

Fergus Falls Flyers Policies

COACH

Away Meet Attendance:

Minimum of 8 Swimmers registered for Fergus Falls Flyers (FFF) to send a paid coach with exception of end of season summer Minnesota State Meets (i.e. MAC's, MRC's, Champs) when FFF will send a paid coach for each session a qualified swimmer is registered.

Away Meet Payment:

15 or more swimmers = 2 paid coaches;

14 or less swimmers = 1 paid coach; or per head coach discretion

Minimum of 1 swimmer at Champs Meet for paid coach; or per head coach discretion

Certification:

All paid FFF coaches must be USA certified coaches. Each coach is responsible to keep certifications current per MSI/USA guidelines.

Clinic:

FFF will cover the cost of one clinic per coach per calendar year. This includes cost of the clinic and travel costs (see below Reimbursements).

Contracts:

All coaches sign contracts with the FFF for each season. They are self employed and receive a 1099 by January 31 each year.

Junior Coach:

FFF will employ USA certified junior coaches as needed. Junior coaches must possess lifeguard certification and be ages 15-17. FFF will pay for their additional USA swim course requirements. Suggested commitment for each junior coach is 2 seasons.

Coach Registration Discount:

Coaches with FFF swimmers will pay only USA swim fees for their children.

FINANCIAL

In order to considered financially sound, the FFF will work to maintain a checkbook balance at the end of each summer season that will cover the cost to pay all contracted coach costs for the upcoming year.

Families cannot register their child if they have an outstanding balance without setting up a payment plan through our Treasurer.

FUNDRAISING

FFF offers two fundraisers – one during the winter season and one in the summer. ALL families are required to participate in at least one per year or pay a fair share buyout per swimmer, with a maximum amount per family.

MEETS

Athletes may participate in additional away meets but are responsible for their own registration. FFF personnel may offer help but FFF coach will not be provided/paid for meets not on FFF calendar unless approved by FFF board at least one month prior to meet start.

Meet fees for relay costs are absorbed by the club, not charged to the individuals swimming them. Swimmers registered as "Relay Only" for state meets are not charged - FFF will absorb all the meet fees for these swimmers.

FFF Club Entries Coordinator will set the FFF registration deadline based on host team deadline date (FFF usually 24-48 hours prior to host). Any inquiries after FFF deadline will be passed to the Coach who is responsible to reply to the late request. Once FFF has submitted meet entries to the host club, NO additional entries will be accepted. *Adopted 6.8.14*

MSI/USA Athlete Registration

Swimmers who register in the winter are Annual (Year Round) Athletes (membership good from registration date to 12/31/yyyy) as per MSI guidelines. No MSI/USA membership fee charged for Spring only swimmers.

Those who register for summer only are Seasonal Athletes with membership valid from date of registration to last day of Long Course Championship Meet as per MSI guidelines.

Those who want annual USA membership but are only swimming summer may pay the additional fee when registering for summer.

All athletes must be registered as a FFF at least 10 days prior to a meet registration deadline in order to sign up for that meet. Any swimmer failing to do so is not eligible to swim at that meet.

The FFF Registrar, with input by FFF Head Coach, has final say on the deadline date for Athlete Registration for each session. Winter & Summer seasons will have regular registration approximately 4 to 6 weeks prior to season start. Late registration for these two seasons will start one week prior and go through the Friday of the first week of the season. No registrations will be accepted once the season is closed. Additional fee of \$50 charged during late registration. Athletes who register late are NOT allowed to practice until they are official MSI/USA Athletes. *Adopted 6.8.14*

NOTE: Any season may be closed prior to registration deadline if coaches, president and registrar agree that safety and quality of the practices are in jeopardy due to number of participants.

OFFICIALS

Certification:

All officials must be USA certified officials. It is the responsibility of each official to keep certifications current per MSI/USA guidelines.

Visiting ASSIGNED Officials are paid per session per MSI guidelines. This is for Starter, Referee and Admin Officials, *not Stroke and Turn. Travel costs are reimbursed [see below Reimbursements].

*Note: Honoraria for visiting Stroke & Turn Officials are decided by each host club.

REIMBURSEMENT

FFF travel reimbursement for FFF Coaches, Assigned Officials & HOD Delegate is as follows:

1. *Mileage at the current IRS allowed rate;
2. Cost of Hotel (receipt must be provided);
3. Parking Costs (receipt must be provided).
4. Plus food allowance for FFF Coaches at meets where food is not provided - included in FFF Coach Away Meet Contract.

*NOTE: Mileage reimbursement was increased to full IRS allowed rate following the 9/4/13 NLC conference call.

Other costs covered for all FFF personnel required to be Non Athletes by MSI guidelines:

(As of 9.10.2013, personnel are Coach, Official, Delegate and Meet Director)

1. Background Check
2. MSI Non Athlete Annual Fee
3. Since FFF require all coaches to be lifeguard certified, the following motion was made and passed unanimously on 8/13/13: Effective 8/13/2013, FFF will reimburse paid coach for lifeguarding certification (including CPR and First Aid) if cost is not covered or reimbursed by other occupation(s) and if coach is getting certified only for the purpose of coaching FFF.

FFF will cover the Annual Athlete Fee for the MSI/USA required Athlete Liaison.

Any other reimbursements must be approved by FFF Board prior to event.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships to FFF Families:

Partial scholarships are offered to families as needed after completion of the FFF Scholarship Application. If free or reduced lunch can be documented, an MSI Outreach Athlete Waiver will be completed. If free or reduced lunch is not documented, FFF absorbs the cost of the MSI/USA membership fee. Approval by President and/or Treasurer is needed for all scholarships. This is for FFF & MSI/USA registration ONLY, not meet fees, unless under extreme circumstances.

Scholarship Funding

FFF will aim to deposit 5% of each season's revenue into the scholarship account.

Scholarships to Otter Senior Swimmers:

FFF scholarships may be awarded to Otter Senior Swimmers, both Girls and Boys. Requirements include exemplifying excellent leadership, good role models for age group swimmers and participating in FFF for three or more years with at least two being during their 7th-12th grade school career. These are determined by committees appointed by the Otter Head Coach. The check is written to the college/university the recipient will be attending but is mailed to the recipient's home address. This will occur in the summer once the recipients have confirmed the school they will be attending. This is a one-time scholarship – not recurring. It is the responsibility of the recipient to provide the following information to the FFF treasurer for payment - Swimmers Name; Home Address; College/University Name – and also forward the money to their respective college/university. For each gender the amount awarded is: One recipient = \$100 each; Two recipients = \$75 each; Three recipients = \$50 each.

FAMILY DISCOUNT

For a family of four or more swimmers, all swimmers after the first three are ONLY charged the USA membership fee. The FFF fee is waived.

SUMMER SWIMMER AWARDS

Each summer swimmer will receive one award at the end of the year banquet. The award will be one of two: Participation or Best Time.

SWIMMING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must pass assessment standards set each season by the coach in order to participate in FFF. These may include but are not limited to: swim at least one length of the pool without stopping, be comfortable putting face in the water and blowing bubbles out of nose and mouth.

FERGUS FALLS AREA YOUTH ACTIVITIES (FFAYA)

FFF will abide by the Conflict of Interest Policy and Whistleblower Policy of the FFAYA.

Adopted by FFF Boards 1971 to Current, Board Approved 9.9.03; Updated 2.3.14; Board approved 2.4.14;
Updated 5.12.14 ~ Board Approved 5.14.14; Updated 6.8.14; Board Approved 6.8.14; Updated 1.17.15;
Board Approved 1.19.15; Board Approved 11/20/18