

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.