

September 21, 2014

To all Shark Families,

Welcome to the 2014-15 Swim Season. We will be hosting a swim team parents' organizational meeting on Wednesday October 1 at 6:00pm. The meeting will be held at the Mount Desert Island YMCA in the game room. The purpose is two-fold. The first will be to discuss the reasoning behind the increased swim team fees and payment plans. The second will be to devise an organizational volunteer chart for the Sharks swim season. We will still be holding our annual informational meeting during the second week of November to outline the winter season.

This year we had to raise the fees for this season more than we have had in the past. We have had to do this to cover the cost of staffing for the team and the pool. For many years, Tony & I acted as both the Swim Coach and the Lifeguard for the morning lap swims and Sharks practices. Last year, in a decision for safety recommendations by the National YMCA, we could no longer fulfill both roles. This required the Y to add a lifeguard each morning so the coaches could focus on coaching and the lifeguards on providing safety for all that use the pool.

The other staffing change is that I will now just be the Head Coach of the Sharks swim team with no other duties (i.e. lifeguarding & teaching) at the MDI YMCA. This will allow me to focus on coaching throughout the year and not be concerned with other workings of the Aquatic Department.

MDI YMCA Sharks Program Fees

Gold Team - \$400 or \$160 at registration and 4 monthly drafts @ \$60

1st year members on Sharks \$340 or \$160 at registration and 4 monthly drafts @ \$45

Green Team - \$300 or \$160 at registration and 4 monthly drafts @ \$35

1st year members on Sharks \$260 or \$160 at registration and 4 monthly drafts @ \$25

Senior Team - \$200 or \$100 at registration and 4 monthly drafts @ \$25

The other portion of the meeting will be to fill-out the volunteer responsibilities for the 2014-15 season. Some of the roles that we need filled for the year will be Swim Meet operations, which includes officials, timers, computer operators, and of concessions. Other positions include the leading the Aquathon, running the team store, operating the July 4th Lemonade/Cupcake booth, and helping with the pizza parties.

This year we will have 5 home meets that will require us to have a sound organization in place for the benefit of all. The 30th annual MDI Sprint Meet will be held on Nov. 15 and the Lenny DeMuro Meet will be held on Feb. 8. This year there will be 6 YMCA League meets (3 at home) as opposed to 4 in the past few years. Home meets will be on Nov. 22 vs. CCSC (Old Town), Dec. 20 vs. Bangor and Jan. 10 vs LRSC (Bath).

At the meeting Alan Mogridge, MDI Y Executive Director, will be on hand to present his thoughts on the upcoming season and to answer any questions that you may have on fees and anything else related to the Sharks. We both hope to see you on Wednesday, October 1 at 6:00pm.

Thank you,

Jim Willis
MDI Y Sharks Head Coach