



SWIM. FIGHT. WIN. GO IRISH!

From Coach Matt

We have made it to the Championship portion of the season! We finished the “regular season” with last weekend’s CON Last Chance Showdown. There is a recap of the meet in this newsletter.

This week we will have practice at Notre Dame Monday through Thursday. The Thursday practice is normal for Green group, but will be restricted to Championship qualifiers (Divisional, State and Sectional) as we will have our annual pre-championship dinner after a shortened in water practice. The Gold group will not do dryland that day. In Bremen, we will have Silver and Gold practices through the Age Group State meet. This week will be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

As we move into the championship meets, it is more important than ever to make sure that all registration deadlines are met. IN Swimming has strict policies on entries into each of the meets and any sort of late entry outside of the set forth guidelines come with steep monetary fines. The registration deadline for the Age Group State meet will be next Monday, March 5. The registration

deadline for the Senior State Meet is this Monday, February 26. For each meet, I will send the initial entry in on Wednesday after the deadline and any updates with new qualifiers or event changes the Monday of the week of the meet. After that point, absolutely no changes will be made. If you have questions, please ask me! It is better to be overly cautious BEFORE deadlines than asking questions AFTER deadlines!

The next 4 weeks will be very busy with lots of fast swimming! The whole coaching staff is ready to watch our swimmers excel at the upcoming meets!

Go Irish!

Coach Matt

Calendar

Week of 2/26

- Thursday, March 1 – Championship pasta dinner after practice – Championship qualifiers only at practice
- Friday, March 2-Sunday, March 4 – NC Divisional Meet, Northridge HS, Middlebury, IN

Week of 3/5

- Monday, March 5 – Registration deadline, Senior State
- Friday, March 9-Sunday, March 11 – Senior State, Pike HS, Indianapolis, IN

Week of 3/12

- Monday, March 12 – Registration deadline, Age Group State
- Friday, March 16-Sunday, March 18 – Age Group State, IU Natatorium, Indianapolis, IN

Week of 3/19

- Thursday, March 22-Sunday, March 25 – Speedo Sectionals, University of Akron, Akron, OH

Week of 3/26

- Wednesday, March 28 – Team banquet @ Morris Park Country Club, 6:00 PM

Week of 4/5

- No Practices – Spring Break

Weekend Swimming Recap

We had a great weekend at the CON Leisure Pools Last Chance Showdown. For those not already qualified for the Divisional or State meets, this was the last meet of the short course season. We had a great showing from our swimmers at this meet with a lot of lifetime bests and two new championship qualifiers. Congrats to Will Scarlett and Aedhan Eschbach on making their first Divisional cuts in the 11-12 age group! We also had a first time state qualifier in Archer Jankoviak in the 11-12 Boys 50 Fly. All together, we had 20 new Divisional or State cuts made throughout the meet. Congrats to everyone on a great weekend!

Team Banquet

At the end of every short course season, we gather as a team for our annual banquet. This is an opportunity for all of our swimmers and families to come together away from the high humidity and chlorine smell to celebrate all we have accomplished over the past year. This year's banquet will be held at Morris Park Country Club on Wednesday, March 28, at 6:00 PM. We hope that everyone will be able to join us!

You will need to RSVP for the event and we will have that set up on the website in the coming days.

Championship Dinner

As we do every year, we will hold our championship pasta dinner on Thursday, March 1 at Rolfs after practice. This is the day before the Divisional Meet starts and is how we always kick off the championship season. All swimmers qualified for a championship meet are invited, but we will need an RSVP so we can plan appropriately for food. The dinner is set up as an event on the website, so please go on and RSVP for each swimmer attending by Tuesday morning (2/26). We highly encourage all qualified swimmers to attend as it is a great way to come together as a team before we make some waves at the championship meets. Swimmers will get their championship caps and t-shirts at the dinner, and we will unveil our championship hype video!

Billing/Invoices

This week, the March invoices will be autogenerated by the billing system. Those of you who have autopay enabled on your account and a valid credit card or ACH payment method on file will have your account paid at midnight on Thursday, 3/1 (ACH will take up to 12 days to complete the transaction). Please check you account by logging into the website, going to **My Account**, and then **\$ My Invoice/Payment** to see any charges projected for 3/1.

