



McFarland Spartan Sharks 2021 Summer Session

Important Information and Frequently Asked Questions

MSS is pleased to offer a safe, high-quality Summer swim session at the Angie O'Donnell Aquatic Center (AOAC) at McFarland High School and Goodman Community Pool. Doing so amidst the pandemic requires strong partnerships with the AOAC and Goodman pools and our MSS families, and we are incredibly grateful for your support.

*The McFarland Spartan Sharks' Coaches and Board of Directors are committed to providing the best swim experience we can given the necessary safety precautions we all must take at this time. This document is designed to provide transparency to our Club's business operations as well as programming especially during this ever changing time. **We apologize for the length, but we strongly encourage families to read this document in its entirety prior to registering your swimmer.***

Registration, Payment Processes and Fees

Q: When is online registration open?

A: Online registration will open for returning swimmers from the MSS 2020-2021 Fall/Winter Session and MSS 2021 Spring Session, as well as SENIOR 1 SWIMMERS (ONLY) from the Summer 2020 Session on **Sunday, April 25, 2021 at 7 a.m.** and will close **on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 9 p.m.** **If any spots remain, MSS will reopen the registration portal on Sunday, May 2, 2021 at 7 a.m.** Current MSS families can register siblings during the May registration period as well.

Q: I have a swimmer currently participating in MSS's 2021 Spring Session and want to sign up our younger child for MINIS on May 2 (if spots remain). Can I just sign up my little one?

A: Please reach out to **Coach Neil or Coach Sara *before* signing up siblings for the Summer Session.** MSS wants to make certain that all swimmers have a good experience in the pool and are ready for the swim team experience.

Q: Are you anticipating room for new families this session? How do MSS waitlists work?

A: MSS Summer Swim group sizes are very similar to our Spring group sizes in accordance with current public health orders. At this time, we are unable to say what our capacity will be for new families this summer, but we strongly encourage families who are interested in swimming with MSS this summer to contact Coach Neil Weiss at neilweiss@spartansharks.com to discuss potential swim placement and set up a swim evaluation if needed. If swim groups are full, families have the option of registering to a

waitlist at no charge.

Q: I understand that MSS Board members are able to sign up their swimmers ahead of the scheduled registration time. Is this true, and if so, can you please explain the rationale behind this practice?

A: Yes, MSS Board members are able to register their swimmers ahead of the opening of registration. MSS bylaws require that Board members are a family member of a current MSS swimmer in order to be on the Board. The early registration ensures that Board members meet this bylaw requirement. It is also the means by which our club tests our registration system as we do not have a test site available for this purpose. MSS will not allow anyone outside the Board to register prior to the scheduled opening of registration.

Q: I see that registration is online and payment is requested via credit card. How will credit card billing work? Is there any way I can pay by check instead?

A: MSS is not able process personal checks or receive cash at this time due to the restrictions of the pandemic. Team Unify's system allows for credit card payment, and the system will ask for permission to bill your credit card, not just for this payment but for upcoming fees as well. MSS will split swim session fees for the Summer into three payments: April or May (at time of registration), and then the 1st of June and 1st of July. Any outstanding fees (a USA Swim Fee for those who have not swam since last summer) will be processed with the registration payment. Any meet splash fees for participating swimmers will also be charged to the credit card on file.

Q: How do refunds work?

A: MSS will grant a refund for the month's payment if a swimmer is injured and unable to complete the session. We are unable to refund USA Swim fees.

Swim Groups

Q: I see that Travelers is slated for M/W/F only. Is there any flexibility on these days?

A: Unfortunately, no. Ordinarily, MSS coaches encourage flexible days for 3-day swimmers, but for this session we cannot have swimmers switching days due to available pool time, the need for social distancing, and the need to help AOAC monitor attendance at the pool.

Q: I was hoping MSS would offer a 3-Day Extreme Group this session, but I didn't see it. Is this a possibility?

A: No, unfortunately we are unable to offer a 3-Day Extreme option this session due to the available pool time and need for social distancing.

Q: How do I know if my swimmer is supposed to move up to the next swim group during the Summer Session?

A: Please check in with your swimmer's Coach if you have any questions about swim group placement for your swimmer. Coaches will do their best to communicate with both swimmers and parents about any recommended swim group changes prior to registration.

Practices

Q: It appears that there are not any changes to the current pool guidelines for locker room use or parent entry to the pool. Does MSS anticipate any changes to these guidelines?

A: We are not anticipating any immediate changes to the AOAC Pool Use Guidelines but will communicate any and all changes as we learn of them. Questions about the pool can be directed to AOAC Pool Director Stu Schaefer.

Q: It appears that several practice times are less/shorter than were scheduled before the pandemic. Is there any way to expand my swimmer's time in the pool?

A: Practice times had to be cut for some groups either in days or duration. This was necessary based on the available pool time and the need to social distance swimmers. MSS is working with both AOAC and the Goodman Pool to maximize our pool time, but at this time our practices are set based upon the pool space available.

Q: How many swimmers will there be to a lane?

A: The Angie O'Donnell Aquatic Center is allowing MSS to have up to four swimmers per lane and a similar practice plan is set for the Goodman Pool. Please talk with your coach about lane assignments and or work out plans for your swimmer's specific swim group.

Q: I am concerned that we can't regularly get our Senior 1 swimmer to Goodman Pool. Is there any way for Senior 1 swimmers to practice at the AOAC?

A: At this time, MSS is not setting a Senior 1 Monday-Friday practice at the AOAC. Please talk to Coach Nick if you have concerns with your swimmer's ability to practice routinely at the Goodman Pool.

Competition

Q: Does MSS anticipate any competitive swimming or intersquad meets this Summer?

A: Wisconsin Swimming is just beginning to post summer meet guidelines at options at this time. We are pleased to announce that **MSS plans to host a dual meet with another club at the AOAC on June 26 & 27**. Details will be coming at the start of the summer season, but please mark your calendars now. While this meet will be on a smaller scale than our summer meets of the past, we will be needing help from families to make our home meet run smoothly all weekend. If you are in town and your swimmer will be racing, please be prepared to assist with the meet. MSS will keep our membership apprised of any and all safe options for summer competition as the season unfolds.