

Is My Child ready to join Little Otters?

Guidelines for Participation in the Little Otters and Pre-Team Swim Program

The Little Otters instructional swim program is operated by the Quince Orchard Otter Swim Club, Inc., also known as the QO Swim Team (QOST), and encourages children ages 3 – 6 years to become more familiar with the water, to develop swim competence, and to learn swimming techniques.

This instructional swim program is structured so that swim team members, ages from 11 to 18 years old, volunteer to serve as swim coaches for new swimmers, otherwise called Little Otters. Note: It is completely served by team volunteers and is a completely voluntary program. All program parent coordinators and participants are volunteering their time and effort to further the scope of swimming and success of the QOST.

Little Otter Level:

The minimum requirements for a child's participation as a Little Otters are as follows:

1. Minimum of 3 years of age.
2. Must be COMPLETELY potty trained. No "little swimmers" or pull-ups.
3. Child MUST have reasonable self control and be independent in manner to be able to separate from parent or caregiver.**

** We ask all parents and caregivers to stand away from the pool edge. The Little Otter coaches must be given the opportunity to teach the children without hindrance and excessive interference.

If a child is unable to separate – every effort will be made to encourage participation, by the child, in the program. If such measures are taken, and the child is still unable to separate – a refund will be made to the family.

Pre-Team Level:

Upon successful development of self confidence and swimming skills by Little Otter participants, they can eventually graduate to the Pre-Team Level. This next level of the Little Otters swim program is designed for children of ages 5-8 year old and swim competition. The goal of this level is to develop a swimming stroke and breathing techniques that will eventually lead to the participation in a swim meet. Once a child has participated in a swim meet – they have graduated to the FULL swim team level and will be expected to participate in regular swim team practices and swim meet competitions.