Also, if you have an unpaid balance from your February statement, you much have that paid by Tuesday, February 27 at 11:59 PM or a late fee of \$10 will be automatically added to your account. Please be sure to verify that your account does not have a balance **before** the late fee is added.

Safe Sport Corner

This past week there has been many emails sent regarding the locker rooms, and that in conjunction with the current issues in USA Gymnastics and USA Swimming that have been in the news, we have started looking at all of our policies to make sure that we are doing everything we can to prevent anything from happening to any of our children. We want to be sure that we are providing a safe and fun environment for our children to learn and grow in the aquatic setting. We will continuously be reviewing our policies as to never become complacent and let anything ever fall through the cracks. Today (as the communications have all been this week), we will focus on the locker rooms.

The locker rooms present the biggest challenge for us as an organization because of the need for athletes to have privacy for changing and using the restroom facilities. But because the locker rooms cannot be directly monitored from the inside, the swimmers (and anyone else who may be in the locker room) can go through other's things that may be left unattended or horse around, both of which have happened frequently this season. We have eliminated most of the horseplay in the boys locker room by limiting which groups have access at various times and how much time they have in there. We can eliminate the risk of theft in all locker rooms by either locking all belongings in a locker or bringing them on the pool deck.

As we have looked at these locker room policies, we also assessed access points for the facility and thought through lots of scenarios and have come up with some hopefully short term solutions to some potential issues while we work with the facility management to address these.

- The double doors at the south end of the facility (by Gate 6) are **never** to be propped open. There is absolutely no supervision of those doors or who may go through them if they are open. This was a security concern brought to us and the facility by the building security officers as they were doing their rounds. You may exit those doors, but do not let anyone in through them and definitely do not prop them open. The same goes for the double doors at the middle of the facility that lead directly to the pool entrance. It is just good practice to not prop and doors open, except for the doors leading into the spectator gallery upstairs.
- We are positioning a parent volunteer in the hallway outside the locker rooms who will be able to monitor any persons in the hallway. This will serve as eyes on an otherwise unmonitored space. This person will report anything suspicious to either the coaching staff or to facility management. This is just an additional layer of protection for our swimmers in the locker room that will hopefully deter theft of personal property, help decrease horseplay, and give a base level of monitoring of the otherwise unmonitored entrances to the locker rooms. At time there are attendants at the front desk, but not always, and even when there are, that person is not able to see all the way down the hall from the office. We are asking that our membership volunteer to take a shift in the hallway while we work toward a more permanent solution with facility management. We have created an online sign-up for this, which can be accessed [here](#).

I want to reiterate that aside from the horseplay, thefts, and issues with patrons using cell phones to take pictures in the locker rooms which have all been reported to our membership this year, there have not been any issues and we do not consider our athletes at risk of anything in the locker rooms. We have just been thinking proactively to create the safest place we can to prevent any such situations from ever occurring. If you have any ideas, thoughts, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Coach Matt, Christie Hannewyk, or our Safe Sport Chair Krista Hunt.

Practice Schedule

	Gold/HS	Silver	Bronze	Green	Bremen Bronze	Bremen Gold/Silver
Monday 2/26	6:00-8:30 PM	6:00-8:00 PM <i>Dryland</i>	6:00-7:30 PM	6:00-7:00 PM	No Practice	6:00-8:00 PM
Tuesday 2/27	6:00-8:30 PM <i>Dryland</i>	6:00-8:00 PM	6:00-7:30 PM	6:00-7:00 PM	No Practice	6:00-8:00 PM
Wednesday 2/28	6:00-8:30 PM	6:00-8:00 PM <i>Dryland</i>	6:00-7:30 PM	6:00-7:00 PM	No Practice	6:00-8:00 PM
Thursday 3/1	6:00-8:30 PM <i>Championship Qualifiers Only</i>	6:00-8:00 PM <i>Championship Qualifiers Only</i>	6:00-7:30 PM <i>Championship Qualifiers Only</i>	6:00-7:00 PM	No Practice	No Practice
Friday 3/2	TBA	TBA	No Practice	No Practice	No Practice	No Practice
Saturday 3/3	TBA	TBA	No Practice	No Practice	No Practice	No Practice
Sunday 3/4	TBA	TBA	No Practice	No Practice	No Practice	No Practice