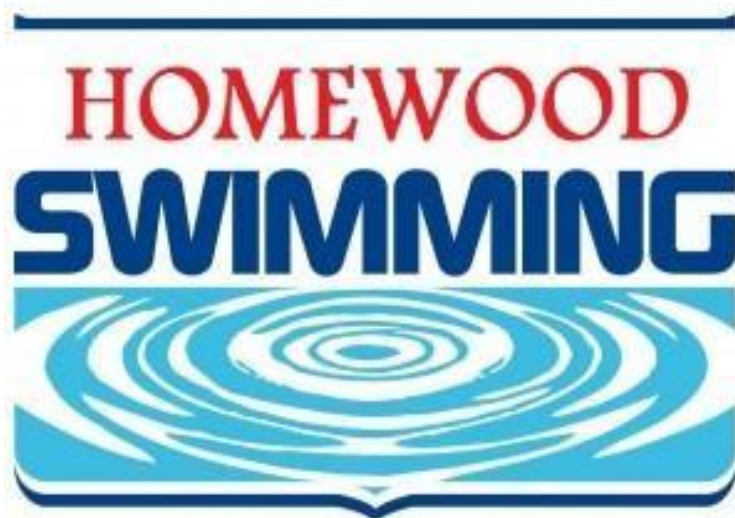




Swim Team
Information Packet
2024

*Online Registration available at:
www.homewoodparks.com*



PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION, AND FIND THE PROGRAM THAT'S RIGHT FOR YOU.

SWIM LESSONS – IF SWIM LESSONS IS THE BEST FIT FOR YOUR CHILD THE REMAINDER OF THE PACKET DOES NOT APPLY TO YOU.

Swim lessons are designed to introduce water safety and skills, while increasing the swimmer's overall comfort in the water. This summer, swim lessons will be provided by Trident Aquatics. Information for swim lessons can be found online at www.homewoodparks.com. For additional information please contact Rob Dellinger rdellinger@tridentaquatics.org

SUMMER SWIM TEAM –

The Homewood Swim Team is a recreational swimming program; Homewood Swim Team is not a learn-to-swim program. It is designed for swimmers to improve their stroke technique, participate on a team representing their community, and have fun swimming. Our swimmers compete against other swimmers with the same age and times during swim meets. Homewood Swim Team competes through the Jefferson Shelby Swim Council (JSSC) against other teams from our area.

All swimmers on the summer swim team need to be able to swim 25 yards (one length of the pool) with little or no assistance from coaches, walls, or lane lines. If you do not feel your child is capable of this at this time, swim lessons are the place for you.

HOMEWOOD PARKS & RECREATION SWIM TEAM 2024

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Homewood Parks & Recreation (HPR) Summer Swim Team, one of the many youth athletic programs offered by the Homewood Parks & Recreation Department. The team also functions within the guidelines of the Jefferson Shelby Swim Council (JSSC), the governing authority for summer swimming.

This packet is designed to provide you and your child(ren) with all information needed for your child(ren) to enjoy the fun of summer swimming in Homewood, while learning to master all of the strokes (freestyle, breaststroke, butterfly and backstroke). Summer swimming is fun, exciting, competitive, and can lead to a lifelong love of the sport.

While operating under the guidelines of the Homewood Parks & Recreation Department, swim team coaches and parent volunteers are responsible for organizing the team and hosting the swim meets. A large number of parent volunteers are needed to ensure that the program runs smoothly and on time. For this reason, it is imperative that ALL parents volunteer their time by assisting with registration, organizing team events and helping at the home meets. The home meets can only happen if parents volunteer as timers, certified officials, assist with registration, printing and selling heat sheets and ensuring that younger children do not miss a race. We look forward to another quality and fun summer season!

Jakob Stephens

Homewood Parks and Recreation

Sawyer Woodworth - Athletic Coordinator

swoodworth@homewoodal.org

Robbie and Brook Gibbons

Homewood Parks and Recreation Coaches

If you have any questions, please contact either

-Robbie Gibbons: Cell Phone: (205) 401-9656

rgibbons@homewood.k12.al.us Cell Phone (205) 586-6494

-Brook Gibbons: Hprswimming@gmail.com

Summer Swim Team - Ages 5-18 yrs old

Please read the information below relative to ages, ability, fees, and meetings.

