



SST NEWS

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2nd Quarter Newsletter – December 2025-February 2026

Quick Reference Calendar & Events

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- **Dec. 3** – [Winter Lessons #2](#) begin
- **Dec. 13** – [Odd Age swim meet](#) (no practice this day)
 - Available for Copper-Senior
 - Commitment deadline is Dec. 3
- **Dec. 22** – [Swim-a-Thon Fundraiser Campaign](#) opens
- **Dec. 24-26** – No practice for Christmas Holiday (see pg. 2)
- **Dec. 31-Jan. 2** – No practice for New Year's Holiday (see pg. 2)
- **Jan. 5** – [Winter Lessons #3](#) begin
- **Jan. 9-10** – [Yellow Snow Invite swim meet](#) (no practice these days)
 - Available for Copper-Senior
 - Commitment deadline is Jan. 2
- **Jan. 16-17** – No practice due to UAF swim meet
- **Jan. 17** – [Alaska 10&U State Postal Meet](#) at Patty
 - Available for all 10&U swimmers
 - Commitment deadline is Dec. 31
- **Jan. 23-25** – [Alaska Senior Champs](#) in Juneau
 - Qualifying times required. Current qualifiers list
 - Commitment deadline is Jan. 12
- **Jan. 26** – [Winter Lessons #4](#) begin
- **Feb. 6-8** – [Sweetheart Invite presented by Gold Standard Real Estate](#) (no practice these days)
 - SST Hosted Meet available for Copper-Masters (adults)
 - Commitment deadline is Jan. 28
- **Feb. 13-15** – [Alaska Age Group Champs](#) in Kodiak
 - Qualifying times required. Current qualifiers list
 - Commitment deadline is Feb. 2
- **Feb. 18** – [Winter Lessons #5](#) begin
- **Feb. 21** – [Swim-a-Thon Fundraiser](#) Event

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HOLIDAY BREAK SCHEDULE

As we approach the holidays and the school district's winter break, we are excited to announce our [Holiday Break Schedule](#). This two-week schedule will allow swimmers to retain their practices per week and also get home earlier to enjoy their evenings. We hope this schedule caters to family dinners, game nights, and general holiday festivities.

Our Junior and Senior groups will be increasing their workload during this Holiday Training. It is an important part of the seasonal training plan as we prepare for spring championship meets. If you are traveling or otherwise absent, we encourage you to swim (or exercise in some form) while you're away. There are nearly 2,500 workouts and over 10 million yards to choose from that we've written on our Sports Engine app or website. If swimming is not an option, rest assured we will hit it hard after break and you'll be just fine :)

The below [Holiday Break Schedule](#) will begin on Monday, December 22 and run through Saturday, January 3. We will then resume our regular [winter schedule](#) on Monday, January 5.

2025-2026 Jr/Sr Holiday Training Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<u>Dec. 22</u>	<u>Dec. 23</u>	<u>Dec. 24</u>	<u>Dec. 25</u>	<u>Dec. 26</u>	<u>Dec. 27</u>
Junior/Senior	7:30-9:00a 2:00-3:30p	7:30-9:00a 2:00-3:30p			2:00-3:30p	9:00-10:30a
	<u>Dec. 29</u>	<u>Dec. 30</u>	<u>Dec. 31</u>	<u>Jan. 1</u>	<u>Jan. 2</u>	<u>Jan. 3</u>
Junior/Senior	7:30-9:00a 2:00-3:30p	7:30-9:00a 2:00-3:30p	7:30-9:00a	2:00-3:30p	2:00-3:30p	9:00-10:30a

2025-2026 Copper - Platinum Holiday Training Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<u>Dec. 22</u>	<u>Dec. 23</u>	<u>Dec. 24</u>	<u>Dec. 25</u>	<u>Dec. 26</u>	<u>Dec. 27</u>
Copper I & II	3:30-4:15p	3:30-4:15p				
Bronze	4:15-5:15p	4:15-5:15p				
Silver	4:15-5:15p	4:15-5:15p				10:30-11:30a
Gold	3:30-4:45p	3:30-4:45p				10:30-11:45a
Platinum	3:30-5:00p	3:30-5:00p			2:00-3:30p	9:00-10:30a
	<u>Dec. 29</u>	<u>Dec. 30</u>	<u>Dec. 31</u>	<u>Jan. 1</u>	<u>Jan. 2</u>	<u>Jan. 3</u>
Copper I & II	3:30-4:15p	3:30-4:15p				
Bronze	4:15-5:15p	4:15-5:15p				
Silver	4:15-5:15p	4:15-5:15p				10:30-11:30a
Gold	3:30-4:45p	3:30-4:45p				10:30-11:45a
Platinum	3:30-5:00p	3:30-5:00p			2:00-3:30p	9:00-10:30a



