

Swim Team Fees & Escrow FAQs

Team Fees



●Paid to CA (Columbia Association)

- Pays for facilities, coaches, staff
- Payable in-full at registration or by automatic monthly deductions
- NOT tracked on Website
- Managed by CA with assistance from Clippers Team Administrator

Escrow Payments



●Paid to CAA (Columbia Aquatics Association)

- Pays for Meet Fees, USA Registration Fee, Meet Apparel, Travel Fees
- Payable by cash or check as needed throughout season
- Tracked on Website
- Managed by Clippers Team Administrator
- Individual family accounts

Q: Why can't I make Escrow payments through my monthly payments?

A: CA and CAA are separate entities that use different banks. No transfers are allowed between the accounts.

Q: When are meet fees due?

A: Meet fees are due when you submit your swimmer's availability. Meet fees are paid to the host team before the meet when we send in our entries. Meet fees are always listed on the meet event page and in the meet notice. So, when you submit a meet availability, make a deposit to your escrow account to cover the fees.

Q: How do I check my escrow account balance?

A: Sign in to the Clippers website and go on the "My Account" button. Your account is shown in "\$My Invoices/Payments". If you have money in your account it will show up as a **red negative number**. If you owe money it will show up as a black positive number. (This makes sense if you are an accountant or think of it from the team's perspective—red numbers are money the team owes you and black numbers are what you owe the team.)

Q: What does "Your Projected Amount owed on" mean?

A: This can be confusing! TeamUnify, which provides the software for our website, uses "Accrual Basis accounting". This means that *on the website*, accounts are credited with payments and debited with fees only once a month on the date listed. *In real life*, CAA makes payments and deposits throughout the month to pay meet fees and other expenses (Cash Basis accounting). Since we don't have a "once-a-month payment due date", review your account regularly and make deposits whenever you see a balance due and when submitting meet availability.

Q: Why can't I sign my swimmer up for meets? What is a "Meet Declaration Restriction"?

A: If you have a balance due in your Escrow account, you will NOT be able to submit meet availability (a Meet Declaration Restriction) for your swimmer until you have enough money in the account to cover your meet fees.

Q: How do I make Deposits to my Escrow Account?

A: Currently, deposits can be made by check or cash. You can mail (or drop off) your deposit to Columbia Aquatics Association, 9450 Gerwig Lane, Columbia, MD 21046. Or you can put your deposit in the CAA Lock Box, located at the main desk in the lobby of the Columbia Swim Center. The box is checked and deposits are posted 2-3 times a week. Some families have set up automatic bill paying to their escrow accounts with their banks. Contact your bank for more information.