

2017 Aquatic Swim Team

Program Expectations and Guidelines

We are very happy to say Coach Cherie is returning this year and our new Assistant Coach is Alex Walters. We are looking forward to seeing everyone soon, and getting started for another fun-filled season!

Swim Team Clinic

June 5th through June 7th, our coaches will be hosting a FREE swim clinic from 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm for any member of the Aquatic Swim Club between the ages of 5 and 18. This three day clinic will introduce members to our swim team program for the purpose of boosting enrollment. Each session will last for approximately one hour and utilize the lap lanes. During this clinic, each child will learn proper stretches to do before entering the water for exercise, become comfortable in the lap lanes/deep end, and learn the basics of all four strokes involved in the sport of swimming. Additional information regarding the Clinic may be found on our web page.

Registration

Your child's Registration Form along with Registration Fees are due by June 7th. The registration form has been updated to include a section to capture your e-mail address and cell phone # so that we may send broadcast communications throughout the season. In addition we would like you to provide size information for your child(ren) so that we may have it available if needed for team gift ordering. *Please note, your child will not be added to the Swim Team roster nor swim in any League meets until their registration form is submitted and fees paid.*

Mandatory Parent's Meeting

We will be hosting a Mandatory Parent's meeting on June 7th, at 6:00 PM, which will immediately be followed by Time Trials. In order for your child to participate in our summer program, at least one parent for each swimming family must attend. Attendance will be taken. During this meeting our coaching team and representatives will be introduced, and expectations for the season will be reviewed. Parents should review our expectations with their children and reinforce adherence to our guidelines.

Time Trials

Each year prior to our first meet, the children participate in time trials. During time trials each child will be timed in all 4 strokes. These times will be used by our Coaching staff to assess the ability of your child and place them appropriately in our League events. Time Trials are scheduled for Wednesday, June 7th (immediately following the Parent's meeting). All children are expected to attend this event and, as always, we will need parent volunteers to assist with the coordination of the event including but not limited to lane timers.

Practices

- Tuesday, May 29th – Thursday June 15th: A single practice for all age groups will be held from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Monday through Thursday. There will be no practice on Friday evenings.
- Monday, June 19th – Monday, July 31st
 - 8 & U/10 & U: 9:30 AM to 10:15 AM
 - 12 & U/14 & U/18 & U: 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
- We will be building team camaraderie for the last 15 minutes of the early practice and the first 15 minutes of the late practice, as well as during the after school practices.

- If your child cannot attend practice, please let the coach know ahead of time so they are not looking for the child. In the past, we have incidents where parents thought their child was at practice, when in fact the child took a detour and went to the park instead. Please either send an email if you know in advance, or give Karla a call that morning so there are not misunderstandings.
- If practice is cancelled, which is very rare, you will be notified by text. Please be sure to provide your cell #. If you do not wish to be notified by text, please advise the Coach. If it is raining, practice is still held, unless there is lightning or it's a monsoon outside.
- **Morning Practice is closed.** To ensure we optimize the Coach's time with the children, parents will not be permitted to attend the practice as it may be distracting not only for your child but other children. In addition during practice our staff is focused on opening preparation and your presence may interfere with the completion of their duties. If you need to have a discussion with a Coach regarding your child please schedule an appointment to meet with them outside of practice or meets to ensure you will have their undivided attention. You may schedule an appointment by emailing the Coach at swimteam@aquaticclub.com.
- If the water is too cold earlier in the season, we will be doing dry land training just to get the kids warmed up and back in shape, as well as to get them accustomed to coming to practice.
- If a child repeatedly refuses to practice, we will inform the parent to come back and pick them up as they become a liability because the coaches do not have time to babysit while conducting practice.
- No child will be allowed to leave the premises without a parent or specified guardian. Please do not tell the child to meet you on the sidewalk as this is very dangerous and a serious safety issue.

Discipline

All swimmers are expected to be courteous and respectful to all of the coaching staff as well as their fellow teammates. If there is a problem, we will notify the parent. If a child continues to be disruptive, they will be asked to sit out the rest of practice; however, they will not be permitted to leave the premises without a guardian picking them up. Disrespect will not be tolerated, and we appreciate everyone's cooperation with this policy.

Swim Team Suit

We will be using APCO in Secane to order team suits this year. We are also asking that you purchase a royal blue cap (latex or silicone) for your children to use during meets. APCO will be at our Club on Wednesday, June 7th from 6:00 pm for suit try on and ordering. We encourage everyone to purchase a team suit and cap.

Swim Meets

Our IntraCounty League season will begin on Saturday, June 24th, Aquatic will be hosting a meet against Tinicum. The full schedule may be found on our website. Please note, it is imperative that you email Coach Cherie , swimteam@aquaticclub.com **ASAP** if you know your child will not be available to swim on any of these dates; it becomes a nightmare when we are not notified in advance of a swimmer's absence, and they are slotted to swim, especially in a relay – this results in 3 other children not getting to swim that event if there is no one to slide into that position.

Coaches:

The Coaches will be on the deck watching and timing each race. They will be giving the kids encouragement and praise at the end of each race. Please **DO NOT** approach the coaches unless it is an emergency. It is very difficult for them to do their job and focus on our children if they are being interrupted. If there is a problem, please find Marie Govannicci or Rita Gock, either would be happy to help you.

Officials:

We could not run our meets without the active involvement of all of our parents. To ensure that all of the responsibilities do not fall on one parent, we will have sign-up sheets for volunteers needed for each area of our operations, including, but not limited to, Pasta Night Coordinator, Set Up and Clean Up for Pasta Night, Snack Stand Sales at home meets, Timers and Judges at both home and away meets; Scorers at both home and away meets, set up crew for home meets, which is done the night before the meet, Banquet Coordinator, and phone chain.

