

2020-2021 Registration Information

Welcome to the *Clemson Aquatic Team (CAT)* electronic registration for the 2020-2021 swim season! Founded in 1978, CAT is a year-round, parent owned swim team. There are training groups for novice competitive swimmers, groups for swimmers with varying degrees of competitive swimming experience, and a US Masters Swimming training group for adults (fitness, triathletes, or competitive adult swimmers). The team currently practices from September - July at Central Clemson Recreation Center (CCRC).

Both returning swimmers and new swimmers must register through the online registration portal. Please follow the instructions to register for the swim season.

Minimum Swimming Requirements: Your athlete must be able to swim at least 50 yards freestyle, 25 yards of one other stroke, and be comfortable in the water. If your child was a member of CAT last year, there is no need for a swimmer evaluation. Before the first practice, all new swimmers must provide a birth certificate (email to cat@clemsonaquaticteam.org).

New Swimmer Evaluation: We will hold evaluations the week of Aug 31, 2020 to Sept 4, 2020 between 5 pm and 7 pm (potential members must be evaluated at only one day) at the Central Clemson Recreation Center Pool. It is drop-in and the evaluations are first-come first serve, and take about 15 minutes in the water. Please have the child in a swim suit, with goggles if you have them, and a towel.

After Sept 4, 2020, please contact Head Coach Jon Mengerling at cat@clemsonaquaticteam.org to schedule new swimmer evaluation.

NEW SWIMMERS: DO NOT REGISTER UNTIL YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN EVALUATED.

New Swimmer Two Week Trial: If you or your child are wondering if swimming is for you and your family, we offer a 2-week trial with registration. You must complete the entire registration process. Choose to pay with a check and bring the check to the pool. We will hold the check until you make your decision. If you decide not to continue after 2 weeks, your check will be destroyed or returned without being deposited. Note: This does not mean your swim fees are prorated for the two weeks if you join.

We look forward to having you join the *Clemson Aquatic Team* and are excited for a great swim season!

Note: USA-S or USMS registered athletes from other teams who wish to train with CAT while in the Clemson area temporarily, may train a maximum of 15 days/year without joining CAT and paying swim fees. Visiting or Temporary Swimmers not registered with either USA-S or USMS must provide proof of registration with either organization prior to swimming with CAT.

If your swimmer has not yet been evaluated, please do not continue the registration process!

All the material included in the registration process is available at <https://www.teamunify.com/team/sccat/page/team-info>

AGMT 1: Liability & Medical Release Waiver

FOR USA-S SWIMMERS UNDER 18

I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian for the child(ren) being registered by this process.

I hereby give approval for his/her/their participation in all of the **Clemson Aquatic Team's (CAT)** activities.

I hereby give my permission for any supervisor, coach or other team administrator associated with **CAT**, to seek and give appropriate medical attention for our child(ren) in the event of accident, injury, illness. I will be responsible for any and all costs associated with any necessary medical attention and/or treatment.

I hereby waive, release and forever discharge **CAT**, the **CAT** Board of Directors, Central-Clemson Recreation Center, the employees or program volunteers from all rights and claims for damages, injury, loss to person or property which may be sustained or occur during participation in **CAT** activities, whether or not damages or loss is due to negligence. I hereby acknowledge that my child (children) is (are) physically fit and capable of participation in all (**CAT**) activities.

FOR USA-S SWIMMERS 18 & OVER AND MASTERS SWIMMERS

I hereby give approval for my participation in all of the **Clemson Aquatic Team's (CAT)** activities. I shall hold blameless the **CAT** Board of Directors, Central-Clemson Recreation Center, the employees or program volunteers liable for same. I grant permission to managing personnel, emergency medical personnel, physician, hospital, or medical clinic to give lifesaving medical aid should I become ill or injured during **CAT** activities.

COVID RELATED WAIVER FOR ALL SWIMMERS (during the current pandemic)

I certify that I and as the parent or legal guardian, my child or children, to the best of my knowledge, have not been exposed to a person(s) confirmed to be infected with COVID-19 virus or exhibiting symptoms of infection. If I have been exposed or have traveled outside of South Carolina, I have been symptom free for at least 14 days.

Additionally, I acknowledge that if I become ill or learn of any potential exposure, I shall cease all participation in all programming of **CAT** and inform the staff immediately so they may take steps to mitigate community spread and inform those possibly exposed.

AGMT 2: Tuition & Fee Schedule

2020-2021 CAT MEMBERSHIP AND TUITION FEES

MEMBERSHIP FEE: \$200 (\$77 for Masters). This fee is collected upon registering for the team. The Membership Fee includes required membership in USA Swimming (Masters Swimmers **must** register at their own expense with [USMS online](#)), a team t-shirt, latex cap, and a one-year subscription to SPLASH magazine (only USA-S Members receive magazine). Silicone caps are available for purchase. Membership fee is non-refundable after the two-week trial.

