

Parent's Meeting Information, November 17, 2012

Handouts

2012-13 Swim Team Handbook, Home/Away Meet Schedule, Registration form, Swim Suit order form, November/December calendar, Agenda

Most of the information covered is in the 2012-13 Handbook. If you do not find the answer below or in the parent's handbook please email.

Volunteers

We are looking for people to lead the following positions for the Sharks. If you are interested and/or you have questions concerning these volunteer roles please contact Jim. Each of these positions is vital to the success of the Sharks.

Aquathon – coordinate the festivities on Aquathon Sunday (Feb. 3).

Concessions – lead the concessions on home meet swim days. Help w/setup and/or cleanup. Help w/sales and shifts

Awards – people to label and place awards in swimmers folders. Can usually be done during practices.

Team Store – to help with sales of goggles, caps, suits, decals, and other items. Mon/Wed/Fri Evenings

Meet Staff – we need lots of people to run a swim meet. Lists are posted the Monday before a Home meet to allow all ample time to prepare for the meet. Timers, Officials, Concession workers, and setup/cleanup personnel are some of the volunteers that are needed to run a swim meet.

Pizza Party Helpers – someone to help handout pizza and other items

New Parents

Coaching Philosophy – swimming is sport where all swimmers can find their own niche. The most important goal is to improve from meet to meet, season to season, and year to year. Improving can be getting a better time, learning a new stroke/turn, coming to practice on consistent basis, and many other ways where one can feel good about themselves. Swimmers should not compare themselves with anyone else but should seek to improve one's self.

Practices – consistent schedule which changes very little over the course of the season. There are no practice requirements but we do like swimmers to come to more practices as they get older. There is usually at least one important goal for each practice.

Y Meets – there are 4 Y dual meets (we had our 1st in Ellsworth on Nov. 17). We like to get all Shark members to swim at these meets. There are invitational and closed meets during the season, these are optional and swimmers are allowed to choose some events to swim. State Meet held at the University of Maine on March 2 & 3, all swimmers that swim in 3 Y meets are urged to attend the State Meet. This is the one meet that we shoot for all season.

Aquathon – all Shark swimmers participate in the annual Aquathon. Information will be provided to the swimmer right after the new year. This is the swim team's biggest fundraiser by far and we must get all to help out.

Communication – mostly done by email but we do have a website www.mdiysharks.com that contains all the data that is sent by email plus a little more. Newsupdates are published most weeks with info for the next week or two on the Sharks.

All Parents

Volunteering – the positions listed above are looking for someone to take a leadership position.

Registration Forms/Front Desk Signup – all swimmers/parents must fill out a registration form for the 2012-13 season and also signup at the front desk of the Y.

Swim Team Store/swimoutlet.com – we do sell some items at the pool but we also have a link setup with www.swimoutlet.com. Swim suits can be ordered through Nov. 30 to take advantage of the lowest price possible (\$36 for boys and \$48 for girls)

Meets

Y Meets – 4 dual meets, numerous closed & invitational meets, and the Y State Meet.

For more information please look above.

USA Meets – Separate meets held through the season. Swimmers must purchase a USA-S membership. All meets except the JO's (Winter Champs) are open to swimmers of all ages and abilities. For the JO's, swimmers must meet qualifying times. The JO's is the Shark's next important meet after Y, it is the other meet that the team strives to perform well at.

Practices – Morning practices are held Mon – Thur from 6:00 – 7:00am for HS students and 6:45 – 7:45am for middle school students. Afternoon practices, Green on Mon/Wed/Fri and Gold Mon – Fri. Each afternoon practice is divided in to 2 or 3 groups depending on coaches' availability, swimmers ages and ability, and practice goals for the session and week. Saturday practices are for Gold and Senior swimmers. Saturday is usually the hardest practice of the week and the participants are usually rewarded with a hearty breakfast afterwards. We try to have practice during vacations and keep the same schedule if possible.

Concessions Money – all parents should provide some type of item for the concessions at home meets. A list is posted the week before on the pool bulletin board. Money raised for the concessions provides State Meet t-shirts to the swimmers, pays for the pizza parties and provides for other incidentals throughout the season.

Weather Days – the Sharks have practice in all most weather conditions during the winter. Sometimes practices maybe combined to make it easier on the Y Staff and transportation. If one does not feel safe coming to the Y, please stay off the road during inclement weather.

Website – our new website is up and running. www.mdiysharks.com contains much info on the Sharks

Facebook – weekly practice schedule, practice changes and last minute notices are some of the things that are posted on facebook. Just search for the Mount Desert Island YMCA Sharks.

Questions – If you have any questions feel free to email sharks@mdiyymca.org anytime. You can also approach the coaches before and after practices but please not during the actual practice. The swim team handbook provides in-depth information on the Sharks swim program. It should be able to answer many of your questions but feel free to contact the coaches for any additional information and also to clear-up any problems that you or your swimmer may have.