

**Sharks NewsUpdate
September 22, 2014**

1. Fall Swim Team began last Monday, September 15. We had a little over 30 Shark swimmers at practice last week and at least 8 WeeSharks. It is never too late to come to swim practice as we get ready to start the 2014-15 Winter Swim Season, which will begin on October 20.

Green (ages 9 & under)	Mon, Wed, & Fri	4:15 – 5:15pm
Gold (ages 9 & above)	Mon & Wed	5:00 – 6:30pm
	Tues & Thur	3:30 – 4:30pm
	Fri	3:15 – 4:15pm/4:15 – 5:15pm
Senior	Mon & Wed	5:00 – 6:30pm
	Tues, Thur, & Fri	2:45 – 4:30pm
	Mon & Wed AM	6:00 – 7:00am
WeeSharks	Tues & Thur	4:30 – 5:15pm

2. There are Morning Practices on Monday & Wednesday mornings from 6:00 – 7:00am for any Shark senior swimmer that can make the afternoon practices due to other commitments.
3. The MDI YMCA Half-Marathon was held on Saturday, September 20. Volunteering at the Sharks Water Station were Liam Sullivan, Annie Wray, Lydia DaCorte, Sydney Wright, Tyler & CassieLyn Willis, and Kristoph & Anna Naggert. Thanks to all that help, it is always great to see how the runners appreciate the volunteers in the middle of the woods next to Eagle Lake.
4. I will be away this Wednesday – Sunday to attend the Fall State YMCA Coaches Meeting in Waterville and then to participate in a variety of USA Swimming meetings in Portland over the weekend. In my absence, Ty Onda will be handling the coaching duties. Ty is a former Shark and UMaine swimmer.
5. The meet schedule should be available next week after I return from Y Coaches meeting. Here are some of the dates for this year; vs. CCSC (Old Town) Nov. 22, @ WCY (Belfast) Dec. 6, vs BYB Dec. 20, vs LRSC (Bath) Jan. 10, @ PenBay (Camden) Jan 24; and @ DEFY (Ellsworth) Jan 31. Our first Y Meet will be the MDI Sprint Meet on Nov. 15. The Aquathon will be held on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 1. The Y State Meet @ UMaine will be from Feb. 27 – March 1 and the JO's (Winter Champs) will be @ UMaine from March 12 – 15.
6. The WeeSharks is for swimmers who aren't ready to make the full commitment to the Sharks or just new to competitive swimming. Practices are from 4:30 – 5:15pm on Tuesday and Thursday beginning on September 16. Swimmers/Families will have the option to sign up for one day or two days per week.
7. We are always on the lookout for new Shark Swimmers. New swimmers may try the Sharks for a week before joining. No one is cut from the Sharks and anyone (who can swim the length of the pool) from ages 6 – 18 is welcome on the team. There will be a 'Bring-A-Friend' week from November 3 – 7 but any week can be bring-a-friend to practice.
8. We are always looking for officials to help with the Sharks home meets; there will be two trainings in October. A class on October 19 in Portland and on October 26 at UMaine.
9. There will be a parents meeting for Wednesday, October 1 @ 6:00pm. This will be a meeting for all returning parents. This will be an important meeting to discuss the future of the Sharks. We will be planning the upcoming season for help with Aquathon, Swim Team Store, Pizza Parties, Home Meets, and other team functions. We also discuss the changes in the swim team fee for the 2014-15 swim season. Alan Mogridge, the new Y Executive Director will be on hand to give his thoughts on the Sharks program and answer any questions that you may have.
10. We are on facebook at Mount Desert Island YMCA Sharks and on the web at www.mdiysharks.com .
11. If you have any questions or are interested in helping out the Sharks for the upcoming season please email.