

## **BYNS Motivational Patch Program**

In order to recognize the achievements of our age group swimmers, BYNS has developed a Motivational Patch Program. Modeled after a program developed by ASCA (American Swimming Coaches Association), swimmers can earn a patch for a specified time standard in each of the competitive strokes and individual medley.

### **How is the program structured?**

- There are five age group categories: 10 and under, 11&12, 13&14, 15&16, and 17&18.
- There are five stroke categories: Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Butterfly, and IM.
- There are six Motivational Time Standards (MTS): B, BB, A, AA, AAA, and AAAA.

### **How are the Motivational Time patches earned?**

Patches are earned by stroke, not by event. Below are some examples:

- A swimmer achieves a “B” level time in the 100 Freestyle event and the 200 Freestyle event. The swimmer will receive one “Freestyle B” patch.
- A swimmer’s time improves from a “B” level time to a “BB” level time in any of the Freestyle events, they would earn a “Freestyle BB” patch.
- A swimmer will only receive higher level patches in a stroke once one has been earned. Patches will not be awarded for a lower time standard for that stroke, even if the swimmer did not previously get awarded that patch. For example: A new swimmer to the team receives an “A” time patch for the Freestyle. That same swimmer ages up and achieves a “B” or “BB” time in the new age group. They will not receive a “B” or “BB” patch for the Freestyle, because it is not a higher time standard.

### **Does a swimmer start over when they age up?**

No. Motivational time patches will only be awarded one time per stroke, per time standard.

### **How are Motivational Times determined?**

The BYNS patch program will be utilizing the 2017-2020 USA Swimming MTS, which are valid from September 2016 thru August 2020.

### **Will swimmers get patches for both long and short course seasons?**

No, swimmers will only receive a patch for achieving a time standard once, regardless of which season it was achieved.

### **How will the swimmers receive their patches?**

New best times will be updated monthly and patches earned will be placed in the swimmer’s folders.