



Northern Lights Swim Club Boosters Volunteering Program (VIP)

Swimming for the largest swim team in Alaska requires the support and dedication of its swimmers and their families. As a non-profit organization, the NLSC Booster Club is dependent upon the families of our swimmers working together to maintain this standard of excellence. We have many events that require family participation and could not be run without assistance. As a condition of your family's membership with NLSC, it is necessary that each swim family dedicate a specific number of hours assisting the team with running swim meets and activities for our swimmers. Volunteering time, energy, ideas and resources will enhance NLSC as well as afford your swimmers an improved experience.

Volunteer Hour Requirements

Families with children participating in the swim team program (Bronze, Silver, Gold and Senior Elite Comp Groups) must participate in our mandatory volunteer program and are required to complete the following per cycle:

- Bronze – 5 hours per family per cycle
- Silver, Gold and Sr Elite Comp Groups: 10 hours per family per cycle

The swim season is split into two service cycles. The first cycle is Aug 1 – Dec 31. The second cycle is Jan 1 – Jul 31. Hours do not carry over from one cycle to another. If you bring in food for an event, you will be credited 0.5 hours per item.

All families are responsible for the roles or job shifts they sign up to work. If a family is signed up to work a shift at a swim meet and has not removed their name from the list 24 hours prior to the event, they are responsible for working that shift or getting it covered. If a family does not show up for a shift or does not get a shift covered for which they are responsible, they will be assessed a \$25 fee. We depend on those families who have signed up to work. It is the only way events can run successfully. Once the sign-up closes for meet related volunteer spots, any jobs not fulfilled will be assigned to families that are entered to swim in the meet who have not already signed up.

NLSC families will be subject to an Hours Requirement Fee (HRF) of \$20 per hour per cycle for hours not fulfilled. Families who have completed their hour requirement will not be assessed the HRF. The billing for unfulfilled hours will be through Team Unify and assessed after each service cycle. The first billing cycle will be Jan 1st for hours not worked between Aug 1 - Dec 31st. The second billing cycle will be August 1st for hours not worked from Jan 1st – Jul 31st.

Recording of Service Hours

All families are required to sign up for event jobs via Team Unify. Hours will be added to your account within one week of the event. You are responsible for checking your hours or notifying the Volunteer Coordinator for changes or additions.

There are many opportunities to get involved outside of swim meets as well. Contact a NLSC Boosters Board member if you are interested in helping. The mandatory service hours program is maintained and conducted by the Boosters and is **NOT** a function of the coaching staff.



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Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why is the charge \$20 per hour for any hours not worked?
 - This charge is approximately what it would cost the Boosters to hire a professional management organization to run the swim meets.
2. If I get billed during the first billing cycle, but accumulate the total hours needed for both cycles during the second cycle, will I get my money back?
 - No. Working more than your required service hours does not earn your family money back.
3. If I work more hours during a service cycle than required, will those hours be credited toward the next service cycle?
 - No. Service hours do not carry over from one season cycle to the next. This is because with each given year, we have the same number of events and in some cases more events. The hours have been carefully calculated to coincide with the number of events each year.
4. If I join the team in the middle of the year, what is my service hour obligation?
 - The service hours will be assigned at the start of the next cycle. No service hours required for the current cycle.
5. If my child stops swimming during the season, what is my service hour obligation?
 - You will not be billed for unfulfilled hours.
6. If I volunteer at a meet hosted by Central Area Swimming or Alaska Swimming, do those hours get accounted for towards the MVP?
 - Yes. You will receive credit for hours worked at all swim meets, regardless of the host.
7. Do I need to volunteer more than the allocated hours per cycle?
 - Technically, no. However, we hope that you enjoy supporting NLSC, meet new friends and want to keep contributing. Many families work far more than 10-20 hours per year – because they enjoy it and there is a need.