

Occoquan Swimming and Occoquan Swim Academy

Weather Policy

With the weather issues likely in our area over the next couple of months, there will be days that travel to practices & lessons will be hazardous and/or facilities will close. We will always do everything we can to offer practices every day. However, our two limitations are facility access and staffing.

- If facilities are closed, we cannot offer practices.
- If facilities are open, but adequate staff cannot get to the facilities due to driving conditions or the threat of upcoming storms or conditions would cause trouble getting back home, we will cancel practices.

Note that OCCS operates in six facilities and sometimes only some facilities close while others remain open, and sometimes the staff at one facility can attend while others cannot, so there will be times that certain groups or facilities cancel.

We also may change the schedule to accommodate incoming weather; for example if schools are closed but conditions look okay during the day, we may start practices earlier to allow day time driving instead of driving in the dark when roads tend to refreeze...

OCCS does not follow the school districts' closing schedules.

Our guide for determining future weather:

Weather Advisories – we will monitor but likely offer regular openings

Watch – we will monitor and likely offer regular openings in the afternoons/ early evenings; if there are watches and an impact looks imminent for late evening practices or early morning practices we may make a preemptive cancelation to prevent anyone from getting caught in the storm.

Warnings – generally these mean that we are going to be impacted significantly and the roads are dangerous to travel on. If a warning is issued for our area, practices will generally be canceled.

When can you expect to know if there is a cancelation?

Alerts will be announced as soon and as early as possible without making too many guesses that could be inaccurate.

- As soon as a facility closes, we will pass along notice.
- For all other calls, we will use the following guide for sending out any changes.

Morning practices: will be announced the evening before no later than 9pm if there are any changes for the next morning.

Afternoon/ evening practices: will be announced by noon on the same day unless very specific information is available later such as a last-minute closing of a facility.

How will OCCS announce cancelations?

Announcements are sent via email, posted on the website (under News) and posted on the OCCS Facebook and Twitter feeds.

What if there is practice, but I don't feel safe driving or sending my teenager on the road?

As with any decision, please use your discretion in determining what is safe for you and your family. Of course, the coaches want the swimmers at practice, however the health and safety of your kids and your family is more important than any swim practice offered. Everyone has different situations around their community and getting on to major roads; so even if we offer practices, it is up to you to determine the safety of your own family in driving.