

Westfield Aquatics Athletes and Families,

The coaching staff is excited to see all the athletes and families at the pool again soon. Below are a few important reminders and announcements as we move closer to the beginning of the season.

ALL Senior Group (high school age athletes) will begin limited practices the week of August 11th. Keep an eye open for the schedule on the Senior update. The first practice for the remainder of the team is on Tuesday September 2nd.

A change for the season is USA Swimming Registration. We will bulk register the athletes with USA Swimming. There are two levels of USA Swimming membership: 1- Premium or Full \$89.00 (covers all meets for the year), 2- Flex \$30.00 (covers two meets and must be upgraded to full if entered in a third meet or a championship meet, Divisionals or above). All Developmental and Age Group 2 athletes will be registered at the Flex level then we will upgrade them if needed. The initial Flex fee of \$30 will be billed upon registration for the team. Families will be billed the upgraded fee upon the registration change. Age Group 1, Age Group Advance, Age Group Elite and Senior will be billed the full registration of \$89.00 upon joining the team.

The USA Swimming/Indiana Swimming registration fee will be collected by the team upon your initial registration for this year. This fee was paid by members directly to USA Swimming, it is not a new fee but one you will pay to the team and the team will pay USA Swimming for all the athletes.

A small \$15.00 one time fee upon registration for all block groups to help offset the rising costs of team apparel and caps. Each athlete will receive one team shirt and one team cap after they join the team. We will also provide a team shirt for participants of any championship meet attended, divisionals or state. The \$15.00 does not cover the costs the team takes on but will help offset the increased costs of those items the last few years. Age Group Elite and Senior these costs will continue to come out of the team registration fee.

BLOCK REGISTRATION- Reminder that we will ask all Developmental, Age Group 2, Age Group 1, and Age Group Advanced athletes to OPT OUT of a block if you choose not to participate before the block begins. If you do not opt out it is assumed that you are participating in the following block and billed for that block upon the billing date. This allows us to set up Team Unify to automatically configure sibling discounts. Under our former set up discounts had to be managed manually.

REMINDERS

TEAM REGISTRATION- Please note registration will open for all new and returning swimmers September 1st. Athletes placed in Developmental, Age Group 2 or Age Group 1 will be offered 6-week blocks of swimming with short breaks after each block. Age Group Advanced will still run on a block schedule but without consistent breaks.

Due to the short duration of each block, there is no trial period or prorated fees for Dev. Ag2, Ag1 and Ag Adv. Please see the "block schedule" document on our website. It can be found under the Fall/Winter 25-26 Info Tab.

We must have everyone registered for the team before they attend their first practice for insurance purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEET SCHEDULE: 2025-26 Short Course Season Information will be posted on the website this week. Please note the meet schedule is subject to change based off meet availability and participation.

PRACTICE SCHEDULE: 2025-26 will be posted on the website this week but will be very similar to last year. You will receive updated changes as they occur. You should follow the master schedule for regular daily planning. Any changes to the regular schedule will be announced via e-mail.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES AND ITEMS

- Senior Group start week of August 11th; all other groups start Sept 3rd.
- Monday Sept. 8th 6:00 pm: PARENT MEETING WITH COACH DARRICK THOMAS: This meeting will focus on information for new families/parents and to answer questions. It will be about 20-30 minutes. ALL parents are welcome!
- Monday Sept. 8th we will provide all the athletes with a icy treat at the end of their practice. Thank you to Penske Chevy for supplying the funds for the season kick off for the athletes. More details to follow.
- We will be having a short group meeting with athletes and parents lead by each group coach. Dates will be posted when finalized.

Volunteer Opportunities- We have multiple opportunities to help the team this year. We will be posting a comprehensive list on the website soon but here are some quick ones.

- The biggest need is hosting meets. We currently host four events per year and need all the parents' help in making those meets run smoothly.
- Running timing system and computer during meets; High School, Middle School, and Club.
- CONSIDER BECOMING AN OFFICIAL! You get to be on deck and see all the action up close. The team will pay for all courses needed.

We are looking forward to a great season!

Westfield Aquatics Staff