



Terre Haute Torpedoes

Frequently Asked Questions

The following is a list of FAQ's that the coaching staff and Board of Directors hope will help you. If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to contact Coach Mike at mike@terrehautetorpedoes.

Question: What group will my child be in?

Answer: When your child attends one of the "callout" sessions, the coaches will assess their skill level and assign them to one of the training groups. Membership to a specific group is defined by skill sets, stroke competency, and a number of other factors including age and ability to take instruction.

Question: How long are the seasons?

Answer: Short Course season begins in September and ends in February. Some athletes will qualify for Championship meets that take place in March, but you can worry about that if and when it happens to your athlete. Long Course season begins in April and ends near August.

Question: What does "short course" or "long course" mean?

Answer: The pool that we train in can be configured many different ways, depending on the needs of the team. In the fall and winter, the pool is set up for high school and college meets, which is 10 lanes wide and 25 yards long. This is known as a "short course" configuration. Because of the size of the Aquatic Center, there are actually two pools of this size under one roof! In the spring and summer, the pool is set up as an "Olympic" pool, which is 10 lanes wide and 50 meters long - this is known as a "long course" configuration.

Question: Do I have to register online?

Answer: Yes, each swimmer must have an online account. If you do not have access to a computer, please let us know and we can help you register using computers at the pool. Creating an online account is easy:

- Visit the club website at www.terrehautetorpedoes.com
- Click on the "Click Here To Register" button on the home page
- Follow the online instructions

Question: Do I have to use auto-pay online?

Answer: All of our members use the online auto-pay feature, BUT, you can pay for the initial registration fees with a check or credit card. However, even if you pay the registration fees by check, YOU MUST STILL use the online auto-pay feature to cover monthly dues and any and all of your meet fees.

Question: How much are the monthly dues?

Answer: Each group has a different pay structure. The USA Swimming Registration fee through December 31, 2021 is \$81.00. There is a Flex Membership option available, but it includes limitations on the number of meets that a swimmer can compete in. The THT Registration Fee for the Long Course Season is \$50. The recurring monthly coaching fees are based on the group a swimmer is assigned to:

- Blue and Orange: \$60 per month
- Bronze: \$80 per month
- Silver: \$90 per month
- Gold: \$105 per month
- Senior: \$115 per month
- Masters: \$50 per month

Question: How often is practice?

Answer: All of the practice schedules are posted on the club website under the "Calendars/Events" tab. Group calendars can be viewed and printed by clicking on the "Practice" tab and then picking the group that your child belongs to from the dropdown menu. The calendars show the dates and times of each practice, as well as the locations for the practices. Although the practice schedule below is typical for the age-group swimmers, the schedule does occasionally change, and the online calendar will provide the most current information:

- Orange: M and T from 6:30 to 7:15, W, and Th from 6:00 to 6:45 pm
- Blue: T from 6:30 to 7:30 and W, Th, and F from 6:00 to 7:00 pm
- Bronze: M, T, W, F from 6:00 to 7:00 pm and Saturday from 9:00 to 10:00 am
- Silver: M - F from 6:00 to 7:30 pm and Saturday from 9:00 to 11:00 am
- Gold: M - F from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and Saturday from 9:00 to 11:00 am
- Senior: Practice times will change, based on the VCSC calendar. Ask for current times

Question: What equipment does my child need for practices or meets?

Answer: For our Blue, Orange, and Bronze groups, your child will need a swimsuit and goggles. It is a good investment to purchase a high-quality suit made from a lasting material, like the Speedo Endurance line of swimwear. The same is true for goggles - Speedo makes an excellent model for young swimmers called the Vanquisher Jr. A kickboard and training fins are also nice to have for these three groups. Suits and goggles can be purchased from our local team vendor, Pacesetter Sports. As your child progresses to the Silver, Gold, and Senior groups, the coaches will let you know what equipment is required.

Question: Does my child have to swim in meets?

Answer: Swimming in a meet provides an excellent yardstick by which the benefits of practice and hard work can be measured. While we strongly encourage all children to compete in meets, especially at our home meets, participation is not required.

Question: Does my child have to attend every practice?

Answer: Of course, we want to see your child at every practice - that is one of the best ways for them to make steady improvements; but, we also understand it is not always possible. The coaches do take attendance at each practice, but practices are not mandatory. You do not need to notify a coach if your child will miss practice.

Question: My child has attended a few practices, and does not want to swim anymore. What do I do now?

Answer: If you have paid in full for the season and are requesting a refund, you will find our account credit policy on the club website. All requests for refunds must be in writing and are voted on at our monthly board meetings. Please send these requests to the Treasurer. You may email them to Alyson O'Rourke at treasurer@terrehautetorpedoes.com, or mail them to PO Box 10022 Terre Haute, IN 47801

Question: What is the SMS texting system, and what is it used for?

Answer: The texting system is a tool that allows the coaches to quickly contact a large number of people regarding important messages such as practice changes, meet updates, etc. We request that all families enroll on the team website by clicking on the "Add SMS" button on their "Account Info" page and entering their cell phone information.

Question: Do we pay to swim in meets?

Answer: Yes, swimmers pay to compete in meets. As a member of the Torpedoes, your child is able to participate in many different kinds of swim meets, including time trials, home meets, away meets, and championship meets. The fees vary depending on the meet.

Question: What is the Flex Membership, and is it right for me?

Answer: The Flex Membership for USA Swim is a new option to save athletes a significant amount of money. Instead of \$83, the yearly membership is only \$20. There are limitations, however. This includes only being able to swim in two meets for the entire year. Also, this membership does not allow a swimmer to compete at any championship meets (Divisionals or higher) unless the membership is upgraded. This option is GREAT for new swimmers just starting to "get their feet wet"!