

Irish Aquatics

*Swim. Fight. Win! Go Irish!*

**IA Weekly News**

***September 24, 2018***

**Nelson’s Chicken Sale Fundraiser**

Thank you to everyone who participated in our annual Nelson’s chicken sale fundraiser! We had beautiful fall-like weather with cool temperatures and lots of sunshine and some of our swimmers were dressed as chickens and potatoes as others were holding signs attracting customers or taking orders and money. The event could not happen without the dedication of our membership to volunteer the day of the sale and to sell the presale tickets in the weeks leading up to it. Thank you to everyone who participated in any way.

The fundraiser was a great success with the team raising over $3,500! Part of these funds will be used to subsidize the bus we will take to our annual dual meet with Munster Swim Club in December. The coaching staff will be assessing where else we should invest the funds into the program where it will best benefit the swimmers.

A special thanks goes out to our organizers and point people for the sale. Amanda Domalewski started working on this sale many months ago and has put in a great deal of time getting the tickets printed, organized, labeled, and distributed, collected, and logged, let alone showing up at 5:45 AM on Saturday to meet the cooker and remaining at the sale until the conclusion. Matt and Jen Podlin served as the point people for Bremen and spent the day at the sale as well. Thank you for your endless dedication to our organization!

**Group Notes**

*All SB Groups*

Swimmers, please remember to treat Rolfs Aquatics Center with respect. That means that we should leave all areas of the facility in better condition than we find them. I got a report from the facility on Tuesday last week as I entered that there was a terrible mess made in the boys locker room, where red Gatorade was spilled all over the floor and not even attempted to be cleaned. Spilling something will not get you in trouble (unless it’s Coach Matt’s coffee!), but doing nothing about it and leaving it for someone else to deal with will! We all must do our part to keep the facility clean!

Also, please remember to check the forecast and plan accordingly. We do have to vacate the pool when there is lightening within 10 miles of the facility and depending on the time when the pool is cleared, we may go upstairs and do dryland. Please bring clothes for dryland if there is a chance of storms!

*SB Gold*

The Gold group will have dryland on Wednesday this week at the beginning of practice. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear for the dryland workout.

**Parent Meetings**

We held our first of 2 parents meetings in South Bend this past Thursday, September 20. We will have our second meeting this Monday, September 24, at 6:15 PM in the glass classroom on deck at Rolfs. All South Bend families are required to attend one of these meetings, so if you did not attend on Thursday, please attend on Monday.

**Caps and T-shirts for New Members**

Caps and t-shirts for new members started to be distributed at the parent meeting last week. Coach Matt will continue to get those out to new swimmers this week. We have run out of Youth Medium shirts, but a new order will be going in this week, so we should have them back in stock very soon!

**Meets**

We have a variety of meets coming up in October. Here are a few notes on each meet:

*NCISC Sprint Meet*: This meet is officially a go and is open for registration on the website. This is a great first meet for new swimmers as there are only a handful of teams there and the expectations are low, seeing as we only started a month ago! The meet is also a good one to get back into racing for our veteran swimmers. As a reminder to Gold group swimmers, this will serve as our practice for the weekend, so if you are available, please sign up!

*IA Fall Pentathlon*: This is a new meet that we are hosting. Swimmers are encouraged to participate in the event. Families who have a swimmer competing will be asked to volunteer to time. This should be a fairly small meet and will be run in a single session. It is a fun format with the scoring depending on the swimmer’s time in each of the strokes of the same distance (25’s for 8 & Under, 50s or 100s for 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, and 15 & Over) and the IM (100 for 8 & Under, 200 for all other age groups). Swimmers do not have to swim all 5 events, but will not be eligible for the scoring if they do not. Swimmers not ready to swim all 4 strokes but want to swim in the meet are more than welcome to swim the events they are legal in! Coaches will have final discretion on whether the swimmers compete in the 50s or 100s.

*FAST Monster Splash*: This is our annual early season trip to Fishers. This meet provides some good early season competition as well as some great team bonding time. The meet is great for all levels of swimmers who are looking to attend a travel meet. There are no time standards and the 10 & Under sessions are generally very short, so the meet is quite friendly for newer swimmers.

*PRO Superstar Invitational*: This meet is the same weekend as the FAST Monster Splash and is a good local option for competition for those not wishing to travel. The coaching staff would like to see as many team members competing in the FAST and PRO meets as possible.

*Dual Meet vs WaNee Waves*: We will be hosting a dual meet against the WaNee Waves Swim Team at Bremen High School on October 27. Information will get posted this week for the meet. This is a great meet for our newer swimmers in a low pressure setting to get the feel of what a meet is like.

**Swim Lessons**

If you know anyone interested in learn-to-swim lessons, we are 1 week away from the start of our fall lessons at both the Hampton Inn at Heritage Square and the Hilton Garden Inn at Saint Mary’s. Our Sunday lessons are overfilled, but we have plenty of space in our Monday AM, Tuesday AM, Tuesday PM and Wednesday PM lessons. More information is available under the **Swim School** tab on the top ribbon of the website.

**Google Calendar**

All team events including practices, meets, and fundraisers can be found on our team Google calendar. The calendar can be accessed in two ways from the team website. First, you can click on the 3rd action button from the home screen next to the picture labeled “Calendar.” Alternatively, you can click on “Practice Schedule” on the top navigation ribbon. If you are on a mobile device, you will need to click “Practice Schedule” twice. The Google calendar is the most up to date version of the schedule for all events associated with Irish Aquatics.

