

Irish Aquatics

*Swim. Fight. Win! Go Irish!*

**IA Weekly News**

***September 9, 2018***

Welcome back to another season of Irish Aquatics swimming! It is great to see everyone back in the water!

There are a couple changes to the practice schedule in South Bend from what was originally sent out last week due to conflicts with the Adams pool. The Green and Bronze groups will not have any practice offered on Thursday this week and the Thursday practice for the Silver and Gold groups will both begin at 6:45. Please see the practice schedule at the end of the newsletter for the full schedule for all groups this week.

**Registration**

Most swimmers who have been in the water are registered through the online registration system, but there are a few who are not yet registered. Please be sure to go through the registration for your swimmer(s) before sending them to practice! Here are a couple helpful reminders about the registration system:

* There are many options for the swimmer(s) group. For the Green, Bronze, Silver, Gold, Bremen Bronze, Bremen Silver, and Bremen Gold groups, there will be an option for paying the whole season at registration (In Full) or paying monthly (Monthly). The monthly option is broken into 6 payments, with the first month paid at registration and then monthly billing occurring in the months of October-February. For the High School option, which is for those swimmers who will swim for their high school team either in Michigan or Indiana, there are still the In Full and Monthly options, but the Monthly is broken down by state (MI and IN). The billing for IN swimmers will be at registration, October, and February. For MI swimmers, the monthly billing will occur at registration, January and February. Please be sure that you select the correct option for your swimmer(s).
* In previous years, the USA Swimming membership fee was automatically added to the registration, but since USA Swimming has introduced multiple levels of membership, we had to make that portion of the registration “optional,” even though all swimmers MUST be registered with USA Swimming. Please be sure that you select one of the 3 options available. There is a description on the registration page of each level and what it entails. I will be contacting those that are already registered but did not select a registration option this week to get that added to your account.
* The Fundraising and Processing Fees have not changed this year from last year. The fundraising fee for short course is $100 and the Processing fee is $10.

I will be in touch with families of unregistered swimmers who have been at practice this week. If you are unsure if you have registered your swimmer, simply go to the registration system and select “Continue or Check Status” to see if your registration was completed. If you didn’t receive a confirmation email or the charge didn’t show up on your credit card statement (if paying by credit card), then the registration did not go through. If you have any questions or problems with the registration system, please contact Coach Matt.

**Nelson’s Chicken Sale Fundraiser**

We will once again be holding a Nelson’s Chicken sale as a fundraiser for our program. We are expanding our sale this year to include a second site in Bremen! The sale will take place on Saturday, September 22, from 10:00-3:00 PM. The South Bend location will be at the Marathon gas station on the northwest corner of Edison and Grape Roads. The Bremen location will be at Woodie’s Supermarket at 116 N. Bowen Ave.

Envelopes with the presale tickets were distributed at practice in South Bend on Thursday to those who were present and will be available this week as well. Matt Podlin has the tickets for those swimming in Bremen and he will distribute them at practices.

The selling of the presale tickets is not mandatory, but we do ask that everyone consider supporting the fundraiser by selling the tickets provided to them. We are on a very quick turn around with this sale as we are less than 2 weeks away from the event date, so all money and unsold tickets must be returned to either Coach Matt in South Bend or Coach Katie or Matt Podlin in Bremen by Monday, September 17. The cost of any unreturned unsold tickets will be assessed to the family’s account.

As an incentive to sell, we are again offering prizes for the top 3 selling families. The top selling family will receive an account credit of $100. The 2nd place seller will get an account credit of $50, and the 3rd place family will get an account credit of $25. Additional tickets are available. Please email Amanda Domalewski at [Amanda.Domalewski@gmail.com](mailto:Amanda.Domalewski@gmail.com) or talk to Coach Matt at practice in South Bend or Coach Katie or Matt Podlin in Bremen.

We need lots of help on September 22nd at the sale, both in Bremen and South Bend. There are 3 shifts for swimmers and families to sign up for: 10-12 PM, 11:30-1:30 PM, and 1:00-3:00 PM. We are asking that all swimmers in the Gold group sign up for a shift if possible. We also need our younger swimmers there as well, but many of the roles needed (verifying tickets, delivering the orders to vehicles, putting the food in the containers, etc.) are better suited for the older swimmers. Our younger swimmers will be in charge of the signs and letting the community know who we are! It is very important that we have a good presence of swimmers at all times of the fundraiser. People like to support youth organizations, but will be less inclined to do so if there are no team members participating.

The funds generated from the chicken sale will go directly back to programming for the swimmers. In the past, we have subsidized charter bus rentals for the dual meet in Munster and Open Water State, purchased training equipment such as fins, and dryland equipment such as resistance bands for use by all team members.

**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**

In the coming weeks, you will notice a change in our team website. Team Unify has launched a new platform for website design which will have a very different look and the whole site will be mobile friendly on all types of devices, not just a few areas of the website as the current site allows. We have just been given the access to the new platform and have not yet started the process of migrating everything to the new look, but when we do, you will definitely notice!

**Notes for the Silver and Gold Groups**

All swimmers in the Silver and Gold groups should come to every practice with a water bottle, kickboard, paddles, pull buoy, fins and a snorkel. If your swimmer does not have their equipment yet, please visit our team store on SwimOutlet.com ([www.swimoutlet.com/irishaquatics](http://www.swimoutlet.com/irishaquatics) or link to it from the homepage of our website) and see the recommended types of equipment for each group. A tempo trainer is listed on there for both groups. This is not a required piece of equipment, but is a very helpful tool that we do use for those who have them.

Swimmers in the Bronze and Green groups do not need to have their own equipment.

**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](mailto: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)
* Monday, October 1 – IA Fall Pentathlon (Meet Date: October 14, Notre Dame, IN)
* Monday, October 1 – PRO Superstar Invitational (Meet Date: October 20-21, Mishawaka, IN)
* Thursday, October 4 – MLA TYR Fall Invite (Meet Date: Nov. 3-4, Holland, MI)

**Upcoming Events**

* September 15 – IN Swimming House of Delegates, Indianapolis, IN
* September 22 – Nelson’s Chicken Sale Fundraiser, Mishawaka and Bremen
* 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

**Practice Schedule**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Group** | **Monday**  **9/10** | **Tuesday**  **9/11** | **Wednesday**  **9/12** | **Thursday**  **9/13** | **Friday**  **9/14** | **Saturday**  **9/15** | **Sunday**  **9/16** |
| **Green** | 5:00-6:00 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 5:00-6:00 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 5:00-6:00 PM  *@ Adams HS* | No Practice | No Practice | No Practice | No Practice |
| **SB Bronze** | 5:00-6:30 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 5:00-6:30 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 5:00-6:30 PM  *@ Adams HS* | No Practice | No Practice | No Practice | No Practice |
| **SB Silver** | 6:00-8:00 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 6:00-8:00 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 6:00-8:00 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 6:45-8:00 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 5:30-7:30 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 11:00-12:00 PM  *@ Beacon\** | No Practice |
| **SB Gold** | 6:30-8:30 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 6:30-8:30 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 6:30-8:30 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 6:45-8:30 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 5:30-7:30 PM  *@ Adams HS* | 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).