- ALL FIRST TIME HPR SWIMMERS 8 AND UNDER ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND AN EVALUATION. This evaluation will validate the swimmer's ability to complete a 25 yard unassisted required swim.
 - **Evaluation for all first time HPR swimmers 8 and under will be Monday, May 20th**
 - Ages 6 and under: 4:30-5:00
 - Ages 7-8: 4:45-5:15

Registration

Registration will be open Thursday, April 4th - Wednesday, May 22nd.

Registration is a three-part process. **Note:** Membership at Homewood Parks and Recreation is **not** required for swim team participation, unless you and your child wish to swim in the pool at other times.

Part 1: Register with Homewood Park and Recreation

Online Registration: www.homewoodparks.com

To Register in Person: Please come to the Homewood Parks Business Office (Located at Homewood Community Center – 1632 Oxmoor Road, Homewood, AL 35209) between Thursday, April 4th and Wednesday, May 22nd. (Business Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:45pm)

HOMEWOOD SWIM TEAM REGISTRATION FEES (Competitive Team and Guppy/Pre-Guppy)			
REGISTRATION FEE	AMOUNT	WHERE TO TURN IN	CHECK PAYABLE TO
Homewood Residents	\$100.00 Per Child + Additional Fees Below	Homewood Parks Business Office (During Business Hours) (or) Online Registration April 4th - May 22nd	HOMEWOOD PARK
Non-Homewood Residents	\$200.00 Per Child + Additional Fees Below	Homewood Parks Business Office (During Business Hours) (or) Online Registration April 4th - May 22nd	HOMEWOOD PARK

* Registration fees will not be accepted at the Parent Meeting. Homewood Parks registration fee includes costs for coaches, dual meets, team t-shirt, swim cap, awards, and end of season party. Registration deadline is Wednesday, May 22nd. Swim suit, goggles, JSSC fees and invitational entry fees are an additional expense incurred by each swimmer.

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Part 2: Register with JSSC (only for swimmers who will swim in meets). You will need to complete the google form on the JSSC website. (when the JSSC has them available) and pay \$25.00 fee (payable in cash or venmo - @Homewood- SwimTeam) More information at the parents meeting.

JSSC			
TEAM MANDATORY FEES	AMOUNT	WHERE TO TURN IN	Cash or Venmo
Jefferson Shelby Swim Council (JSSC) Fee	\$25.00	Parent Meeting	Venmo @Homewood-SwimTeam

Part 3: Register with Swimmngly and pay the Swimmngly fee \$15.00 (only for swimmers who will swim in meets)

Swimmngly			
TEAM MANDATORY FEES	AMOUNT	WHERE TO TURN IN	Credit Card
Swimmngly Fee and Registration	\$15.00	Directly with Swimmngly Information will be available at the Parent Meeting on Wednesday, May 15th	Swimmngly

OTHER FEES:

(OPTIONAL) FEES BASED ON DESIRE AND PARTICIPATION	AMOUNT	WHERE TO TURN IN	Cash or Venmo
INVITATIONAL SWIM MEET	TBA	At Pool	Venmo @Homewood-SwimTeam
SENIOR COUNTY	TBA	At Pool	Venmo @Homewood-SwimTeam

**A mandatory Parent Meeting will be held prior to the season.
Tuesday, May 15th at 5:30 at Homewood Middle School**

ONE PARENT MUST ATTEND PARENT MEETING!

Registrations will not be accepted at the Parent Meeting.

