2023 Wilton Y Wahoos Blockbuster Swimathon
Wilton Y Wahoos Swim Team
Riverbrook Regional YMCA
404 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT 06897
Phone: 203.762.8384
www.wywahoos.org

Frequently Asked Swimathon Questions

- **What is a Swimathon?** This is our single **major fundraiser for 2023** and an awesome team-building event that will take place on **Thursday, June 8** (rain date: Monday, June 12) from 3:30-8:30pm. We are asking for **100% participation**! All swimmers will request donations from sponsors either per lap or in one lump sum, swim as many laps as possible during their reserved two-hour time slot, and then collect pledges from their sponsors. If you cannot attend the Swimathon, please consider making a donation, or see your coach for a scheduled makeup session.

- **Why is our Swimathon important?** Registration fees alone only begin to cover the much-needed funds that **keep our team training and thriving**. Funds raised from this event will go towards on-deck facility improvements.

- **What is our team goal?** Our team goal is **$50,000** to resurface 12 starting blocks, a portable scoreboard, and audio and visual equipment. With 100% participation, we can easily surpass this goal. We challenge EVERY Wahoo to raise as much as possible!

- **What can I expect before, during, and after our Swimathon?** All Wahoos are already registered on TeamUnify. In early May, Wahoos will be divided into six teams, captains will be assigned, team names will be selected, and the race will begin. In early June, participants will be asked to reserve a two-hour time slot prior to the event when they can swim up to 200 laps. The **top three Individual Fundraisers** and **top three Family Fundraisers** will receive some amazing prizes. Additionally, the team to raise the most funds will receive a prize. Every swimmer's first donation earns them an official **Swimathon shirt** at check-in. Swimmers will have a chance to spin our Wahoo **Prize Wheel**. In addition, swimmers will earn **Raffle Tickets** for completing a set number of laps to win items from the Wahoos **Swimmer Wishlist**. There will be **Food**, **Music**, a **Gear Swap**, and other surprises. Once our swimathon is complete and donations are turned in, winners will be announced, prizes will be awarded, and our team's results will be submitted to USA Swimming for a chance to win a visit from an Olympian.

- **Can I accept donations online?** Yes, all donations should be made through TeamUnify at **www.wywahoos.org** by clicking the green **"Please Donate"** button and by following the prompts.

- **How does TeamUnify work?** You and your sponsors can log onto TeamUnify at **www.wywahoos.org** and click the green **"Please Donate"** button in the top right corner, search for your swimmer(s) by name, view their profile/letter, and select a donation type: "Individual" or "Family" (family donations will be divided amongst family members equally). If your sponsor prefers to donate by check, cash, or make a pledge per lap, they should click the **"OFFLINE SPONSOR"** tab and indicate their pledge per lap in the **"Comments Section."** We encourage all swimmers and families to watch the **"Help Video"** to assist in getting started.

- **How + Who do I ask for pledges?** A sample letter to family and friends is provided on your personal fundraising page. You'll be surprised how generous people will be when they find out what a great cause they are supporting. Ask your **parents, siblings, grandparents, friends, neighbors, and parents' co-workers**. Some people like to give 5, 10, 25, or 50 cents per lap and enjoy challenging you. Others prefer to make a flat donation. Phone, email, text, or see them in person and tell them you are raising money for your swim team and how many laps you are trying to swim.

- **When do I collect money?** Collect donations anytime starting **now until Monday, July 12**. Lap counters will let you know how many laps you swam at the event so you can begin collecting donations from your per lap sponsors.

- **Can I collect cash and checks, and who are checks made out to?** Yes, cash and checks are both accepted. Checks should be made out to the **"Wilton Wahoos."** Check and cash donations should also be entered into TeamUnify at **www.wywahoos.org** by clicking the **"OFFLINE SPONSOR"** tab and selecting your preference.

- **Can I sponsor the Swimathon?** Yes, if you own a local business and are interested in making a donation (money, services, or products), please contact Wahoo parents, **Kerri Mims**, kmims@optonline.net, or **Lori Ende-Skidell**, lori@loweeandzoe.com, to learn about some great opportunities including t-shirt and digital display ads.

- **Are donations tax deductible?** Yes, donations are tax-deductible. The Riverbrook Regional YMCA tax ID is 06-0853258

- **Who can answer my questions?** You may contact any of our Swimathon co-chairs:
Coach Eric Holden: eholden@riverbrookymca.org; **Coach Jo Ann McCaffrey**: jmccaffrey@riverbrookymca.org;
Lori Ende-Skidell: lori@loweeandzoe.com; **Kerri Mims**: kmims@optonline.net