The membership fee may be paid by credit card (\$0.30 plus 3% fee) or check (no fee, bring check to first practice).

CAT is pleased to offer two membership models for 2020-2021: *Semester* (paid in two installments – in the first month and by February 1) and *Monthly* (paid each month). With notification by January 1, 2021, a swimmer can move between these models.

SEMESTER MODEL: TUITION FEE: This fee is collected on the 1st day of the month following registration and February 1. Swim fees are non-refundable.

2020-2021 CAT Biannual (Semester) Rates	
	Biannual Membership fee
HydroTigers	\$522
Juniors	\$716
Adv Juniors	\$882
Senior	\$1044
Masters	\$450

The semester model corresponds to the rates charged in 2019-2020, but is charged in two payments, instead of monthly.

There are no refunds for the Biannual (Semester) Membership model once paid.

MONTHLY MODEL: TUITION FEE: This fee is collected on the 1st day of each month. Swim fees are non-refundable.

2020-2021 CAT Monthly Rates	
	Sept – July Monthly rate
HydroTigers	\$139
Juniors	\$182
Adv Juniors	\$219
Senior	\$255
Masters	\$100

Any swimmer / parent that wishes to discontinue membership or take a month or more off must email cat@clemsonaquaticteam.org with **30-day** notice. Refunds will not be issued if the communication is not received by cat@clemsonaquaticteam.org in a timely fashion.

General Payment Policies

CAT does not accept checks for any expenses other than annual membership, volunteer buy-out or fundraising obligations. Fees associated with monthly tuition and swim meets must be paid by credit card or electronic check. On-demand payments (one-time payments) are assessed a fee of \$0.30 per transaction and 3%.

A \$25 late fee will be assessed on all accounts with an outstanding balance on the 15th of each month.

Swimmers may be eligible for some fee reduction using guidelines for the Outreach Program from the South Carolina Local Swim Committee. Please contact the CAT Treasurer at treasurer@clemsonaquaticteam.org for information.

Additional Member Requirements	USA Swimming member families (all but Masters)
Annual CAT membership Per swimmer	\$200 per swimmer Includes USA Swimming membership, swim cap, t-shirt, annual team end-of-season recognition
Volunteer Obligation Per family	50 hours per <i>family</i> . 2 options: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pay \$500 at registration 2. Volunteer at meets, social events, or in other roles. Obligation is pro-rated based on membership length if joining later or leaving the team. Contact the Chair for details. Shortages will be charged \$20/hour on Aug 1, 2021.
Fundraising Obligation Per swimmer	\$250 per <i>swimmer</i> . <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write a check directly to CAT before May 15, 2021. 2. Utilize in-company matching funds to generate payments to CAT (like Itron or Duke employees can do) 3. Generate donations to CAT from local businesses (i.e. dentist offices, local merchants, etc...) 4. Generate donations to CAT from charitable organizations. These donations can be considered tax deductible if provided with no exchange of goods or services. Shortages will be charged on Aug 1, 2021.

Multi-Swimmer Family Discounts (not applicable to Outreach Families or Master's Swimmers)

Families with two or more swimmers receive discounted dues

1st swimmer pays full dues (applied to highest fee payer)

2nd swimmer receives a 5% discount (applied to second highest fee payer)

3rd swimmer receives a 10% discount (applied to third highest fee payer)

4th swimmer and subsequent swimmers are free, in addition to the discounts for the second and third swimmer (applied to 4th and later highest fee payer)

These discounts apply to biannual (semester) and monthly membership models, as long as all swimmers in a family are in the same membership model

Team competition suits and caps, practice equipment, meet entry fees, travel fees, and any swimmer/parent travel cost associated with attending meets is the sole responsibility of the swimmer and their family.

Contact Information: Contact the Treasurer (treasurer@clemsonaquaticteam.org) regarding questions related to fees or CAT's outreach program. Please email CAT@clemsonaquaticteam.org with general questions.

AGMT 3: Member Family Volunteer and Fundraising Commitment

CAT is run by a volunteer parent board and a paid coaching staff. However, these 10-13 people cannot run the entire team by themselves. As CAT is a parent-owned team, we spread the work to run the team over the team families as a volunteer obligation. If the family volunteer hours are not included, CAT would have to pay for people to perform these tasks, which will raise monthly fees.

Volunteer Obligation

Each swimmer is assigned a 50 hours per year obligation. There are 2 options to satisfy this obligation:

1. Pay \$500 at registration
2. Volunteer at meets, social events, or in other roles.

Obligation is pro-rated based on membership length if joining later or leaving the team. Contact the Chair for details.

Shortages will be charged \$20/hour on Aug 1, 2021.

