**Novice Parent Meet Summary 1/9/24**

**When does the season end?** After they have swum their last meet, their season is over. Typically, Novice champs for the 8 & under swimmers.

**Division Champs:** Sat. January 27 at Allegheny Valley Y. **The deadline is January 12!** This is one of the **required meets for all swim team members**. There are no qualifying times. This meet is important as it will determine our placement in the league for next year. There are 4 teams in our division; Sewickley, Allegheny Valley, Blair and Uniontown. There will be an over-all team Champion and age group by gender team champions – ie: Girl’s 9-10, Boys 11-12, etc. Winners will earn team banners to display at their Y. These are team awards, not individual. We are required to provide timers and officials for this meet. I would like to have enough so that we can do shifts and no one has to work the whole meet.

**Invitationals:** There is an opportunity to swim 3 invitationals. These are all listed under Meets and Events on TU and are **all open to sign up now.**

1. **Sprint for the Duck at IUP on Sunday, January 21st.** **Deadline has passed**
2. **AVY Cupid Classic** **is Saturday, February 10**, at Allegheny Valley Y. **Deadline is January15.**
3. **Presidents Invite** **is Sunday, February 18** at Plum Senior HS. **Deadline is January 29.**

**Novice Championships:**  **Sunday, February 25th at IUP**. **Deadline is February 6**. Super-fun, themed meet for ALL 8 & under swimmers. This is the final meet of the season for our young swimmers! The theme this year is Super Heros. Swimmers can swim 3 individual events and a relay or 2 individual and 2 relays for a max of 4 events. Coaches choose the events, but you can put preferences in the notes section when you sign up. Events are $5 and there is a $10 facility fee. Swimming venues have become increasingly expensive, and the fee is necessary to offset the expense. At this meet swimmers will dress up in themed attire and parade around the pool deck and dance to the “YMCA”. Please check the meet announcement under the meet for more information.

**Novice Champs Kick-off Party: Wednesday, February 21,** **5:45-7, at the YMCA. You must sign-up on Team Unify under Meets and Events, $5 fee to help defray the cost of food and supplies.** Immediately following practice Novice Swimmers will celebrate and get ready for the Novice Championship Meet. All Novice Swimmers are welcome to attend (regardless of meet attendance).  We will have pizza, food, treats, crafts and games for the kids.

Please volunteer to help us make this a great event for our swimmers! A volunteer sign-up will be sent out soon.Parents will be limited to those helping with the party.  If you have any questions, please contact Kelsey Monyok: kmonyok@gmail.com, 412-320-0525.

**Silver Champs:** **2-day meet, March 2-3.** This meet has **qualifying time standards**. These are located on the “parent info” tab on Team Unify. **My opinion is Silver Champs is for the 9 & up swimmers**. Novice have their championship meet and it is geared for their age group. It allows them to finish their season on a positive note. Novice swimmers that do make a Siver cut are eligible to attend the Silver meet, but unless they have an older swimmer attending or are truly able to compete at that level, I would sit it out. In addition, our practices after novice are geared to the older swimmers. We do not have a lane we can dedicate to novice.

**Questions?** Please feel free to shoot me an email, pkwalick@sewickleyymca.org , or call, 412-741-9622, ext 134, between 1-4 pm.