**Helena Lions Swim Team**

 **#302**

**ATHLETE SCHOLARSHIP POLICY**

**Purpose:** HLST believes that no athlete should be deprived of the opportunity to swim due to financial concerns. A Scholarship Fund has been established to which the board has currently designated the following contributions:

1. An annual donation of $1000.00 from the Lions Club of Helena
2. 5% of our corporate sponsorships

Funds are limited but we hope to help as many families possible. Retroactive assistance is not available.

Defined in the HLST bylaws, "Member" is defined as a family unit of at least one registered Athlete participating on the swim team or program sponsored by the corporation. The following are the "Member" scholarship guidelines and expectations:

1. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need or hardship. In order to accommodate as many families as possible, HLST can award scholarships for up to 50% of monthly swim dues.
2. Scholarship funds do not cover the cost of equipment, meet fees, travel costs, USA Swimming Registration fees or any other expenses associated with the sport of swimming.
3. Members are still expected to participate in all fundraising events during the season.
4. Scholarship amounts will be applied monthly to the Member’s account after the Member pays their portion of the dues. Dues must be paid on time and no refunds will be given, per HLST policy.
5. Members awarded scholarships are expected to volunteer their time to the team.
6. Athletes under scholarship are expected to attend the minimum number of practices designated by the Coach.
7. Initial scholarship applications can be submitted at any time. Scholarships will be awarded per season (Short Course or Long Course). Under certain circumstances, Members may be eligible for assistance for more than one season. If assistance is needed for a subsequent season, the Member must reapply. For Short Course season, applications must be received by September 1. For Long Course season, applications must be received by April 1.
8. Scholarship applications are reviewed and awarded by the executive committee of the HLST board of directors. All information you provide will be held in the strictest confidence.
9. If a Member fails to abide by this policy, it may result in reduction or revocation of the scholarship.

Information provided on the Scholarship Application form will be used to determine eligibility and ranking for scholarship funds. If you are having problems or questions, please contact a member of the HLST Board. Completed, signed applications should be mailed to HLST, PO Box 936, Helena, MT 59624.

We have found that every family wants to contribute in some way to the success of the team. As a scholarship recipient, fundraising and volunteering are non-monetary ways that you can do so.

See associated form 302-A.

Policy History:

Adopted on: 05/03/2011

Revised on: 08/2014

Revised on: 02/08/2017