

Let's rev it up for Ridgewood (and Hawks Landing as well) (and Nakoma!)

We have a swim meet today at Nakoma, and a split schedule later this week (a quirk of scheduling this year) – divers are headed to Hawks Landing Friday, while we host Ridgewood Saturday. The latter has a big squad, so be prepared for a busy Saturday. Details:

- **Swim meet today (Wednesday July 11th) at Nakoma. Warm-ups at 3:30 p.m.; swim meet starts at 4:30 p.m.** Details on how to get to Nakoma (reminder – please no parking in club parking lot, and be careful to observe local street parking regulations): <http://www.mononaswimanddive.com/directions/nakoma/>
- **Dive meet Friday AT Hawks Landing. Warm-ups at 4 p.m. Dive meet starts at 5 p.m.** (Directions here: <http://www.mononaswimanddive.com/directions/hawks-landing/>)
- **Swim meet Saturday here in Monona. Warm-ups at 6:15 a.m. Swim meet starts promptly at 8 a.m.**

OK folks – time to gear up! It's our biggest and busiest home swim meet of the 2012 season Saturday. Ridgewood is coming to town, and they bring hordes of swimmers and divers. We quite literally need all hands on deck to make these meets successful.

Swim parents – We need LOTS of volunteers Saturday morning to help with set-up, starting **NO LATER** than 6 a.m. In particular, we need lots of above-average people with strong backs to get **bleachers ON DECK and IN PLACE no later than 6:30 a.m.**

TIMERS – This is our biggest need of the meet, in terms of personnel, and because of the length of this meet (probably 4+ hours) and the projected forecast (temperatures in the mid-90s), we are asking for two shifts of timers. We'll need 25 or so for the first half of the meet (through events 31 and 32 – the 8-and-U free relays) and another 25 or so for the second half of the meet. Yes, that's a lot of help, but it shares the timer load and keeps folks from working 4+ hours on what will surely be a hot day. So -- get out the sunscreen, work on your tan, and have fun getting splashed while leaning over the edge of the pool to get those touches just right.

CLERK of COURSE – Ridgewood usually brings LOTS of little ones; be prepared. We'll need about a dozen folks to help out.

CONCESSIONS – It is absolutely, positively critical that we have enough folks helping in concessions. Why? All those Ridgewood swimmers also bring all their parents, and they will no doubt be hungry and thirsty. And we've got the best concessions in the league – so let's not make anyone wait in line (and we can make a few bucks while we're at it). And, yes, the best brats in the league will be back.

SCORING – You guys know what to do. Just get those team scores to the announcer guys early and often!

AND HERE'S THE MOST IMPORTANT PART: We need to get our pool back to the city, cleaned up in toto, by 1 p.m. That can be a challenge when two teams the size of us and Ridgewood hook up. **BUT WE ARE UP TO THE CHALLENGE!** **Clean-up will begin before the meet is over.** Items like deck chairs should be put back in storage before the meet is over. **EVERYONE** can help make clean-up go much faster by taking just a few minutes during the meet to pick up around you, throw stuff away, and prepare to move out early. In particular, we need all of those above-average, strong-backed volunteers to move our bleachers back to the softball fields.

It's also picture day Saturday. We'll take the team picture before the meet starts, and here's the tentative timeline: We'll begin organizing the picture no later than 7:30 a.m., with the goal of having it done no later than 7:45 a.m. That means lots of hustling around to get everyone assembled for the team picture. Parents of young ones – please help making sure your swimmers are in place for the team picture. Individual pictures next week -- July 16th for morning practice swimmers (7:30-9:30 a.m.) and July 17th for afternoon practice swimmers (4:30-6:30 p.m.). Dive team picture will be July 27th.

Concessions needs your help...

All swim families are also asked to bring a contribution for the Snack Bar. Here's what Concessions Queen Sue Besler is looking for:

- **8/U: Spaghetti-O's**
- **9-10s: fresh fruit (individual servings - grapes, cherries, berries, melon chunks - in cups sell the best). Bananas sell better than apples;**
- **11-12s: bagels and cream cheese;**
- **13-14s: drinks (soda pop and Gatorade)**
- **15&ups: ICE! We need lots of ice, especially for a day with forecasts in the mid-90s!**

Also, if you have the ability to **lend us a cooler** for the meet – please bring it. Thanks!

No library parking

A reminder – please avoid parking in the Monona Community Library parking lot this Saturday morning. We've already emailed the folks at Ridgewood, asking them to avoid it, and we need to do our part to leave the small library lot to the library's Saturday morning patrons. Thanks for your help and understanding.

Donating to those in need – a special offer!

Right now, and for the next 8 days, **we have the opportunity to donate to Second Harvest Food Bank and have our money doubled** -- up to a maximum for \$1,000 for our pool. The money that we give from our pool goes directly in to our community food bank at the St. Stephen's Food Pantry in Monona. If we meet our maximum donation of \$1,000 during this time, that would mean not only 3,000 meals that we have donated, **but an extra 3,000 meals for our community!** This special matching gift opportunity is being offered by a generous friend of Second Harvest and does expire after July 15th.

