

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS, “FAQ”

Q: Are team swim suits necessary?

A: Swimmers are encouraged to purchase a team swimsuit, but not required.

Q: How is Dual Meet line-up determined?

A: Coaches will make every attempt to provide an opportunity for all swimmers to compete in the different swim strokes.

All swimmers will be expected to swim each stroke as we need official times for possible entry into the Conference Meet. Times are recorded and kept by the team’s record-keeper and are updated to our team website.

If you questions regarding your child’s placement, do not hesitate to consult the Coach before or after swim practice.

Q: How are relay teams determined?

A: Swim Coaches create relay line-up. Different swimmers may be placed in the relay during seasonal meets to determine the best possible combination for Conference meets.

Q: Will my child be placed in races if they are unable to perform the stroke properly?

A: Yes. Swimmers may not always get to compete in their favorite stroke. Swimmers are asked to try their best even in a difficult race. Swimmers cannot qualify for an individual or relay event for the “A” Conference Meet if we do not have officially recorded times.

Q: Sometimes the workouts seem difficult for my child. How can I help?

A: Some days your child will handle the work out well; other days your child may find it difficult. Keep encouraging your child as the workouts will become easier as the season progresses. If there are problems, don't hesitate to consult the Coach.

Q: My child likes the program, but is discouraged because they never win. How can I handle this?

A: Our swimmers are important to our team. We receive points in a meet for the first three places. We have won and lost meets by 1 point before. The team concept makes everyone on the team a winner.

Keep track of your child's time, this way they become aware of how fast they are going and how they are improving. Personal best times are recognized by our team. Improving their times is very encouraging.

A: Why doesn't my child get more individual attention and instruction?

Q: All attempts will be made to try to help swimmers improve their strokes. Be sure to have your child speak to the Coach if they want to improve on a specific stroke. Sometimes our more advanced swimmers may also be available to give your child tips.

Q: This is my first year, what can I expect at a swim meet?

A: Races begin by diving off the starting blocks placed at the end of each lane. While knowing how to dive is an advantage, many of our younger swimmers enter the pool with flying leaps of assorted styles. If your swimmer is uncomfortable going off the blocks, he or she may start from the pool ledge.

Eight & Under swimmers have slightly different expectations than older swimmers. Coaches are very aware of keeping young swimmers excited about our team and the sport of swimming. First meets can often be scary to a young swimmer. We have adult volunteers who help get them to their races on time.

Events are called by the meet Announcer several times to the start of each event to allow swimmers time to get ready. It is the swimmer's responsibility to listen as events are called and to be ready to swim when their event is called.

Each pool has its own method of staging swimmers prior to the events, but in general swimmers report to a specific area (called the Bull-Pen) 2 or 3 events before the event they are scheduled to swim in. Team monitors are always on hand to help the younger or newer swimmers.

"Quiet for Start!!" Swimmers, parents and guests will hear this announcement many times during a meet. Quiet at the start permits all swimmers to have an equal opportunity to hear the starter. Also, if the starter must constantly ask for quiet, it slows the meet down quite a bit. Please, when the whistle blows, be quiet for the start.

When their event is called, each swimmer takes a position behind the starting blocks and listens to the Starter or Referee for further instructions. The Referee will call the event by number and name. At this time the swimmer should get onto the starting blocks (or into the water for backstroke) and watch and listen to the Starter. When all the swimmers are on the starting blocks (or in the water) and appear ready to go, the Starter will announce "Swimmers take your marks". At this time, the swimmers should take the appropriate starting position and hold. When all swimmers have assumed the proper starting position and are holding, the Starter will activate the electronic starting system with a loud "BEEP" to start the event.