

Boilermaker Aquatics (BA) Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between BA and swim lessons?

BA is a competitive swim club. The swimmers train with the intention of improving and competing in meets. We welcome kids who want to train and improve strokes but at some levels we do have a competitive meet expectation for swimmers joining the team. Our mission is to produce a group of highly trained, cohesive individuals who are mentally, emotionally, and physically prepared for the competitive experience.

What is short course season?

Short course season runs from Sept.-March. The short course meets are in a 25-yard pool.

What if I have a high school swimmer?

Fees are adjusted to accommodate for the high school swimmers that leave to swim with their high school teams. Once high school season ends the swimmers can return to swim in the championship meets in which they qualify.

How often are practices?

Practice times depend on your group.

When do practices begin?

Practice begins on different days for each group. The practice schedule will be made available prior to the start of each practice season.

What will my child need for practices?

What is required depends on your group. Swimville swimwear takes care of all our suggested BA swim gear and equipment needs. Swimville comes to several of our meets throughout the year. Swimoutlet.com is another resource. The one request, if you order online, is that we wear only Speedo swimwear for team suits as they are our team sponsor. When purchasing practice or team suits we ask that you have your swimmer in competition suits. Please no recreational swim trunks or two-piece suits. Coaches will inform swimmers of required equipment items.

Where are practices?

Practices held at area high school pools, The Purdue Aquatic Center, and during Long Course Season, at Happy Hollow Pool (more advanced groups only). The group you are in determines where you will practice. Please be aware that sometimes we have to change the practice schedule due to pool maintenance, high school meets or other issues. In the event of a practice change, an email will be sent notifying all groups of the practice change.

How do I sign up?

Once your child has tried out and we know which group they are in, please contact the BA Admin at michellebaswim@gmail.com. Michelle can give you the next steps in completing your swimmer(s) registrations with BA and USA Swimming. You can use a credit card to pay using the online registration system or write a check. Once you have registered online and paid fees you are almost done. We need a **copy of your child's birth certificate** and it must be turned in before your child can start practice.

What if I join and BA is not a good fit for my swimmer?

New swimmers to BA have a two-week trial period from the start of the season. Within the two weeks you can notify us in writing and you are eligible to be refunded all fees, with the exception of the BA registration fee.

What if I want to quit mid-season?

Once you have passed the two-week trial period you are responsible for the fees until the end of the season, even if your child doesn't swim.

How often are meets?

There are usually meets available every month. They normally take place over a weekend. You can choose to swim all three days of a meet or you can just swim one. We have meet expectations listed on the meet schedule. There are varying levels of meets for all levels, from developmental meets for beginners to highly competitive meets with specific entry time standards. Meet schedules will be available soon.

Does BA offer scholarships?

Yes. We offer scholarships for those families in need. The scholarship form can be found online in the "forms and info" section of the BA website. Along with the scholarship form you will also need to turn in a "free and reduced lunch" form, along with a copy of the first page of your tax return. All information is kept confidential. Scholarships traditionally cover 50% or 75% of practice fees. In some cases reduced USA Swimming Membership fees are covered. The parents are responsible for all BA registration fees, VIP fee, any uncovered USA Swimming fees and all meet fees. **Scholarship parents are also required to volunteer their full 5 sessions.** Failure to volunteer may result in scholarship termination.

What are USA Swimming Fees?

All swimmers that swim for BA must be registered with USA Swimming. This serves as secondary insurance for your swimmers while swimming for the club. The USA Swimming membership is also necessary for swimmers who swim in any meets.

What is the VIP fee?

The VIP fee is a \$125 deposit. When you volunteer 5 sessions for the club, you will receive a credit on your account for \$125.

Any other questions can be directed to Michelle at michellebaswim@gmail.com