**Piranha Swimming**

**Volunteer Hours and Fundraising**

Piranha Swimming is very fortunate to have a talented group of parents **and it takes all of you to keep this team running smoothly and efficiently**. We need your participation and commitment to ensure our continued success.

**Jobs & Hours**: We have a number of jobs that parents can help out with and each family is required to earn a certain number of volunteer hours, depending on the group of their most advanced swimmer.

There are 2 types of volunteer hours required:

1. **Meet Jobs**: Piranha Swimming hosts to 3-5 meets per year, with a typically meet day running 4-5 hous.
2. **Club Jobs**: These are jobs which are critical to running our club such as fundraising, publicity, Board of Directors positions, coordinators, team spirit activities, social activities, and social media are just a few.

The number of hours required by each family is determined by the group of your most advanced swimmer. For example, if you have a senior swimmer and an age group swimmer, our volunteer hour obligation is that of your senior swimmer.

All families are required to earn volunteer hours working at our meets, whether or not they have swimmers in the meet. We need everyone to help fill the meet positions in order for these meets to run smoothly. These meets are not only a good source of income for our team, but we fulfill a need within our zone for meets in order for our swimmers to get opportunities for competition.

Meet jobs and some other jobs are posted on our website under events. Parents can sign up for as many slots as they choose for each event.

Volunteers who do not satisfy their hour requirement by the end of the season will be charged $10.00 per hours not fulfilled. We will work with a parent to help find ways to fulfill volunteer hours. Please reach out to us early and do not wait until July or August. Please remember we prefer to have your time, not your money

**If you have extenuating circumstances that will not allow you to earn your volunteer hours,** please talk to a board member or coach. Often we can find a job that will fit in with our restrictions. If you truly have unique circumstances, we will take that into consideration.

**Volunteer Hours Requirements Based on Groups**

Training Group Meet Days Club Hours Fireworks Booth

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 10-un Comp Prep | 3 | 10 | 4 |
| 9-13 Age Group Prep | 3 | 15 | 4 |
| Age Group | 4 | 15 | 4 |
| Juniors | 5 | 20 | 4 |
| Pre Srs/Seniors | 5 | 20 | 4 |

Families joining after May 15 will be responsible for 4 hours in the fireworks booth only.

If your child changes groups you will be required to fulfill the increase in volunteer hours. If your child takes a break, you are still obligated to fulfill volunteer positions during that time.

**Meet Positions**:

Our team hosted meets require a great deal of parent power to run smoothly. We need parents to fill these positions. These require little or no training: Setup/takedown, meet marshals, snack bar, hospitality, announcing, clerk of course, awards, computer, dolphin operation, head timers.

Meet officials: Our team is required to provide officials at all meet we host and meets we attend. These positions require training but can be a great way to help our team and can be a rewarding experience. See our section on officials for the opportunity to earn volunteer credits.

Away meets – All parents have an obligation to time at away meets (meets hosted by other clubs). This is an expectation amongst all swim clubs in USA Swimming. We in turn, expect the visiting teams at our meets to volunteer to time. If you attend a meet with your swimmer(s), remember that the host teams will be happy to time for our meets when we can help timing at their meet.

**For the 2017-2018 Season, Piranha Swimming hosted meets will take place on the following days.**

Piranha Distance Invitational:

Friday afternoon, December 1, Saturday December 2, and Sunday, December 3, 2017

Piranha C/B/A+:

Saturday, March 24 and Sunday, March 25, 2018

Piranha C/B/A+:

Saturday, May 12 and Sunday, May 13, 2017

**Officials** -

All teams within our zone must provide officials to meets we attend within this zone, whether the meet is home or away. If we attend a C/B/A meet in another zone, we will also be required to bring officials. For every 11 swimmers we have at meet, we must provide one official. When we attend a championship meet in another zone, we are not required to bring an official, however, all teams hosting a meet greatly appreciate it when a visiting team can provide an official.

