

WAM

Team Handbook

Table of Contents

Mission Statement

Team Communication

Coach Availability

Proposals/ Concerns

Volunteer Obligations

USA Swimming Fees

Monthly Club Fees

Meet Fees

Swimmer Conduct

Team Handbook

Mission Statement

WAM is a non-profit, tax-exempt swim team that provides competitive swimming opportunities to southeastern Wisconsin area swimmers with structured practices and an opportunity to compete on an individual and team basis.

WAM provides an opportunity for young people to participate in an athletic program at their own levels and to be part of a positive team experience.

Introduction

The WAM swim club is led by Head Coach Steve Schiessl and an Oversight Board composed of parent representatives, the President, the Treasurer, and the coaching staff.

This Oversight Board will address business issues as they arise, including practice schedules, coaching schedules, suggested meet attendance, team sponsored meets, swim lesson programming, travel meets, and any other operating decisions.

Team Communication

The handbook that you are reading is part of the team's effort to communicate important information to swimmers and their families.

The WAM website can be found at www.wamswimclub.org. This handbook, current information, upcoming events, articles of interest, practice schedules, meet information, as well as links to USA Swimming and Wisconsin Swimming, can be found on the website.

The WAM Swim Club Directory is available to swim members as a way to contact one another. This directory is printed, distributed, and used only by members, coaches, volunteers, and parents of WAM Swim Club. This directory will not be placed on the website nor distributed to any person not associated with the club. Your participation is strictly voluntary, and your information will not be included without your written permission.

An e-mail notification system is set up to provide a quick way to contact swimmers and their families in case of last minute practice changes/cancellations, meet updates etc. IF FOR ANY REASON THE SCHOOL DISTRICT YOUR POOL IS LOCATED IN CANCELS SCHOOL (i.e. SNOW EMERGENCY CANCELLATIONS) OR AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED, WAM PRACTICES AT THAT POOL WILL ALSO BE CANCELLED.

Coach Availability

Coaches will do their best to make themselves available whenever possible outside practice or competition times to discuss swimmer progress. Feel free to contact coaches, before or after practices, via e-mail and/or phone. All other issues outside of your swimmers progress/performance should follow the **Proposal / Concerns policy**.

Proposal/ Concern Procedure

If you have an idea that could benefit the team, we want to hear from you. Proposals and suggestions should be presented to any Oversight Board member in writing to prevent any misinformation and ease of communication. All suggestions will be discussed by the Board in a timely manner and communicated to the members as seen fit by the Board.

There are times when families have concerns about decisions and directions that the club may take. Concerns should be presented to any Oversight Board member in writing to prevent any misinformation and ease of communication. All concerns will be discussed by the board in a timely manner and communicated to the members as seen fit by the Board. Failure to bring concerns directly to the attention of the Board only leads to discontent and delay in the resolution of problems.

Contact any Board member in writing via e-mail, letter, or in person.

Volunteer Participation/ Obligations

WAM provides swimmers opportunities that they would be unlikely to obtain independently. It is expected that all swim families commit more than the swim fees to the operation of the swim team. YOUR DONATION OF PERSONAL TIME IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCE.

WAM-sponsored swim meets are a major source of income for our team. This allows us to keep our monthly fees as low as possible and to provide quality coaching. It takes a large number of people to run a successful meet. Family participation is expected for any WAM-sponsored meet. Volunteer opportunities may include:

- Board member
- Swim lesson instructor
- Meet Director
- Meet Committee Chair: Concessions
Heat Sheet Advertisement
Sponsorship
Head Timer
- Timer
- Concessions cashier/ server

USA Swimming Fees

All WAM swimmers must be registered with USA swimming. Memberships are issued on a calendar year (January-December) and must be renewed annually. Swimmers must complete a USA Swimming registration at the time of their first WAM Practice.

Monthly Club Fees

Monthly fees are due before the 10th of each month. A \$10.00 late fee will be assessed to any payment after this time. There is no pro-rating of monthly fees, with the exception of high school athletes either entering or returning from their WIAA season.

Meet Fees

Meet entries and payments are due prior to the deadline requested by the hosting team. Once entries are submitted, whether or not the swimmer participates, meet fees are the swimmer's responsibly. The cost of a relay will be split among the four swimmers. If a relay swimmer by his/ her absence at the time the relay is swum causes a relay to scratch, he/she will be financially responsible for the entire cost of the relay. This does not apply

in cases of excused absences (sudden illness, family emergency, etc.) communicated to the Head Coach.

Travel Expenses

Coach's transportation, lodging and meal expenses will be subsidized from the general team fund for national level competitions. In addition, WAM will subsidize each swimmer at a national level competition in the amount of \$50.00 per meet

Swimmer Conduct

The swimmer's actions at practice and at meets are a reflection on the WAM swim team. It is expected that a swimmer's action will reflect his/ her respect for others and his/her pride in the team.

Swimmers will demonstrate good conduct in and out of school.

Swimmers need to realize that while winning is a desired outcome, maintaining modesty when enjoying success is then preferred mode of behavior.

Swimmers should develop pride in their coaches, teammates, and most importantly, themselves.

Swimmers must encourage their teammates at all times. They should never criticize or blame another teammate.

Swimmers will never argue or dispute an official's call.

Swimmers should keep the locker room in proper condition. All clothes should be kept off the floor and garbage should be disposed of properly.