Snack Stand Donations:

- Saturday Meets: We ask for donations of coffee, donuts, bagels or fruit that is sold at our Snack Stand. There will be a sign up sheet outside the office so we know what we can count on.
- Wednesday Evening Meets: We ask for donations of cookies, cupcakes or fruit to be sold at our Snack Stand. There will be a sign up sheet outside the office so we know what we can count on.

Line Up

It takes many hours to complete the line-up for the meets. We work the line-up to try to get the best results to win the meets. Sometimes, we may have to move a swimmer up to the next age bracket to try to gain points. We appreciate your patience and understanding in advance as this is not something that is done carelessly. It is a very tedious process, and we do our best to accommodate as many swimmers as we can.

The maximum number of events a swimmer can swim is 3, including a relay. We make every effort to work every child into at least 2 events, and as much as possible 3 events. Additionally, we will add Exhibition heats to try to fit all swimmers in when possible. In the age brackets where we have a lot of swimmers, it is sometimes very difficult to achieve this goal, but we do our best.

Seating

We expect all swimmers to sit together and cheer for each other. There will be a parent who is assigned to gather the children to the ready bench area before their event, and this becomes very difficult when the kids are not where they belong. They should NOT be in the sand, the baby pool (at away meets), in the playground or otherwise. They must remain in the designated area, with their team, at all times.

Ridley Cup

This meet will be held on Sunday, June 18th at Ridley Township Swim Club. Please note we only have two entries per event, with a maximum of two events per swimmer; therefore, we are not able to include every swimmer, and apologize in advance for these limitations. If your child is swimming, you will be notified by Coach Cherie.

Invitational Meets

The Invitational Meets usually have a small cost per event, and you must sign up in advance if you want to swim. These are a great opportunity for swimmers to swim their favorite stroke, and get more experience racing. There is no limit to the number of events entered. The meets are as follows:

- Prospect Missy Harrell Odd Age Meet: This meet will be Sunday, July 9th. It is a great opportunity for the kids who moved up to the next age group and are in their down year (example they are 9 in the 10& under group). The usual line of events by age is 8 & Under, 10 & Under, etc. This meet is set up as 7 & Under, 9 & Under, 11 & Under, etc. More information will follow shortly.

- Drexel Classified Meet: This meet will be Sunday, July 23rd. This meet has “not to exceed” qualifying times. This is not for the swimmer who is a top finisher; instead, it gives the swimmers who don’t always place a chance. More information will follow shortly.
- Primos Prestige Meet: This meet will be Sunday, July 16th. This is a qualifying meet, and all participants must meet the qualifying times to be eligible to swim. The coach will let the swimmers know if they are eligible. More information to follow shortly.
- Elite Meet: Tuesday, August 1st location to be announced. This is for the top 2 finishers at Championships, but does not include the Relays. The top 2 from the Intra County League, the Suburban League and the Delco League will race against each other. We have had great representation from Aquatic swimmers at this meet in the past, and are hoping even more of our swimmers will make it to this very prestigious meet this year.

Championships

The Gold Division Championship is on Saturday morning, July 22nd, location to be determined. Folcroft will be hosting Relay Preliminaries on Wednesday evening July 26th. The top 6 finishers from the Blue and Gold Division Championships will advance to Intra-County Championship on Saturday, July 30th, location to be determined. The top 2 finishers from Intra-County Champs will advance to the Elite Meet on Tuesday evening, August 1st.

Pasta Night

The night before Saturday meets, the team gets together for a Pasta Dinner at 6:30 PM in the Snack Bar area. Each family signs up to bring pasta, drinks, dessert or otherwise. This is a great opportunity for the parents and swimmers to get to know each other and build team camaraderie. There is no charge for this; you just sign up to bring something and all family members can eat.

Sign Up Genius

We will be using Sign Up Genius to record our volunteers and donations for the meets as well as pasta nights. Information on this application will be provided at the Parent’s Meeting.

Team Pictures

Will be Announced.

Banquet

Our banquet will be held on Thursday, July 27th at Rutledge Borough Hall. It consists of a buffet dinner and awards ceremony. During our banquet, swimmers and parents are acknowledged for their contributions to our team’s success. Swimmers are invited to attend the banquet at no cost. Parents and siblings are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Fundraising

Our Swim Team program operating cost is approximately \$10,000/season. We regulate our registration fees so that the program is affordable to most members. To supplement our income, we conduct several fundraising events throughout the course of the season the proceeds of which offset the expense of our coach’s salaries, banquet, team gifts, awards, etc. It is our hope that everyone will support these events as they benefit our Team and the Club.

July Lotto

Each family is expected to purchase a minimum of \$25 in lotto tickets (5 tickets @ \$5 each.) The cost is included in the registration fee. You may re-sell these tickets to others or retain them. Each ticket has a 3 digit number. During the month of July, if the number on your ticket matches the PA Daily Lottery evening number, you will win \$25. If you have a matching number on July 4th, you will win \$100. Additional tickets are available for purchase until June 30th. Please contact a Swim Team Representative for further details.

Summer Bingo

We will be hosting a Designer Bag Bingo on Saturday, July 22nd. We are asking each Swim Team family to donate a restaurant/hair salon/nail salon/movie gift card in the amount of \$20 or more for the event. All donations MUST be received by Sunday, July 15th.

We are looking forward to another successful swim season! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via email at webmail@aquaticclub.com. Thank you very much for all of your cooperation and support; it is very much appreciated!

Warm regards,

Marie

Marie Govannicci
Swim Team Co-Chair

Rita

Rita Gock
Swim Team Co-Chair