All officials that you will see at every meet we attend are volunteer parents like yourself. Becoming an official does require a little bit of time and practice, but many parents find it very rewarding and a great way to give back to the sport of swimming. Being an official requires some training, some tests, and certifications. Officials must also wear a required attire when working at a meet.

All teams must have trained, qualified, and willing officials and all teams face the challenge of keeping trained officials. Piranha Swimming recognizes how hard our officials work and we want to let you know this by being able to help you with expenses and give you volunteer credits for all the time you spend on deck.

**Each official will receive**:

* 2 shirts per year (polo/dry wick) from USA officials shirt site
* All officials registration and background check paid

Our **officials can earn credits** for each session worked:

* C/B/A meet = 1 credit

2 credits if we have more than 11 swimmers that day

* Championship meet, trials/finals =

Prelims = 1 credit, 2 credits if more than 11 swimmers

Finals = 2 credits, 4 credits if more than 11 swimmers

* Senior Open, II = 2 credits, 3 credits for more than 11 swimmers
* Senior T/F = Prelims = 3 credits, 6 if more than 11 swimmers

Finals = 5credits, 10 if more than 11 swimmers

1 credit = $5.00

Officials can redeem their credits, up to 5 credits a month ($25.00 max) on dues per month.

20 credits = White officials parka, or other officials gear.

It is up to each official to make sure their sessions are documented by the head official at each meet they work.

**Club Jobs**:

Along with hosting and running our meets, our club must run the business of the team. We need our parents to share their strengths and talents with us to keep our club running smoothly and financially strong.

**Club Management** – Piranha Swimming is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) business. Therefore we are managed by a Board of Directors made up of coaches and parent volunteers. The B of D has the responsibility of managing business of the club. The board oversees all committees. Committee chairs are part of our team management and can be a rewarding way to contribute to the stability of our program.

**Membership** – The role of our membership committee is the maintenance of our current membership, distribution of information, recruitment and publicity for growth, as well as organizing team spirit activities for swimmers such as pot lucks, holiday events, and awards ceremonies.

**Fundraising** – As a non-profit we rely on the dues from our membership and the funds that we can raise in order to keep our business healthy. Fundraising includes our traditional Fireworks booth, our lap-a-thon, corporate sponsorship, and other events. Sponsorship is the backbone of our financial stability. We need to seek out new sponsors, renew current sponsors, distribute our benefits to each sponsor and ensure those sponsors see their banners on our walls. Sponsors are recognized in our programs at our team hosted meets, and on our website.

**Fundraising Commitment:**

Fundraising consists of participating and raising necessary funds for the ongoing lease of our facility and operational costs.

Piranha Swimming hosts a spring fundraiser and this event has typically required our families to sell tickets to the event. Events in the past have been a pasta feed, crab feed, pancake breakfast. These events need ticket sales to be successful, along with raffles and silent auctions. Each family is required 5-10 tickets, depending on the event, from $50.00 to $100.00. We ask that families make the effort to sell the tickets rather than the burden to purchase them all. This year our Spring Fundraiser will be The Piranha Swimming Pasta Feeding Frenzy to be held on March 10, 2018.

Our summer fundraiser is our **TNT Fireworks booth**. The booth operates from June 30 – July 4, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. The funds we earn from the week-long event provide us the ability to pay for our pool lease through the winter months. Because this fundraiser is a five-day, 12 hours per day event, we need each family to work 2 two-hour shifts at the booth. Of course we can always use as much help as possible.

Our annual Swim-A-Thon is held in the fall. This year Swim-A-Thon is **Saturday, November 4, 2017, 9:00 am to 11:00 am**. Swimmers collect pledges for laps swum in 2 hours. It is fun, challenging, and way for the athletes to contribute to their team. We ask each swimmer to earn a minimum $50 in pledges (family of 3 swimmers or more $150 per family). Prizes are awarded to those who can bring in the most funds raised.