "blast" email will be sent out to parents, and info will be posted on the website.

If I need to communicate with my swimmers coach, how do I get a hold of the coach? If you need to contact a JAWS coach you may click on the Coaches link to access their email address on the JAWS team website. You may also contact them by through the JAWS email address at jenaegill@gmail.com. Coaches are also available before and after practices.

My swimmer is attending their first meet, what do they need to bring, where do they go when they get there? The five most important things you need to remember to bring: 1) Swimmer 2) team suit 3) swim cap 4) goggles 5) towel. Other important items to bring to meet can be found under the parent resource section on the team website. When you arrive at the swim meet, swimmers will need to check –in at the sign in table. Your swimmer will then need to find their coach to let them know they are there and then they will go sit with their team until warm-ups begin.

My swimmer is signed up for a swim meet, how do I know what events my swimmer is swimming? On the JAWS team website, you can click on "Events". Find the current meet and you will be able to click on meet entries to view what your child is swimming.

We are signed up to attend a meet, where do I get information on that meet such as location, driving directions, etc.? On the JAWS team website you can click on "Events". Find the specific meet you are attending and click on the meet letter. You will find information on meet location, driving directions, etc.

Who do I contact regarding a question about my JAWS bill? Your billing statement will have the JAWS treasurer contact information listed. You may also direct questions to the treasurer on the JAWS team website, by clicking on "contact us".

How is it determined how my swimmer gets assigned to a swim group and when they move up to the next group? This will be determined by your swimmer's performance. Generally, new swimmers are started off in the Developmental or Mako group, which swim 2-3 days per week. They will progress as they exhibit mastery of skills of the levels. This is a student-centered program. The student determines the rate of their success. Our staff will not skip important fundamental skills. The swimmers will have to master lower levels before moving into higher levels. The coach will have time available to meet with parents and swimmers to discuss goals. Coaches will then make the final recommendation when a swimmer moves to the next swim group.

Why do I have to volunteer at our home meets? JAWS is a parent run club. JAWS does not hire people to run the swim meets. Home swim meets are a major fund-raiser for the club and many volunteers are necessary to run a successful meet. Having a well ran meet, will ensure that other swim clubs will want to come back to our home meets year after year.

Is my swimmer required to swim at meets? JAWS, typically, has two home meets a year. All JAWS Swimmers are expected to swim at the JAWS home meets. There are several away meets that will be on the JAWS season schedule. We encourage your swimmer and you to talk to your coach about what other meets would be important for your child to swim at. Coaches would like to see 80% or higher of our club participation at away swim meets. Having a solid team turn-out at meets, allows swimmers to have relays with their team mates. Also it is important that our Club attendance support other area swim clubs. They support us by attending our home meets.

How will I know when my swimmer is ready to swim at a meet? Your child's swim coach will let your child and you know what meets they would like to see them participate in. Coaches will send emails out about the upcoming meet, as well as make announcements at parent meetings.

The dues that I pay for my swimmer, what does that cover? Season swim dues cover only a small portion of the Club's operating budget, roughly 25%. The Club has to rely on providing other swim programs such as Swim Camp, Swim Lessons, Hosted Meets and Fundraising Activities to cover the rest of the Club's operating expenses.

I paid for my swimmers dues, but now they have decided that they do not want to swim anymore, can I get a refund? JAWS offers a two week free-trial to any new member who has never swum with JAWS before. After the two-week free trial and they decide to continue, full season dues will be charged. If your swimmer decides after dues have been paid they no longer want to swim, there is no refund or pro-rated fee. Coaching staff are hired each season based on swimmer numbers.

Does my swimmer have to go to all the scheduled practices? Practices are not mandatory, but are highly encouraged. Coaches will tell you, that fast swimming and strong technique will come from practice, practice, practice.

Is my swimmer allowed to be involved in other youth sports? Yes, JAWS understands that most our swimmers are multi-sport athletes. We want to see our swimmers active, healthy and being involved.

Is it necessary that I attend the parent meetings? Attending parent meetings is extremely important. Parent meetings are held at minimum twice a season. Coaches attend these meetings to discuss with parents, important information about season training plans and club and swimmer goals and upcoming meets. Board Members will provide information on up-coming Club events and activities. Coaches and Board Members will make themselves available to answer questions.

I have a complaint/concern about my swimmers coach. Who do I talk to about that? Concerns or complaints should be brought to the attention of the JAWS Head Coach and/or the JAWS Board President.

My swimmer was assigned to a swim group at the beginning

of the season but was recently moved up; will I now have to pay a higher season fee? No, Even though your swimmer was moved up, their season fee will remain the same. The next new season, your swimmer will be charged the new season fee for the higher swim group. The only exception to this is during the first two weeks of practice at the beginning of a season. Coaches may move a swimmer up or down to a different training group. Your bill will be adjusted to the correct training group fee.