

MUSCATINE SWIM CLUB NEWSLETTER

September 2007

It is that time of year again, the leaves are changing, the weather is cooling down and the smell of chlorine in your child's hair is just around the corner. Here is some important information for you as the 2007-2008 swim season nears.

MANDATORY PARENTS MEETING:

There will be a mandatory parents meeting on **Monday, October 15, 2007 at 6:30 in the MHS Commons. ONE PARENT MUST ATTEND THIS MEETING.** Just for Kicks will be present to place your team suit order. There will also be a variety of caps, goggles and practice suits to purchase if you would like. This meeting is a great opportunity to ask questions, meet the coaches, and sign up for the meets you will be volunteering.

REGISTRATION:

Attached to this newsletter is a registration form. A registration form must be completed for each swimmer in your family. If you need more, please photocopy your form. Registration deadline is **Monday, October 15, 2007 for returning swimmers.** There will be a \$25.00 late fee for registrations received after **October 15, 2007.** Please send your completed registration and check payable to the Muscatine Swim Club to PO Box 504, Muscatine, IA 52761.

The fees for this year are **\$150.00 (this includes 1 team suit)** for the first swimmer in the family and **\$135.00** for each additional swimmer in the same family. Parents who have assisted with the football fundraising will receive credit based on number of games worked to offset the cost of registration.

Swimmers must also have a **current Y membership.** The fees for new swimmers will be held for the first two weeks of practice as a trial period. **Scholarships** for the YMCA and swim club **are available.** Please contact Jocelyn Paxton at the YMCA at 263-9996 for scholarship information.

IMPORTANT – A SWIMMER CANNOT ENTER THE WATER UNTIL THE REGISTRATION IS COMPLETED, SIGNED BY A PARENT, AND THE FEES ARE PAID. WE HAVE TO ENFORCE THIS RULE BECAUSE OF INSURANCE COVERAGE!

VOLUNTEERISM:

The Muscatine Swim Club is a **PARENT RUN volunteer** organization. It is imperative that all parents volunteer in some capacity to make the season a success. We will have sign up sheets prior to each home meet. **It will be a requirement this year that if your child is signed up to swim at least one parent will be required to volunteer.** If a parent is unable to volunteer the swimmer will not be able to participate.. We have 5 home meets this year. We would like to see 100% participation from all parents but a requirement that one parent volunteer.

PRACTICE TIMES:

Due to the growing size of the Club, practice schedules will be established as the registration forms are received and announced on the website by Monday October 29th. Practice starts November 5. Swimmers 8 & under will swim at the YMCA pool. Swimmers 9 & up will swim at the Carver Pool at the Muscatine High School **Monday-Friday**.

Swimmers may need to come dressed for swim due to the availability of locker rooms used by the boy's high school team. The coaches will keep you informed on this matter.

PRACTICE CANCELLATION:

There **will be** practice on scheduled no school days or early dismissal school days. If school is cancelled due to inclement weather, there will be **no** swim practice on that day at either location. Also, if the Carver Pool is to be used for a Muscatine High School or Middle School home meet, we either **will not** have practice or hold a practice at a different time.

MEET SCHEDULE:

The winter swim meet schedule is attached. In order to participate at sectionals, swimmers need to compete in **three** meets by February 2, 2008. Swimmers must compete in the sectional meet to qualify for the state meet.

STATE MEET INFORMATION:

The state meet will be held in Marshalltown on March 1 & 2. The boys meet will be on Saturday and the girls meet will be held on Sunday. Muscatine has reserved a block of rooms at the American Inn in Marshalltown, Super 8 and the Meskwaki Hotel in Tama. To make reservations for the American Inn, you must call the hotel directly at (641)-752-4844 to receive our rate of \$79.90 per room. To make reservations for the Super 8 call the hotel directly at (641)-753-3333 to receive our rate of \$69.00. If you call the 800 number or book online – you will NOT receive this rate. To make reservations for the Meskwaki Hotel, call 1-800-728-4263 to receive our rate of \$64.00 per room. These blocks of rooms will only be held until February 11, 2008. The reservation rate is on a first come, first serve basis. Once our block of rooms is full, no one is guaranteed the discounted rate. If you cancel your reservation in less than 24 hours prior to your scheduled arrival, you will be charged the full price of the room.

REGIONAL MEET INFORMATION:

The Midwest Regional Swim Meet will be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota on March 29 & 30 at the University of Minnesota. Muscatine has reserved a block of rooms at the Radisson University Hotel. To make reservations, please call 612-379-8888. Our nightly rate is \$104.00. This block of rooms will be held until March 5th.

MEET SIGN UP:

It is the responsibility of the swimmer and parent to notify the coaches on whether the swimmer is going to participate in the upcoming meet by the **Monday prior to the meet**. For your convenience, we have placed sign up deadlines on the meet schedule. **We will make no exceptions to this rule**. Meet entries are due to host teams by 12:00 on Wednesday. Coaches need time to enter events for each swimmer and put together relay teams.

