

GATOR BITS

ALL GROUP NEWS

Congratulations!!!

Keith Myburgh and Caroline Kulp have been selected to attend National Select Camp!

This is a HUGE HONOR! Keith has earned this privilege because he is ranked **#2** in the USA with his 400 IM Long Course Time for 16 & Under Males. Caroline was accepted on an overall outstanding performances this past summer.

Only 34 Males and 34 Females are selected each year to attend camp at the US Olympic Training Center in Colorado from Oct 29-Nov 1. Korey will be attending with them as their coach. Way to go Keith and Caroline!!!

Swim Meets



East Coast Open Water Championships

Gators had a great showing. In fact there were a few Gator Sweeps!

Caroline Kulp placed 3rd in the Girls 14 & Under 5K swim on Saturday.

In the Mile Swim on Sunday, Congratulations goes to:

Girls

11 & Under: 3rd L. Whitlow, 2nd R. Isbell, 1st C. Summerlin
12-13: 3rd K. John, 2nd M. Kirtley, 1st O. Bray
14-15: 3rd W. Hamilton, 2nd C. Whitlow, 3rd C. Kulp
16-19: 2nd S. Smith

G. Reed

30-49: 1st L. Whitlow
D. Summerlin

Boys

11 & Under: 2nd A. Brinkley, 1st T. Fitchett
12-13: 2nd C. Myburgh
14-15: 1st K. Myburgh
16-19: 3rd J. Bowery, 2nd K. Fonder,
1st

30-49: 1st

Gator Meet – October 16-18

Swimmer sign-ups are now open on the Gator Website.



B-I-N-G-O B-I-N-G-O and Bingo is our fund raiser!

Gator Families who have swimmers 9 years and older are asked to work 1 Bingo per month. **We desperately need workers.** Please go to www.signupgenius.com and sign up today.

We currently have openings through the end of December. The more nights we have all our workers, the more nights we earn more money which supports our team. Please do not sign up unless you are committed to working that session. If you must change your availability any sooner than 3 weeks out, please find someone to replace you. Too many times we find out the day of that we will be short. Check back often for new availability.

OFFICIALS CLINIC – Salem YMCA on October 11 at 2Pm

This clinic is for all parents who are interested in becoming an official. Official's positions available are: Stroke & Turn, Meet Referee, Starters, Timing Equipment Operators, Timing Recorders, Timing Judges, and many more. **As we all know, officials are required in order to have a meet. As a team, we need to have as many of these positions filled as we can.**

This clinic will offer training for both the Wet Deck and the Dry Deck positions. It will explain all the steps involved and you may sign up to be a trainee at our first Gator Meet in October. Anyone who is in the process of being trained may find this clinic useful as well.

Please contact Mary Reed to sign up for this clinic or if you are interested in becoming an official but cannot make this clinic. Mary's email is: swim.mom.reed@gmail.com

THANK YOU GATOR OFFICIALS

The following parents deserve a huge Gator Thank You (especially if you are one of those parents sitting in the bleachers) for stepping up to allow our meets to run more smoothly:

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| David Bowers | Kim Bray | Lori Fitchett |
| Cindy Hunter | Lori Russo | Laura Whitlow |
| Dan Summerlin | Tammie White | Victor Myburgh |
| Jenny John | Mary Reed | |

We must have at least 10 more Officials this year! Not all Officials are Stroke & Turn Judges, we have other positions available. *Did you know you could become a Nationally Certified Official and have the possibility to be on deck at the Olympics?* Come to the Clinic in October at the Salem YMCA and learn about how you can start your training. Anyone interested in becoming an Official should contact Cindy or Mary.

Cindy Hunter and Mary Reed have agreed to fill the Official's Chair position for the year.

National Team & Senior Group News

Starting on Monday, 9/28, the National Group will practice until 6:30 Mon – Thursday.

Please sign up for Gator Meet.

Gold Group News

Revised schedules are posted on Gator website. Please sign up for Gator Meet.

Have any questions, see Brett.

Bronze Group News

Let's give a great Gator Welcome to Trisha Houghton our new Coach of the Bronze Group.

I just want to let all you parents know I am very excited to be working with the Bronze group this year! They are showing real talent as we are working hard on perfecting all the strokes, learning flip turns and building endurance. For those new to the Gators, I welcome you; I want you and your children to have a great year. We work hard and produce results! I do hope that even more new swimmers will join us.

Also, parents if your child doesn't have fins, please let me know their size and we will order some. If you ever want to speak with me, I will be happy to meet you! Thank you for trusting me with your kids, and welcome!

8 & Under Group News

Swimmers are allowed to bring treats and do their birthday swims on their birthdays.

The **Mighty Gator Group** will be getting their goal sheets and they will start Monday Cookie Challenge Swims.



Caleb Bubar turns 6 on Sept 18

Zach Muzzy turns 8 on Sept 19

Harrison Bui turns 14 on Sept 20

Zeke Wolfe turns 11 on Sept 27th

COACH'S CORNER

HOW DO I BECOME AN OFFICIAL?

There are 4 components to our Non-Athlete Membership: (you may have to copy and paste links into your Browser)

It's best to submit your application first. It's critical to use exactly the same name for all four.

You must successfully complete all four before your credentials will be issued.

1. Membership Application / Fee

<http://virginiawimming.org/Registration/Forms/2016%20Application%20-%20Non-athlete%20VSI%20EXT.pdf>

2. USA Swimming Website Account

<https://www.usaswimming.org/Secure/Register.aspx?TabId=0&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en>

3. Background Check

<http://www.usaswimming.org/USASModules/BackgroundCheck/BackgroundCheckPage.aspx?screentype=coach>

4. Athlete Protection Education Course

<http://www.usaswimming.org/DesktopDefault.aspx?TabId=2193&Alias=Rainbow&Lang=en>

- 5. Finally, answer the email from the Business Office that authorizes posting your email/ phone number on the website.**

There are also test you may take online at USA Swimming for additional Certification.

You will also be given a Training Card and train with a Certified Official before you are sent out into the deep end of the pool on your own.

Attend the Clinic in Salem on October to learn more about how you can become an Official and help your swimmer's team.

