

Bluefish Blast June 27, 2020

Hello Bluefish families,

First, thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue through our 2020 swim and dive season. Our volunteers and coaches are working hard to bring your athlete the best season we can during this unprecedented time.

Membership: Deer Brook's Swim and Dive teams are programs that are organized and offered to our pool members only. If you have not yet paid your membership to the pool, please do so promptly. Here is a link to pool registration: [pool registration](#). I will be comparing our swim and dive team roster against pool membership this weekend to ensure that all team members are current pool members. Unfortunately, any team families who are not also pool members will be unable to practice until membership is purchased.

Drop off and Pick up

- Bicycles - If your athlete is riding a bicycle please remind him/her to park in the designated area and to not leave the bicycle in the middle of the parking lot.
- One Way - For the safety of our athletes, please exit the parking lot through the back field.
- Masks - COVID Guidelines require that everyone, including all athletes, wear face masks while entering and exiting the pool grounds. Any athlete entering the pool grounds without a face mask will be declined entrance.

New Assistant Dive Coach: Please welcome Erin Jensen to our Deer Brook coaching family! Erin has agreed to be our Assistant Dive Coach for the 2020 season. She is a recent graduate of RV High School, a member of the Centennial Diving Club based at LaSalle University, and a current swimmer on the National Team at Wahoos. Erin will be swimming and diving at St Louis University this fall.

Practices:

New Swimmers:

- A big CONGRATULATIONS AND JOB WELL DONE to our 34 new swimmers who passed their evaluation tests last week! Welcome to the team! We had so many new swimmers that the practice times for the White group (Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday) had to be altered slightly. Please click on this link to double check your athlete's practice times and lanes: [swim practice times](#).

New Divers:

- We have seen an increase of new divers this season. Welcome to the dive team! We are excited to provide additional coaching support for this growing team. Welcome again to Erin!

Parents:

- We are asking for parents to not attend practices this season because of the social distancing. However, there are a few exceptions:
 - athletes with a medical condition or need may be accompanied by a parent/guardian
 - 8U athletes who are unsure where to report for practice may be accompanied by a parent/guardian until they are settled

***Parents accompanying swimmers must remain in your swimmer's hula hoop section during practice*

***Parents of athletes who fall under these exceptions must email me so that we can keep track of permitted parents on grounds during practice*

Absences:

- If your athlete is going to be absent for a practice, please click on the "Report an Absence" tab on our homepage or simply click this link [Report and Absence](#) to inform our coaches. The tab/link opens an email to our coaches. You can draft a brief email noting your athlete's absence.

Inclement weather

- Athletes can continue with practice and meets in rain, but not in thunder. Please keep a trash bag in your athlete's bags that can be used to keep their items dry.
- When it thunders, coaches will split the athletes into groups and take them under one of three designated shelter areas. Athletes will be instructed to wear their face masks when they are sheltered.

Swim Team ONLY

QR Check In:

- This year Coach Andrew and Meg have set up an electric check in and check out to keep track of the swimmers who are in and who have left the Club after each practice. If your swimmer is on time, nothing needs to be done. If your swimmer is running late and has a smart phone, please have them scan the QR code at the entrance of the pool and select their name to check in. Parents of 8U swimmers, if you are staying for practice there is a separate QR for you to use to check in and out.

Practice Times:

- Thank you for your understanding during our first week of practice. With new swimmers constantly joining our team, many adjustments were made to the original schedule. A major change was the adjustment to the white group days to fit in an additional practice for the 8U. We might have a few more tweaks so please periodically check: [swim practice times](#).

Practice Equipment:

- In previous years, we have provided loaner fins and kickboards. This year under the COVID Guidelines, we are unable to offer loaner equipment. It is recommended, but not required, that each swimmer have a pair of fins. I know that it has become increasingly difficult to simply go out and purchase fins at this time, so I have taken the liberty to attach a link to [Fins at Swimoutlet.com](#), here you can purchase all your swimmers needs.

Dive Team ONLY

Practice Times:

- The dive schedule has been slightly adjusted to accommodate the new divers entering the program. Please periodically check: [dive practice times](#).

Meets:

Swim:

- Meets are on their way!
- Coaches are working through the details of what meets will look like this year, so details are yet to come.

- Right now, we are planning a swim meet against our friendly rival team POMONA as a split meet on July 18 and July 25. Save BOTH dates!

Dive:

- Discussion and planning are in the works. Please stay tuned!

Fundraiser: Tomorrow from 11:00am - 1:00pm, we will be hosting our annual Jolyn Trunk Show. Click the link [Jolyn Trunk Show](#) to read our flyer for more information. This is a great time for female swimmers and divers to purchase practice suits and recreational suits. All money received this year will be used to help offset the unexpected added expenses taken on by our pool to open during the COVID-19 pandemic. Follow the signs to the Jolyn Trunk Show, which will be held outside the pool grounds in the parking lot adjacent to Jackson Road (parking lot behind the diving boards). Please tell your friends and neighbors.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Go Bluefish!

Brian Shuff
Booster Chair