BEST SOURCE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS: WORK AT CAT HOSTED SWIM MEETS: Hosting swim meets is CAT's main activity during the year. Please see the CAT Volunteer Handbook <https://www.teamunify.com/team/sccat/page/team-info/volunteer-handbook> for roles at meets.

Other service opportunities are available in addition to CAT hosted meets. For example, time spent as an official or timer at non-CAT meets are appreciated by other teams, and CAT wants to encourage your service in those roles. Please contact the CAT Board Chair for more information.

COVID STATEMENT: In light of potential difficulties hosting meets, the CAT Board reserves the right to reduce the volunteer obligation.

CAT's Budget Model

CAT's budget model is based on monthly fees recovering the costs for practice coaching and practice space (pool time). Unfortunately, the monthly rates do not cover our anticipated costs, so the CAT Board has elected to use a family Fundraising Obligation to partially meet the difference in the budget. In this way, costs that could be imposed on families can be met in other ways – for example, by the family making a tax-deductible donation, securing a donation from a local merchant, or receiving a grant from a foundation. This is similar to “fair share” programs in some school activities.

Fundraising Obligation

Each swimmer is assigned a \$250 per year obligation. There are 4 options to satisfy this obligation:

1. Write a check directly to CAT before May 15, 2021.
2. Utilize in-company matching funds to generate payments to CAT (like Itron or Duke employees can do)
3. Generate donations to CAT from local businesses (i.e. dentist offices, local merchants, etc...)
4. Generate donations to CAT from charitable organizations.

These donations can be considered tax deductible if provided with no exchange of goods or services.

Clemson Aquatic Team: Propelling personal and community growth through aquatics

Our Mission: Clemson Aquatic Team enriches, encourages, and develops swimmers through competitive excellence in the pool and in life.

Obligation is pro-rated based on membership length if joining later or leaving the team. Contact the Chair for details.

Shortages will be charged on Aug 1, 2021.

Families are strongly encouraged to participate in other fundraising efforts such as our periodic Swim-A-Thon, Amazon Smile, etc.

AGMT 4: Safe Sport

Safe Sport is the USA Swimming abuse prevention effort.

USA Swimming is committed to fostering a fun, healthy, and safe environment for all its members.

Clemson Aquatic Team is committed to fostering a fun, healthy, and safe environment for all its members. Clemson Aquatic Team is committed to inclusion of swimmers and family members from a diversity of backgrounds and circumstances – from all walks of life.

The Safe Sport program has a wealth of resources, policies, best practices, tools, and procedures to help empower you to create and maintain a healthy and safe environment for your athletes.

All non-athlete members (coaches, officials, board members, safety marshals, etc.) are subject to a criminal background check and a pre-employment screening, as well as complete USA Swimming's Athlete Protection Training.

All USA Swimming athlete members 18 or older must complete Athlete Protection Training (<http://www.usaswimming.org/apt>) annually before participating in any USA Swimming meets. The policy is available at <https://bit.ly/2H9Ah4I>.

All member clubs are required to have athlete protection policies in place with regard to travel, electronic communication, and anti-bullying.

Please refer to the Safe Sport website for CAT at <https://www.teamunify.com/team/sccat/page/safe-sport>

Safe Sport Contacts

Board President: Mary Beth Kurz-Edsall chair@clemsonaquaticteam.org (864) 506-5576

CAT Safe Sport Contact: Lindsey Little, lshirle2@gmail.com,

USA Swimming Safe Sport: safesport@usaswimming.org (719) 866-4669

Additionally, most volunteers with CAT will need to comply with the Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy, available at <https://www.usaswimming.org/utility/landing-pages/minor-athlete-abuse-prevention-policy>.

CAT Team Photography Policy

CAT may wish to take photographs (individual and in groups) of swimmers under the age of 18 that may include your child during their membership in the club. All photos will be taken and published in line with club policy. The club requires parental consent to take and use photographs.

Parents have a right to refuse agreement to their child being photographed.

Parents who wish to refuse agreement to their child being photographed must complete the CAT Team Photography Policy Form available at https://www.teamunify.com/sccat/UserFiles/Image/QuickUpload/cat-photo-policy_042951.pdf (CAT Policies) and at the pool (please ask a coach). This form must be printed and signed by the parent. In the case that a form is not submitted, the parent's consent is implied.

AGMT 5: Practice Schedule – COVID Impacts

Clemson Aquatic Team’s Vision: Propelling personal and community growth through aquatics

Our Mission: Clemson Aquatic Team enriches, encourages, and develops swimmers through competitive excellence in the pool and in life.

Following our Vision and Mission Statements, CAT endeavors to provide sufficient practice opportunities to athletes as appropriate to their ability and commitment.

As a consequence of the current global pandemic, facility availability may change on short notice. CAT will communicate changes as soon as possible.
