

BRAZADAS BLAST

Table of Contents

- ❖ [Key Announcements](#)
 - [Welcome Coach Rachel Gardner](#)
 - [Coaching Staff for the Short Course Season](#)
 - [September 1 Billing](#)
 - [Team Resources](#)
 - [Office Hours and Contact](#)
- ❖ [Practice Schedule](#)
- ❖ [Competition News & Information](#)
- ❖ [Community News](#)
 - Team Tryouts (October 4)
 - Ongoing Tryouts
 - Safety Swim Clinic (October 18)
- ❖ [Coach's Corner](#)
- ❖ [Director's Desk](#)

KEY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Coach Rachel Gardner

We are excited to announce the addition of Rachel Gardner to our coaching staff as an Assistant Swim Team Coach. Rachel is a student-athlete at CSU Bakersfield, pursuing a degree in Psychology while competing as a Division I swimmer with the Roadrunners. Her collegiate background has developed strong leadership, discipline, and communication skills, all of which she brings to the pool deck.

Rachel began her coaching career with De Anza Cupertino Aquatics as a swim instructor and has since coached with Milpitas Aquatic Club and Aquazot Swim Club. She has experience teaching swimmers at every level, from early lessons through competitive training. Rachel will be working with all training groups, but you'll primarily see her helping with the Senior Prep group a couple of days each week. We're thrilled to have her on board!

Coaching Staff for the Short Course Season

All coaches are returning this season.

- Head Coach Jackson will lead the Bronze, Silver, and B-Team groups.
- Coach Daran will lead the Gold group.
- Coach Craig will lead the Senior Prep group.
- Coach Rachel will assist with Senior Prep a couple days each week.

- Coaches Dawson and Ethan, who also coach Centennial High School water polo, will be around to help assist.

September 1 Billing

If you were a member on August 1, you were charged dues for that month. Since we did not swim in August, those dues were credited to your account. Your September 1 charges will reflect that credit. Please note: if your swimmer moved up to a new group, the new group rate will be reflected in your September billing.

Team Resources

Our [Resources Page](#) now includes the Team Member Handbook along with an archive of newsletters. The Brazadas Blast will be sent out every Tuesday, so please check your email each week for team announcements and updates. If you miss the email, you can always find the archive on the Resources Page.

Office Hours and Contact

B-Town Brazadas will now hold regular office hours Monday through Friday from 1:00–3:00pm at the East Side Aquatic Center starting after Labor Day.

If you'd like to set up a meeting with the Director or Head Coach, please reach out to [Craig](#) or [Jackson](#) by email.

You can also call us anytime at 661-456-8401. If we don't answer, please leave a message and we'll return your call as soon as possible.

We are committed to returning phone calls and emails within 24 hours, Monday through Friday, except on meet days.

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Practices begin Tuesday, September 2 at the brand-new East Side Aquatic Center! We are so excited to dive into this beautiful, state-of-the-art facility.

This will be a soft opening as the final projects are wrapped up over the next couple of weeks. The pool is safe and ready for training, showers and bathrooms are operational, and spectator seating is partially open. To help us manage the space during this period, we ask that only one parent or guardian per family sit in the stands. By the week of September 22, we expect the facility to be fully ready and looking its best.

The full team practice schedule is posted here: [Practice Schedule](#).

Where to go: East Side Aquatic Center, 2900 Royal Scots Way, Bakersfield, CA 93306

Swim club entrance location: Between the tennis courts and the football field.

COMPETITION NEWS & INFORMATION

Our short course competition schedule is now posted here: [Competition Schedule](#).

Please note that the meet dates and locations for January through March are still tentative.

For each meet, Coach Jackson will send out a meet announcement once we receive information from the host team. We will also publish a one-page meet info sheet on the competition page for quick reference.

Our team records from the long course season are also published here: [Team Records](#).

COMMUNITY NEWS

We are excited to host a large team tryout on Saturday, October 4. Please help us spread the word: sign-up details and information to share with friends and neighbors can be found here: [Swim Team Tryouts](#).

In addition, we always offer ongoing tryouts for new swimmers. So those that want to start now, can! Information to share with families interested in joining can be found here: [Schedule a tryout](#).

Save the date! We will be offering a free Safety Swim Clinic on Saturday, October 18. More information will be shared soon.

COACH'S CORNER

Please make sure your swimmer has their own training equipment. We will not have a shared community equipment bin—swimmers are responsible for bringing their own gear to and from practices.

Not sure what your swimmer needs? Each training group has an equipment list posted on the Swim Team page in the training group descriptions: [Training Groups](#).

To make it easier, our team sponsor FINIS has set up a team store with all required training equipment organized by group. Everything is discounted for Brazadas members: [FINIS Team Store](#).

Thanks,

Coach Jackson

DIRECTOR'S DESK

Dear Brazadas Families,

After a long journey, the East Side Aquatic Center is finally here. I am truly excited for all our swimmers and families to dive in and call this beautiful facility home. This is a special milestone for Brazadas, and as we continue to grow, I look forward to expanding more programming to serve our community.

My hope as director is that Brazadas becomes more than just a swim club. I want it to be a place where kids grow up learning not only how to swim, but how to carry themselves with confidence, how to support their teammates, and how to keep striving for improvement in everything they do. Swimming has a way of teaching lessons far beyond the pool, and I want every one of our athletes to walk away with that.

I also want Brazadas to be a place where every family feels welcome. Because we are community-focused, my commitment is to keep our programs accessible and affordable so that any child who has the desire to swim can find a home here. I take a lot of pride in knowing we are building something that serves not just the athletes in the water, but the families and community around them. That is what excites me most as we step into this next chapter together.

Have a wonderful holiday weekend and look forward to seeing you at the East Side Aquatic Center!

With gratitude,

Craig