SUMMER SWIM TEAM PRACTICE SCHEDULE

● **Regular practice will begin Tuesday, May 28th**

Practices will be held Monday through Thursday

- 7:00am-8:00am: Session 1
 - Advanced (Swimmers who have swam on any swim team 3 years or more. Swimmers will swim 50 yards and more continuously per stroke)
- 8:00am-8:45am: Session 2
 - Intermediate (Swimmers who have swam on any swim team 1 to 2 years. Swimmers will swim 25 yards to 50 yards per stroke)
- 8:45am-9:30 am: Session 3
 - Beginner (Swimmers who have swam on any swim team 0 to 1 year. Swimmers will swim 25 yards per stroke)

● **Evaluation for all first time HPR swimmers 8 and under will be Monday, May 20th**

- Ages 6 and under: 4:30-5:00
- Ages 7-8: 4:45-5:15

TENTATIVE SUMMER MEET SCHEDULE 2024

Thursday, June 6th
Tuesday, June 11th
Tuesday, June 18th
Tuesday, June 25th
Tuesday, July 9th
Tuesday, July 16th
Monday, July 22nd Last Chance Meet
July 27th and 28th Senior County Championship

Other optional meet dates will be available at the Parent Meeting on Tuesday, May 15th - 5:30 pm at Homewood Middle School

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YOUR CHILD WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT WITH HIM/HER AT THE FIRST PRACTICE:

- 1) **SWIM SUIT**-All Swim team members need to have a navy or navy/red swimsuit for team meets. For practice, other colors are acceptable. For girls, any one-piece racing-style swimsuit is needed. For boys, any suit he can comfortably swim in is fine. Homewood Swim Team swimsuits and any additional swim items can be purchased from Homewood Sporting Goods in downtown Homewood. (WILL NEED TO BE PURCHASED ON YOUR OWN)

- 2) **SWIM CAP**- latex or silicone swim cap is used during practice. Please wear the team cap during all swim meets. (A HOMEWOOD SWIM CAP WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE TEAM)

- 3) **GOGGLES**- This equipment will protect swimmer's eyes from chlorine and other chemicals in the pool water. Goggles also enhance underwater vision. A good pair of goggles makes all the difference for a swimmer. So we suggest a true competitive swimming pair of goggles vs. those available on the "summer / seasonal" aisle in many retail stores. (WILL NEED TO BE PURCHASED ON YOUR OWN)

- 4) **TOWELS**- Large, thick towels are preferred by swimmers. Swimmers should bring several towels to each meet. (WILL NEED TO BE PURCHASED ON YOUR OWN)

Please label all swimming equipment----swimsuits, goggles, caps, and towels. They all look alike to the swimmers!!

SWIM TEAM QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR PARENTS

1. What is the inclement weather policy?

All swimmers must exit the pool at the sound of thunder and remain inside the building with the coaches. Swimmers must wait thirty minutes without thunder and lightning before re-entering the pool.

2. What is the attendance policy for practices and meets?

There is no requirement for any given number of practices per week. However, regular attendance at practices leads to faster swimming at the meets.

3. How do I communicate with the coaches?

Communication with coaches will be primarily via email. Parents may **NOT** communicate with coaches or officials during meets or practice. The coaches need this time to coach the swimmers.

4. When do we arrive for the meets?

Parents who volunteer for a given home meet should arrive at the pool at 4 pm. Swimmers should arrive at the pool for warm-ups at the scheduled warm-up time. There is NO lifeguard at the pool between 4 and 5 pm, so no swimmers are allowed in the pool.

5. What events are included in each meet?

View the JSSC website to learn which events are included in the meets. www.swimjssc.org

6. Who enforces the technical rules of swimming?

The rules of swimming (correct stroke and kick technique, proper turns, etc) are enforced by JSSC. Visit the JSSC website to learn more about the technical rules of swimming. Each meet is staffed by volunteers (certified and non-certified) according to JSSC guidelines.

7. What if I am late picking up my child from practice?

Coaches and parent volunteers are NOT responsible for the safety and supervision of your child after practice. Please plan to get your child as soon as practice ends.

8. What about behavior during meets and practice?

Parents or swimmers should NEVER communicate with officials during meets. They are OFF LIMITS. Timers - However, will check with swimmers to be sure the swimmer is in the correct heat and lane. Parents should NEVER communicate with coaches during meets or practices. You may communicate with them via-email.

