

“A Champs” and “B Champs”

The swim season ends with two league meets; one is referred to as “B Champs” but is formally called “Division Champs”. B Champs brings together all six of the teams that compete in our division at one location. This meet is hosted on a rotating basis by each team in the division. Each swimmer can compete in a maximum of three events. Most swimmers will compete in B Champs.

The Midlakes League Championship is referred to as “A Champs”. A Champs brings together the fastest swimmers from each of the 26 Midlakes teams. Swimmers qualify for this meet by competing in preliminary meets earlier in the week. Junior Girls Prelims (12 and under), Junior Boys Prelims (12 and under) and Senior Prelims (boys and girls 13 and older) will be held on separate days during Championship week. The 8 fastest finishers in each event qualify to compete in the event final on Saturday at the King County Aquatic Center in Federal Way. The 9th-16th fastest swimmers in each event also qualify to swim on Saturday in Federal Way but cannot place higher than 9th in the event. Each swimmer can compete in a maximum of three events, two of which can be individual events.

Each swimmer can swim in a maximum of three events combined between B Champs and A Champs. The only exception is that a swimmer that swims in three B Champ events is still eligible to swim in one relay at A Champs. **Generally, each swimmer will compete in one or the other, but not both.** It is common for a swimmer to compete in 3 events at B Champs and then be listed as an alternate on the A Champ relay team. This is to protect the relay swimmers in the event one of them cannot swim for some reason (illness, injury, etc.) If your child is listed as an alternate you should attend the appropriate preliminary meet and warm-up with the team.

If a swimmer has achieved “B DQ” times (sometimes called A Times) they will almost always compete in the appropriate preliminary meet and attempt to qualify for A Champs. However, a swimmer need not achieve “B DQ” times in order to compete in that event in A Champs.

There are also additional events added to the A Champs schedule that are not swum during the dual meet season. Depending on age, coaches may enter a swimmer in 50 Free (for 8 and Unders and 15 and Overs), 100 Free, 200 Free and/or 500 Free.

Because of the number of swimmers in each Championship Week meet, the meets run much longer than a dual meet, **sometimes twice as long**. So come prepared with plenty of sun screen, food and activities to keep the swimmers entertained between long breaks in their events.

Please ask one of the coaches if you have any questions about which Championship meet your child will most likely compete in.

Please see the Championship Meet Information block for directions, timelines, and to view past year’s championship results.