OFFICIALS CLINIC:

YMCA Swim Officials

Date: October 27 Level 1 is 8 am - 12 noon

Level 2/ Recert for the old single level system 1 pm - 5 pm

Location: **West Community Room, Burlington YMCA**

These courses are designed to certify (beginners, currently certified USA, high school, and collegiate swim officials) or recertify (currently YMCA certified) individuals as officials in the YMCA Competitive Swimming Program. The courses focus on events, procedures, and the duties and responsibilities of the officials prior to, during, and after the meet. A score of 80 percent must be achieved on a 100 multiple choice and true-false content item test in order to be certified or re-certified. Upon successful completion of these courses, participants will be certified to time or officiate in the YMCA Competitive Swimming and Diving Programs.

Expiration date: Three years

IMPORTANT DATES – MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

October 1, 2007:	New Parents Meeting	6:30 PM @ YMCA
October 15, 2007:	Mandatory Parent Meeting	6:30 PM @ MHS
October 27, 2007:	Official's Clinic in Burlington	
November 5, 2007:	Practice Starts	
November 17, 2007:	Meet @ Walnut Creek, Des Moines	
December 1, 2007:	Meet @ Muscatine vs. Wilton, Keokuk	
December 15, 2007:	Meet @ Muscatine vs. Dubuque, Tipton, MARC, & Wilton	
January 5, 2008:	Meet @ Muscatine vs. Fairfield & Wilton	
January 12, 2008:	Meet @ Muscatine vs. Burlington, Washington, CRSP, & Wilton	
January 19, 2008:	Marshalltown Mega Meet	
January 26, 2008:	Meet @ Fairfield, also Iowa games in Dubuque	
February 2, 2008:	Fun meet Muscatine or Marshalltown Invitational w/ splash fees	
February 10, 2008:	Sectionals @ Muscatine Tentatively	
March 1 & 2, 2008:	State Meet @ Marshalltown	
March 5, 2008:	Last day to reserve room for Midwest Regional Meet	
March 6, 2008:	Swim Team Banquet @Howe Commons MHS 6:00 PM	
March 29 & 30:	Midwest Regional Swim Meet @ Minneapolis	

CLUB COMMUNICATIONS:

In an effort to make correct information available to all parents, we ask that you provide us with an accurate e-mail address. This is the most efficient way for us to contact everyone when there is a change in a practice schedule or to notify you of an upcoming event. If you do not have any e-mail address, please find a friend to contact you with the information. Unfortunately, we are not able to call everyone individually. The Swim Club's website is www.muscatinewimclub.com.

NEW THIS YEAR:

Swimmers will be responsible for swim and splash fees at sectionals. If attending Regional's those swimmers will be responsible for swim and splash fees.

MUSCATINE SWIM CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Kevin Halstead (563) 264-0442 kphmlh@machlink.com

Vice-President: Susan Sovers (563) 263-1260 sovers@machlink.com

Treasurer: Sue Greenwald (563) 340-4044 greeny@netwtc.net

Secretary: Perry Littlejohn (563) 264-0375 littlejohnp@machlink.com

YMCA Aquatic Director: Jocelyn Paxton (563) 263-9996 jpaxton@muscatiney.org

Are you a new Member? (Please Circle) Yes / No

MUSCATINE SWIM CLUB REGISTRATION FORM

2007/2008 WINTER SEASON

(Please fill out separate form for each swimmer)

Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Birthday _____ Age on Dec. 1 _____

Mother's name _____ Father's name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Emergency Phone _____

E-Mail _____ (*Mandatory for communication purposes)

Certified Official _____ (date of certification)

Physician _____ Phone _____

I hereby certify that my child is in good health. Further, I agree to accept all responsibility for his/her health with respect to use of the swimming pools used during the current swim season. I hereby certify that my child has my permission to participate in such swimming meets and workouts as scheduled by the Muscatine Swim Club. Further, I shall not hold the Muscatine Swim Club or the Muscatine Community Y responsible for any accidental injury that might be incurred while participating in or traveling to or from such meets and practice sessions. In case I cannot be reached, I authorize emergency medical/hospital treatment.

The Muscatine Swim Club Board reserves the rights to remove a swimmer from the club if he/she or his/her parents do not abide by the rules set by the club. I also acknowledge that the Muscatine Swim Club is a parent-run youth activity that requires participation from every family and agree to volunteer to assist at home swim meets in some capacity.

THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS OF REGISTRATION FEES FOR RETURNING SWIM CLUB SWIMMERS.

Enclose \$150.00 for club fees (\$135.00 for each additional family member). There will be an additional \$25 late fee for any returning swimmer signing up past the deadline of October 15.

Parent's Signature _____ Date _____

Mail to: Muscatine Swim Club
P.O. Box 504
Muscatine, IA 52761