

SST NEWS

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Inside This Issue:	
Welcome to a New Season	1
Team Registration	2-3
General Membership Meeting	4
Travel Meet Declaration	5
Sep. at a Glance	6
2017-2018 Meet Schedule	7-8

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Welcome to a New Season!

September brings new life to swim teams across the country, and the Stingrays are no different. After a summer filled with vacations and time away from the pool, it is finally time to get back to work. We have big plans for this season, both as a team and individually, and the road to success starts today!

We reached our team goal last season of finishing in the top 5 Alaska rankings, earning a 4th place rank and making big waves around the state. We grew to 120 swimmers, 8 training groups, and 9 coaches. Our swimmers attended more practices, competed in more meets, and dropped more time than ever before. We had our largest championship meet rosters in many years and were the Northern Area Conference Champions for the first time. We traveled to Anchorage, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii. So...where do we go from there?

The 2017-2018 season will be one for the record books, as we raise the bar and expectations. We will have 80+% attendance across all groups, continue to improve our technique and mental toughness, and grow as a team through bonding activities. We will have more meet participation than ever, take double digit swimmers out of state, and push for another conference title. We will train hard, race smart, and always show exceptional teamwork and sportsmanship. All of these accomplishments will gear us toward a top 3 Alaska State ranking, no small task looking at the teams ahead of us.

What does all this mean for each member of the Stingrays? The 2017-2018 season will be FUN! We pride ourselves in a family-first, exciting, and enjoyable atmosphere. That will always be the case as we continue to see the fruits of our labor. As long as our swimmers are having fun, learning each day, and improving mentally and physically, this season will be a huge success. Here's to an outstanding season Stingrays!

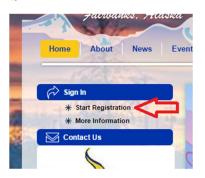


TEAM REGISTRATION

It's that time again; time to complete your 2017-2018 Stingray Registration. This registration is required to be a part of the team, and it also fulfills our requirement to USA Swimming. Each swimmer must complete the online registration process beginning on August 18, 2017. All returning swimmers must have the process completed by September 30, 2017. The process is quick and easy, so please take the time to register now.

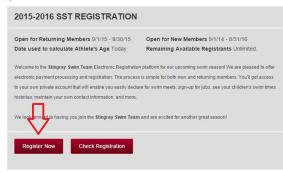
To register, follow these steps on our website (www.stingrayswim.org):

STEP 1



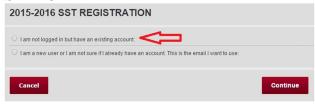
Click 'start registration'

STEP 2



Click 'register now'

STEP 3



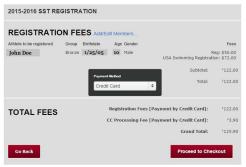
Select to log into your account

STEP 4



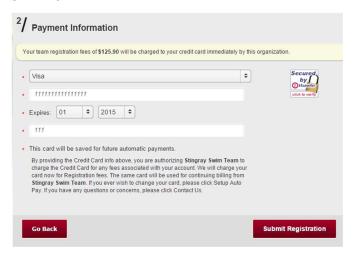
Select your swimmer(s) and fill out form. High School swimmers and anyone on maintenance choose 'Maintenance' group!

STEP 5



September's due and 2018 USA Registration fees will be paid now and sent to Alaska Swimming.

STEP 6



Fill out payment information and submit registration. You will get an email confirming your registration was successful.

*Important notes:

SST is no longer accepting payment by check. It is extremely difficult to track these payments, accounts easily fall behind, and the team's financial stability becomes jeopardized. Payment during registration is by credit card only. After registration, you can change your payment option to ACH if you like. This is like a digital check, where funds come directly from your bank account like they would with a paper check. If you have questions or issues, please let us know...we're here to help.

It is important to keep your credit card (and all account information) current. Due to security reasons, we cannot change your payment information for you. If you get a new credit card, please update the information on your team account. We will kindly remind you if an updated card is needed.

Finally, please make sure apparel sizes are correct during registration. We use those sizes when ordering apparel (t-shirts) so it's important that information is correct. Thank you!



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Each September we hold a Stingray General Membership Meeting. This is a chance for everyone to get together, talk about the upcoming season, and relay important information. We only meet as a team twice per year, so **please plan to attend this meeting**. We will cover the team registration process, our season's outlook and goals, use of the team website, and important financial information. We will also be able to answer any questions you may have.