- Parents and swimmers who have shown they cannot control their behavior will be asked to not return to the Homewood Swim Team.
- Complaints can be filed through JSSC. Section 2: Under JSSC rules.

9. Where can I find the schedule for meets?

The official meet schedule will be provided at a later date. Meets are typically on Tuesday evenings, invitational meets are typically on weekends.

10. How do I sign up for meets?

The information to sign up for meets will be announced at a later date, along with the meet schedule.

11. How do I know when it is my child's turn to swim during a meet?

Lane assignments can be found on the Swimmingly app or Heat sheets are sold at each meet. A heat sheet lists every swimmer in the order they will swim and gives their specific heat and lane assignment. During a meet, please listen for your child's event to be called to the Clerk of Course. Volunteers in the Clerk of Course will line up swimmers and get them to their correct lane. It is important for swimmers to report to the Clerk of Course when called. Parents should not stay in the Clerk of Course area.

12. Can my other children swim in the pool during practice and meets?

No... Only swim team members should be in the pool for competition purposes during practice and meets. SIBLINGS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO SWIM IN UNUSED AREAS OF THE POOL DURING PRACTICES AND MEETS.

Swim Meet Volunteer Jobs

HPR expectations for swim meet volunteers: Each parent is expected to volunteer for at least two swim meets. Below you will find a list of different volunteering roles. HPR will send a signup genius each week for volunteers.

- 1. Runners (Home Meets)** —Transport papers to/from different areas of the pool.
 - Runner takes DQ slips from Stroke and Turn judges to Referee and then takes the slips to Scorer after Referee has signed each one. This Runner checks with Stroke and Turn judges every 3-4 heats, especially with breaststroke events (lots of DQ's in breaststroke)
 - Runners take the completed timer sheets to the Scorers at the end of every event (not heat). Also, this person takes Place Judge sheets to scorer. We need two Runners for this job.
 - Runner walks between Clerk of Course to Scorer, carrying add-ons and scratches. Check with Clerk of Course every 3-4 heats.
- 2. Place Judges (Home and Away Meets)** —each team provides TWO Place Judges who sit at the finish line and write the order of finishes as they see them. Place Judges use one "Place Judge sheet" for each heat. Runners will carry these completed sheets to the Scorer table via the "bucket".
- 3. Ribbon Table (Home Meets)** – Two people work this table putting stickers on the backs of the appropriate ribbons. They work closely with the Scorers, who print the stickers (or labels) at the end of each event.
- 4. Clerk of Course (Home Meets)** —One of these parents announces upcoming events and calls for the swimmers to line up at the Clerk of Course tent. The remaining volunteers line up the swimmers by heat and lane to keep the meeting moving in a timely manner. A parent escorts the swimmers from Clerk of Course to the starting blocks. The older swimmers (11 and older) should come to Clerk of Course, but they are not supervised as closely as the younger swimmers. It is the responsibility of the swimmer/parent to be at the Clerk of Course at the appropriate time to swim the race. Many swimmers/parents will miss a heat if they are not paying attention. Sometimes, these swimmers can be substituted in a subsequent heat. Sometimes, they can not. It depends if there are available lanes.
- 5. Timers (Home Meets)** —these volunteers use a stopwatch to record each swimmer's times. These times are written on the Lane Timer sheets. A Runner picks up the sheets at the end of each event for transportation to the scorers table. Accuracy is crucial. A Relief Timer provides rest breaks for timers when requested.
- 6. Head Timer (Home Meets)** —this person starts two stopwatches for each heat. These stopwatches are back-up only, in case a timer misses a start. The Head Timer needs to be in a place that all timers can rush to if they need a stopwatch.
- 7. Certified Officials (Home and Away Meets)** —Stroke and Turn judges, the starter and the referee are "certified officials".
 - Stroke and Turn judges observe strokes, kicks, dives, and starts. They are responsible for DQing swimmers who do not swim according to the rules for each stroke.
 - Starter starts each heat by announcing and then setting off the strobe light/beeper.
 - Referee assists the starter, signs each DQ slip and keeps the meet on schedule.

Looking forward to a GREAT SUMMER..

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