This is an amazing opportunity and I encourage all of you to donate whatever you can right now. In order to take advantage of this generous offer **you need to donate online** at the **All-City donation webpage**. Just click on this link -- <http://hawksfly.com/allcity/foodfund-drive> -- or this one -- <https://give.secondharvestmadison.org/allcity> and make sure you select the **Monona Pool** when you make your donation. If you have any questions, please feel free to talk to us at the pool, contact us at susanruhde@gmail.com or call us at [608/335-6559](tel:6083356559).

Susan, David, Noah and Margreta Ruhde
Food Drive Coordinators for Monona Swim and Dive

Gift cards for coaches

For several years, we've had a tradition of donating gift cards to our coaches as a gesture of appreciation for all of the hard work they put into working with our swimmers and divers during the season. Please consider offering a gift card (or cards!) as a small token of your appreciation on behalf of all that our coaches do. You can put them in the clear envelope of team registrar President Sue McDade in the mailbox or the McDade mail folder. Or, if you simply want to donate cash, we'll buy the cards for the coaches. Wondering what to buy? Glad you asked – PDQ or Kwik Trip (gas for cars), sandwich or burger shops of any kind (Cousins or Subway, Culver's or Red Robin), any coffee establishment (chains such as Starbuck's or Caribou are good, as they travel with coaches as they prepare to head off to college or jobs), even Target or Best Buy. Thanks for your support of our coaches!

Upcoming social events

Potato party -- For the past eight years, MO swimmers and divers have decorated potatoes in any number of fun ways as part of our annual Potato Party. It's coming up – **July 18** – so start thinking now of your ideas for this year's potatoes. Details here: <http://www.mononaswimanddive.com/social-events/potato-party/> and lots of fun photos from last year's party to give newcomer families a hint of what's to come: <http://www.mononaswimanddive.com/photos/2011-potato-party/>

Team banquet – Don't forget to set aside **Sunday, Aug. 5th** (the day after the All City swim meet) for our team banquet, where we honor many swimmers and divers (and parents) with our team and special awards. It's a great event with great food and fun! See the banquet form sent along with this week's Lane Lines.

All City volunteers

We have just a few more slots to fill for our All City volunteer requirements:

- **Friday afternoon Aug. 3rd** (this is the day 8-and unders and 9-10s swim): 3 timers.
- **Saturday afternoon Aug. 4th** (finals days, plus free relays): 1 timer.
- Please contact Amy Bevington at abevington@matcmadison.edu if you are able to help out. **All volunteers are eligible to win one of two I-Pads** being given away to meet volunteers. And many, many thanks to those parents who have already stepped up to help make this year's All City meet a success.

All City reminders

- Senior swimmers and divers – those who will be participating in their last All City meets – are reminded to fill out their biography on the All-City website by **July 15th**. See this link for the on-line form to do so: <http://hawksfly.com/allcity/senior-form>
- Don't forget to pre-order All City clothing via this link: <http://hawksfly.com/allcity/clothing> You can also glance the All City clothing at the MO team bulletin board by the pool bathhouse. **Clothing orders are due July 13th.**
- Interested in sponsoring a race at All City? All City helps defer the cost of running the meet through event sponsorships; see this link for details and additional links to sponsor forms. Individuals and families or businesses can sponsor events: <http://hawksfly.com/allcity/how-to-become-a-sponsor> Spots are filling up fast; here's a link to those events already sponsored: <http://hawksfly.com/allcity/family-friends>
- A planning note on Tent City at All City (as the area of team tents is called): Hawks Landing officials report that, due to the unusually dry spring and summer, their efforts to grow grass at the site of Tent City have been mixed. They are encouraging teams to bring extra blankets, carpet remnants or tarps to make your stay at Tent City more comfortable. So you might want to start planning now to bring something to All City to cover the grounds at Tent City. However – **what you bring in, you must take out!** See here for more details: <http://hawksfly.com/allcity/preparing-for-the-meet>
- A new feature this year for the All City league is a city wide pool party, to be held at Madison's Goodman Pool July 19th. Details here: <http://www.sgsef.org/sgsef/images/stories/articles/2012/20120719pool/sgsefposter2color-web.pdf>
- MO's All City swim warm-ups at Hawks Landing will be Sunday, July 29th, at 1 p.m. See schedule here: http://hawksfly.com/allcity/wp-content/uploads/2012/06/CC_Warm_Up_Schedule.pdf Please plan to attend this warm-up if you are swimming at All City; it will be the only opportunity before the meet to check out the Hawks pool, take some starts off the blocks, and count your strokes from the flags to the walls (for all you backstrokers). Remember – there are no warm-ups at the Hawks pool during the three days of All City. Also, it's a chance to familiarize yourself with the grounds for All City.
- All City dive this year is at Middleton – here's the website (which doesn't have a lot of information posted yet): <http://allcityswimdive.org/middleton/index.htm>

Dive stars of the week:

Isabelle Uttech - Isabelle is a star this week for learning an inward dive right before the meet. She performed it well during the meet at Nakoma and even won the girls 11-12 diving event!

Henry Carman -- Henry is a star this week because of his admirable work ethic. Henry has been at practice every day since MO diving began, and is still continuing to work hard! Keep it up Henry!

Taylor LaClair -- Taylor is a star this week for winning her event at the Nakoma meet! She has been working hard all week and it is definitely paying off!

