

Meet Volunteering

Swim meets are a fun way to build our team and show swimmer improvement from their hours of practices. Volunteering at meets is a great way to become involved with the team, learn more about swimming, and get to know fellow team families. Meets also raise revenue to keep membership dues reasonable, so it is very important that we run our meets well. We understand that there may be times when you will be required to work a meet in which your swimmer may not be participating. Keep in mind at those times it is still important to volunteer so we can provide the same meet experience to all of our swimmers.

Volunteer Policy

July 2019

We are hosting four meets during the Fall and Winter seasons and need to ensure sufficient volunteers for each session (a typical meet requires approximately 45 volunteers per session). **Each family will be responsible for volunteering as follows: one (1) shift during the Fall season if registered for Fall only, two (2) shifts during the Winter season if registered for Winter only, and three (3) shifts (one (1) during Fall season, two (2) during Winter season) if registered for both Fall and Winter seasons.** There will be a total of three meet-related sessions of volunteer opportunities in the Fall season and eight in the Winter season. **Families will be charged a \$150 fee per unfulfilled volunteer shift at the end of the Winter season, up to \$450.** The volunteer requirement applies to all families, regardless of swimmer participation in our hosted meets. If you have any questions about the policy, please contact Erika Pals at registrar@hurricanesmn.com

Hurricanes-Hosted Meet Volunteer Opportunities for Fall/Winter 2019-20

Fall

September 28 – Intrasquad at North Jr. High (1 session)

November 2-3 – Dual or Tri Meet at North Jr. High (2 sessions)

Winter

January 18-19 – Invitational at U of MN (4 sessions)

February 8-9 – Invitational at Minnetonka (4 sessions)

Frequently Asked Questions

Why do I need to volunteer?

Swim meets are a fun way to build our team and show swimmer improvement from their hours of practices. Meets also raise revenue to keep membership dues lower, so it is very important that we run our meets well. Volunteering at meets is a great way to become involved with the team, learn more about swimming, and get to know other team families.

My swimmer isn't participating in any meets this season. Do I still need to volunteer?

Yes. We rely on our families to volunteer and represent our team well, so we can host meets that teams want to swim again. Without enough volunteers, meets don't run smoothly, and we may lose future revenue.

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Is there a minimum age requirement for volunteers?

Volunteers must be 14 years or older. Some jobs require an adult (age 18 or older). If you are unsure if you or someone volunteering on your behalf meets the age requirement, please email Erika Pals at registrar@hurricanesmn.com.

I signed up for a job that is scheduled to end when the meet ends. Can I leave early?

No. It is important that start and end times are noted when signing up for a shift. Plan to work the time listed on the Volunteer Signup, knowing that the meet may go later than expected. *Volunteers will not receive credit for a shift if the entire shift is not worked.*

Why is there a fee for not volunteering?

This fee helps to offset accommodations the team needs to make when we are short on volunteers, such as purchasing hospitality food rather than making it or donating to high school athletic teams in order have enough volunteers to fill critical jobs.

I am unable to volunteer at all of the hosted meet sessions. What are my options?

If you are unable to fulfill your volunteer commitment yourself, you have a few options:

- **Sign up for an extra shift at a meet you are able to attend.** Working a shift at any session during the season in which you have a swimmer will fulfill a volunteer shift.
- **Recruit someone to work one or more shifts on your behalf.** Whether you choose to pay someone or work out some other type of agreement is between your family and your recruit. This is a common practice in many youth sports organizations. We require that our volunteers be 14 or older and are willing to rise to the occasion!
- **Pay the volunteer fee.** We understand that life is busy, and volunteering isn't always possible. For this reason, we offer the option of paying a fee for shifts you are unable to work. This fee allows us to fill open positions without creating additional expenses for the team.