

## **How To Sign-Up For Swim Meets**

Upcoming meets are posted on our website under Meets & Events and updated throughout the season. A meet page is created for each swim meet, listing all the relevant information as provided by the meet host and allowing you to declare YES or NO for the swim meet. It is important to review all the posted information and to check back often to see if any new information has been added. The Meet Announcement document is especially important and provides all the specific information for that meet (i.e., the schedule of events, time of sessions, address of facility, etc.). Every meet is different, getting used to reading the Meet Announcement will give you the information you need to consider participation.

Parents must declare YES or NO for all swim meets and events that your swimmer(s) are eligible to participate by the sign-up deadline. You must be logged into the site to declare. On the sign-up page click Edit Commitment and then select your swimmer then select your declaration (YES or NO) and click Save Changes. You must do this for each of your swimmers.

If selecting YES: the events for the meet will scroll down for most meets and you have the option to select event suggestions for your swimmer, but it is NOT necessary or required to do so. Keep in mind, coaches make the final decisions on what events your swimmer will swim at all meets. What you will find helpful is to note what events are on each day and in what time of day the sessions take place. There is a message box at the top under Notes where you can provide any important messages you want to pass along to the coaches for them to be aware of regarding the meet, such as "Susie really wants to swim 200 butterfly, if possible, thanks." or "Susie cannot swim on Friday, she will be there on Saturday and Sunday." Don't forget to click Save Changes at the bottom of the events page.

If selecting NO: a message box will pop up under Notes allowing you to pass along any messages to the coaching staff as to why you will not be participating, you do not have to leave a message, but the coaches do find it helpful to know why your swimmer is not able to participate. Click Save Changes and you are done declaring for that meet.

Remember, <u>you must declare for all meets—even if you are not participating.</u> If you do not declare YES or NO, the coaches will have to waste valuable time double-checking with you about your participation.

Declaring for a meet ends on midnight the day of the team sign-up deadline. Once the sign-up deadline has passed, you will NOT be able to declare, and you will NOT be able to un-commit your swimmer.

Please be aware that once the sign-up deadline has passed, it is too late to get meet fees refunded if your plans change and your swimmer is unable to participate. The team will still have to pay for your meet fees if you are unable to make it.

If the deadline has passed and your swimmer becomes available to participate, let the coaches know ASAP and they will see about late entries. Please be aware not all meets accept late entries and most meets charge extra fees for late entries. Some meets only take late entries "on deck" at the meet. Parents are responsible for all late entry fees.

## *Important notes about swim meets:*

Swim meets are fun! Swim meets are the reward for all the hard work your swimmer puts in at practice. Swim meets are very important to long term swimming development—we train to race; we don't train to train.

MTS swimmers may only swim in meets on the team schedule and as approved by the head coach.

MTS swimmers are encouraged to participate in as many meets on the schedule as they are eligible for. New swimmers are encouraged to participate in meets as soon as the coaching staff determines they are ready.

<u>Southeastern champs meets are the most important meets each season and required meets for all qualifiers.</u> Please make plans far in advance for your swimmer to attend and help out the team at champs if qualified.



Swimmers are required to participate in their highest-level qualifying meet as scheduled by the head coach. For instance, if a swimmer qualifies for sectionals or higher meets (such as Futures, Juniors, etc.) it is expected that you will be going to that meet no matter where it is unless the head coach opts not to attend.

Parents are expected to volunteer at our home meets to help us host an awesome event for our swimmers and guests.

Parents are encouraged to get more involved in the sport by becoming officials.

Away meets are a fun adventure and provide an opportunity to visit some cool places.

Parents are responsible for travel and lodging arrangements for away meets, except for designated "team travel" meets.

Away meets are always considered "tentative" and subject to our entries being accepted by the meet host. We are not officially in a meet until the host informs us that we have been accepted and, as such, parents need to make sure your reservations can be cancelled should the meet close out before we get in or there is a change to our meet schedule.

Parents are encouraged to get with other parents to help facilitate a swimmer's participation in meets. Please let your coach know if you need help with getting your swimmer to any swim meet.

Parents are expected to take a turn volunteering as a timer at away meets if the host assigns timers to our team.

The coaching staff has the final say as to the eligibility and readiness of a swimmer to participate in a swim meet.

The coaching staff has the final say as to what events and relays swimmers will swim at all meets.

MTS swimmers are entered in the maximum number of events allowed at a meet for which they are eligible and ready to swim as determined by the coaching staff.

Swimmers are not allowed to scratch or change their entered events.

Please direct any questions concerning meets to your swimmer's coach.

The head coach has the final decision on all meet related issues.

## **Go Tigers!**