**Website Upgrade**

We have started the process of working on the new and improved website. It will still be a few weeks before it is ready for launching, but with what we have seen so far, it seems to be a better platform and will have a great new look!

**Birth Certificate Requirement**

If your swimmer is new to the program and has not competed for another team within IN Swimming before, we will need a copy of his/her birth certificate or passport. This can be sent via email, text, or by a physical copy sent into practice to Coach Matt mdorsch@gmail.com, (248) 321-7845. This is a requirement of IN Swimming for a 1-time verification of the swimmers date of birth. Any swimmer not supplying the document and competing in a meet will be assessed a $100 fine by IN Swimming though the club.

**Billing, Auto Pay, and Meet Registration**

Our monthly billing will run on the first of every month. This is when recurring charges like dues are added to the account and auto pay transactions will be initiated (credit card payments will post at midnight on the first of the month and ACH payments will be initiated on the first and take a few days to clear). Any accounts not on auto pay will be required to pay the statement balance by the 2nd to last day of the month or a $10 late fee will be assessed. The late fee is applied at midnight on the last day of the month.

This season, there will be a restriction on all meet declarations. The system will not allow any account to register a swimmer for a meet if there is a balance owed older than 30 days. The easiest way to be sure that your account is up to date is to setup auto pay.

To set up autopay on your account, go to the website, log in, click on **My Account** on the left hand navigation bar, and click **Setup Auto Pay**. This will take you to a screen to add a credit card or bank account. Enter your information and be sure that the “Use for Fees Associated With Your Account” option is marked. Then click “Save Payment Setup” at the bottom of the page and you will be all set for auto pay to run on the first of each month. Any outstanding balance already invoiced before the autopay was set up will need to be paid with an On Demand payment to avoid any late fees.

**Upcoming Deadlines**

* Tuesday, September 25 – FAST Monster Splash (Meet Date: October 20-21, Fishers, IN)
* Friday, September 28 – NCISC Sprint Meet (Meet Date: October 6, Riley HS)
* Monday, October 1 – IA Fall Pentathlon (Meet Date: October 14, Rolfs Aquatic Center)
* Monday, October 1 – PRO Superstar Invitational (Meet Date: October 20-21, Penn HS)
* Thursday, October 4 – MLA TYR Fall Invite (Meet Date: Nov. 3-4, Holland, MI)

**Upcoming Events**

* October 6 – NCISC Fall Sprint Meet, Riley HS
* October 14 – IA Fall Pentathlon, Rolfs Aquatic Center
* October 20-21 – FAST Monster Splash, Fishers HS
* October 20-21 – PRO Superstar Invitational, Penn HS
* October 27 – Dual meet with WaNee Waves, Bremen HS
* November 3-4 – MLA TYR Fall Invite (Prelim/Final), Holland, MI
* November 10 – PAC Sharkfest, Culver Academies (Developmental meet)
* December 1 – WWST Santa Swim, Northwood HS (Developmental meet)
* December 5-8 – Winter Junior Championships, Greensboro, NC
* December 7-9 – BA Winter Champions Classic (Prelim/Final), Purdue University
* December 15 – Candy Cane Dual, Munster HS

**Practice Schedule**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Monday****9/24** | **Tuesday****9/25** | **Wednesday****9/26** | **Thursday****9/27** | **Friday****9/28** | **Saturday****9/29** | **Sunday****9/30** |
| **Green** | 6:00-7:00 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-7:00 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-7:00 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-7:00 PM*@ Rolfs* | No Practice | No Practice | No Practice |
| **SB Bronze** | 6:00-7:30 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-7:30 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-7:30 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-7:30 PM*@ Rolfs* | No Practice | No Practice | No Practice |
| **SB Silver** | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Rolfs*Dryland | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Rolfs*Dryland | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Rolfs*Dryland | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Rolfs*Dryland | 11:00-12:00 PM*@ Beacon* | No Practice |
| **SB Gold** | 6:00-8:30 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-8:30 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-8:30 PM*@ Rolfs*Dryland | 6:00-8:30 PM*@ Rolfs* | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Rolfs* | 11:00-12:00 PM*@ Beacon* | No Practice |
| **Bremen Bronze** | 6:00-7:30 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 6:00-7:30 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 6:00-7:30 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 6:00-7:30 PM*@ Bremen HS* | No Practice | No Practice | No Practice |
| **Bremen Silver/Gold** | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 6:00-8:00 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 11:00-12:00 PM*@ Beacon* | No Practice |
| **Bremen High School** | 3:30-5:30 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 5:45-7:15 AM*@ Bremen HS* | 3:30-5:30 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 5:45-7:15 AM*@ Bremen HS* | 3:30-5:30 PM*@ Bremen HS* | 11:00-12:00 PM*@ Beacon* | No Practice |

\* The dryland practices at Beacon are offered for swimmers in the Silver and Gold/High School groups (except for the Bremen HS Prep group) at the Beacon Sport Performance Center, located inside the Beacon Health and Fitness Center – Mishawaka, located at 52031 Beacon Parkway in Granger. To be eligible for the dryland practices, the swimmer must turn 11 years old before the start of the Divisional Meet (March 1, 2019).