Schedule Disruptions through February

Locker Room Closures (UAF VB/BB)	Pool Closures (UAF Swim)
Dec. 12-13 Jan. 1, 3, 16-17, 22, 24 Feb. 5, 7, 12, 14, 26, 28	Jan. 16-17 (except Jan. 17 10&U Postal Meet after the UAF meet)



SWIM-A-THON FUNDRAISER

The [2026 Stingray Swim-a-Thon](#) will go live on December 22. The donation period will continue through February 28th. Our Swim-a-Thon event will be held on Saturday, February 21st at the UAF Patty Pool. All Copper-Gold swimmers will attempt to swim 200 lengths in 2 hours (or as many as they can) from 11:00a-1:00p. Platinum-Senior swimmers will complete their 200 lengths from 9:00-11:00a and will then help during the younger session. The younger session will include music, food, and a lot of fun. It will be a great team event, and there will be open pool play time from 1:00-1:45p!

As our single fundraiser of the season, the minimum fundraising amount is \$300 per swimmer in all groups Copper - Senior, **but don't stop there!** This year, we will be awarding gift cards for top dollar individuals and a pizza party for top roster average. We will also purchase a large ticket item if our team goal of \$42,000 is met...last year we bought an underwater speaker system. **So get out there and help your team!**

We have been working hard to make sure this is the best Swim-a-Thon in team history. We have set up the entire fundraising process on our team website to make things easier, more efficient, and more profitable. Now you can ask donors to give right from our website...no more tracking down checks and counting cash. The online donation process is just like making any other online purchase, except this one helps our team as well as USA Swimming! Please visit [our website](#) and click on the many "Swim-a-Thon" tabs to get started.

More information about the actual event will come soon, but for now please focus on getting donations and pledges, then watch the "fundraising lane-line" fill up on the team homepage. **Let's reach our goal of \$42,000** and show the community how dedicated we are to the Stingray Swim Team!



SPRING CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

There are five Alaska Swimming championship meets throughout the season, two of which change location on a rotating basis. This year, four of the five meets are away from Fairbanks. Team travel and championship participation is often a highlight of the season, but it does require advanced planning and logistics.

The first travel championship meet of the season is [Alaska Senior State Champs](#) on January 23-25, this year held in Juneau. This meet is open to any age swimmer who makes a [qualifying time](#) but is generally geared towards 15&Older athletes. The next championship meet is [Alaska Age Group State Champs](#) on February 13-15, this year in Kodiak. This meet is only open to 14&Unders who make a [qualifying time](#). Next on the list is the [Alaska State Championships](#) on April 23-26. This meet is always in Anchorage due to it's size (Bartlett High School has the largest pool). This meet is open to all ages 19&Under who have a [qualifying time](#). Lastly, the [Alaska Summer State Championship](#) is on July 24-26 and is also at Bartlett in Anchorage using their long course meter pool. It is open to all swimmers with a [qualifying time](#).

The one state championship meet held in Fairbanks this year is the [10&Under Postal Championship](#) on January 17. This 'postal meet' is swum by teams around the state in their home pools/areas and results are combined to get statewide results. This is to encourage championship meet participation without a large financial commitment for our youngest swimmers. There are no qualifying times for this meet.

There is one more championship meet and it's a big one...the [Northern Area Conference Championships](#) on April 10-12 at Hamme Pool. This exciting meet is open to all swimmers and is highly encouraged. We have won the conference title eight years in a row, and we'll need everyone's help to make it nine. We will talk this one up a lot as we get into spring.

Whether Northern Area Champs is your big meet this season or you'll be traveling around the state and beyond, we encourage you to sign up early, communicate questions or concerns, and check the qualifier's list often. Below is a breakdown of each meet with links to more information.



	Date & Location	Who It's For	Qualifiers & Cuts
AK 10&U Postal Champs	Jan. 17, 2026 at Patty Pool	All 10&U	No cuts needed
AK Senior Champs	Jan. 23-25, 2026 in Juneau	Anyone with at least one cut (5 bonus swims allowed)	Qualification Times Current Qualifiers
AK Age Group Champs	Feb. 13-15, 2026 in Kodiak	14&U with at least one cut (2 bonus swims allowed)	Qualification Times Current Qualifiers
Northern Area Champs	April 10-12, 2026 at Hamme Pool	EVERYONE!	No cuts needed
AK State Champs	April 23-26, 2026 in Anchorage	Anyone with at least one cut (2 bonus swims allowed)	Qualification Times Current Qualifiers
AK Summer Champs	July 24-26, 2026 in Anchorage	Anyone with at least one cut (2 bonus swims allowed)	Qualification Times Current Qualifiers