The General Membership Meeting will be on **Wednesday**, **September 13 at 6:30pm at Monroe Catholic School**. We will be in the multipurpose room; please park in back. There will be a baked potato feast and beverages provided. We hope to see everyone on Wednesday, September 13 at 6:30pm at Monroe.



TRAVEL MEET DECLARATION

As we continue to increase our team travel, it's more important than ever to have an accurate count of participants. Our team budget allows for a select number of travel trips, and we want to accommodate as many swimmers as possible. We need your help to make sure we're offereing the best travel opportunities to the most swimmers possible.

To do this, we need you to "declare" for all the meets you plan on attending this season. On our website, there is a button next to each event called "edit commitment". Click this button and choose whether you're committing to the event or declining the event. We can then easily see who is planning to attend, which helps our travel decisions and preparation.

Each event shows the date(s), location, and if qualifying times are needed. As a family, you can decide which events fit into your schedule and budget. If qualifying times are needed for an event, click the link in each event's description to view those times. If you believe you'll make those times before the registration deadline, go ahead and committ to the event. We're confident you'll reach your qualifying time goals, and it will let the coaches know which meets to prepare for.

TRAVEL MEETS THIS SEASON

IMX Games – Mesa, AZ – November 17-19, 2017

Alaska Age Group Championships – Juneau, AK – February 16-18, 2018

Region XII Championships – Beaverton, OR – March 1-4, 2018

Speedo Age Group Sectionals – Federal Way, WA – March 22-25, 2018

Alaska Junior Olympic State Championships – Anchorage, AK – April 26-29, 2018

Howard Jones Memorial Age Group Invite – Gresham, OR – June 15-17, 2018

Howard Jones Memorial Senior Invite – Gresham, OR – June 22-24, 2018

Alaska Summer State Championships – Anchorage, AK – July 27-29, 2018



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER AT A GLANCE

- Birthdays:
 - August 9 Crieghton Beshears
 - o August 11 Alden Jerome
 - August 14 Ava Welsh
 - August 15 Fiona Lopez
 - o August 19 Ryan Korhonen
 - August 22 Elyse Jensen
 - August 31 Lily Peterson
 - September 1 Abby Birkholz
 - September 1 Bradley Birkholz

- September 5 Evelyn Rupp
- September 7 Daria Mantei
- September 26 Hannah Hackett
- September 26 Liam Nichols
- September 26 Ezekiel Rasmussen
- September 30 Grace Morton
- September 30 Hope Morton

- August 18 Team Registration Opens!
- September 13 Fall General Membership Meeting
 - o 6:30 8:00pm Monroe Catholic School
- September 16 Fall Equinox Meet Wescott Pool
 - O Warm up @ 8:00am, races begin @ 9:00am
- September 30 IM Pentathlon Hamme Pool
 - O Warm up @ 8:00am, races begin @ 9:00am
 - TEAM HOSTED MEET. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
- September 30 Team Registration CLOSES for all returning athletes



SST 2017-2018 Meet Schedule

Fall Equinox Meet

September 16 - Wescott Pool

IM Pentathlon

September 30 – Hamme Pool
Team Hosted Meet (volunteers needed)

Spooky Sprint Invite

October 21 – Hamme Pool
Team Hosted Meet (volunteers needed)

Wishbone Invite

November 17-19 - Hamme Pool

IMX Games

November 17-19 – Mesa, AZ *qualification standards

Robb Coady Novice Meet

December 2 - Hamme Pool

Candy Cane Meet

December 9 - Wescott Pool

Spring Will Come

January 6 - Hamme Pool

Alaska Senior State Championships

January 26-28 – Hamme Pool *qualification standards (volunteers needed)

Sweetheart Invite

February 2-4 – Hamme Pool
Team Hosted Meet (volunteers needed)

Alaska Age Group State Championships

February 16-18 – Juneau, AK *qualification standards

Region XII Championships

March 1-4 – Beaverton, OR *qualification standards

St. Patrick's Day Meet

March 10 - Wescott Pool

Northwest Age Group Sectionals

March 22-25 – Federal Way, WA *qualification standards

Howard Jones Memorial Age Group Invite

June 15-17 – Gresham, OR *qualification standards

Northern Area Conference Championships

April 6-8 – Hamme Pool

ALL swimmers should enter (volunteers needed)

Howard Jones Memorial Senior Invite

June 22-24 – Gresham, OR *qualification standards

Alaska Junior Olympic State Championships

April 26-29 – Anchorage, AK *qualification standards

Midnight Sun Invite

June 29-July 1 - Hamme Pool

Alaska Summer State Championships

July 27-29 – Anchorage, AK *qualification standards