



Team Handbook

2025-2026

Summary of Changes for 2025-2026

From the Head Coach to Bolles Sharks Families,

Welcome to another year of swimming at Bolles! We have enjoyed learning from the new programs and changes we made last year and we will continue to tweak our programs, schedules, dues, and plans to best serve our elevating performances, elevating fulfillment, and elevating team. We strive to provide a consistent and complete program, and we are always working to make improvements. We appreciate your feedback, patience, and loyalty to Bolles!

Program/Group Descriptions

- Both National Prep and National groups have been updated to include attendance for consideration for placement.
- Great Whie/Middle School Prep Expectation for practices has been updated.
- College Swimmer/Summer Visitor Fee pro-rated amount has been updated.
- Language in “extra coaching services” section has been updated.

Codes of Conduct and Expectations

- No content changes made for 2025-2026.

Membership Policies

- Registration and Coaching Fees will increase various amounts and Annual Coaching Fees will increase. Updated costs can be seen on page 22. It is common practice to increase fees annually, fees were increased 3-5% for the previous season.
- A Silicone cap (instead of two Latex) will be included in Registration.
- Reactivation fee increased to \$75
- Billing procedures for registrations after September 1 have been updated.
- Bolles School Employee Discount has been updated.

Meet Service Requirements

- The Officials Incentive Policy has been updated to provide better clarity and direction for officiating families.

Swim Meets and Travel Fees

- No content Changes for 2025-2026

Waivers and MAAPP:

- Updates have been made to bring in alignment with Safe Sport National Standards.

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WELCOME

Welcome to the Bolles School Sharks! We look forward to working with your swimmer(s) as all of us progress through our swimming/coaching careers. Our team is a year-round, competitive swimming team offering competitive swimming instruction, training, and competition. The team is operated by the Bolles School and funded by the dues and fees paid by members. The head coach/aquatics director and the coaching staff supervise the management and operation of the Bolles Sharks under the authority of the Bolles School Administration. The team competes in local, regional, national, scholastic, and international competitions sanctioned by USA Swimming, Inc., the FHSAA, and World Aquatics.

Program Mission

Elevate Performances: To create improvement in performances at all levels is first and foremost in our mission, it is the essence of why we exist. Implied is the concept that ultimate performance (individual potential) is the result of long-term development of the whole human through a process.

Elevate Fulfillment: To create a sense of engagement and competency in the sport. Fulfillment does not equate to happiness but to the result of knowing one has given their best effort and experienced growth in the process. To empower a student-athlete with the tools to be successful beyond the pool.

Elevate TEAM: To prepare and compete as a team, placing the good of the team above the interest of the individual and contributing to the greater team through actions, words, effort, and relationships. While progress in swimming is ultimately an individual responsibility, the process can be rooted in a strong sense of community.

Program Vision

To develop outstanding young men and women that will elevate their future communities. To compete as a championship team at the national level (US) *and* for individuals to compete at an international level. To support appropriate collegiate opportunities for student athletes at all levels. To promote and protect the tradition of excellence at the Bolles School. To support these ends with a complete senior program rooted in team values and behaviors. To support the senior program with an age group program rooted in teaching and championship development.

Program Values

These values guide what we consider to be “above the line” or “below the line” behaviors – daily actions that lead us toward actualization of our mission.

Growth: A mindset and a mantra to focus on the effort and persistence of constant improvement.

Initiative: Move the driving force behind improvement to the attitude and actions of the student-athlete.

Teamwork: To add value to those around you as a key to success.

Tradition: To bring effort that honors our history and grows a legacy.

Coaching Philosophy

We value the person and family of the athlete above their performance. We have an evolving, curriculum-based, and collaborative philosophy from the top of our club (senior program) to entry levels. We base our instruction/training program on being quality IM swimmers prepared for championship swimming (3+ days and 5-9 individual events and relays). We value a quantity of work where quality, purpose, and creativity are maintained. We empower athletes to perform at elite levels internationally and in the US. We prepare student athletes for the appropriate level of collegiate competitive swimming. We uphold the rich and diverse tradition of Bolles swimming as coaches through integrity, professionalism, continued growth, and consistent work ethic. As employees of the Bolles School we adhere to Bolles School policies, procedures, and customs.

THE BOLLES SCHOOL

The Bolles School supports the Bolles Sharks program through the establishment and care of the Bolles Swimming facilities, administrative support (finance, IT, and human resources), and establishment of the Head Coach/Aquatic Director position. The operation of the Bolles Sharks program reflects the values, mission, and procedures of the Bolles School. The following policies and doctrines are applicable to all members of the Sharks program.

THE BOLLES SCHOOL WAY

Pursuing excellence through courage, integrity, and compassion.

THE BOLLES SCHOOL HONOR SYSTEM

All areas of student life, program membership, and behavior are governed by the Honor System, whose purpose is to provide the growing, maturing individual with on-going developmental experiences leading to and culminating in a firm, secure value system. The Honor System is based upon, but not limited to, the Honor Code: "I will not lie, cheat, or steal, or tolerate anyone who does." Violation of the Honor Code can be grounds for dismissal from the team and the school grounds.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Admission and participation in our programs are open to all eligible swimmers who meet our qualification requirements regardless of race, color, ethnicity, or national origin.

THE VALUES STATEMENT & EXPECTATIONS REGARDING MUTUAL RESPECT & APPROPRIATE CONDUCT

Whether we attend Bolles as students, visitors, members of its sponsored programs or are employed by the School, there are reasonable expectations governing our conduct designed to help ensure that all in our community are treated with the respect mentioned prominently in our Values Statement, so that each person here is allowed the same opportunity to achieve success without bullying, insult, threat, or harassment. These expectations apply to all forms of conduct and communications, whether physical, verbal, written, or electronic, that are consistent with the values set forth above and which go to the very core of this school and its programs. Only those participants willing to show respect for their fellow members of our community belong at Bolles.

More information about the Bolles School and the admissions process can be found at Bolles.org.

BOLLES SWIMMING COMPETITIVE PROGRAMS

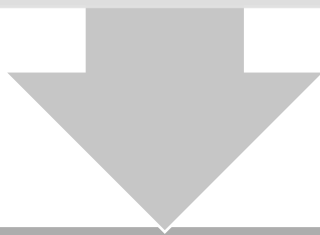
DISCOVERY GROUPS

Practices for beginner level competitive swimmers to learn technique and fun!

JR Makos
Seasonal Pre-Competitive
Pre K - Grade 2

Makos
Grades K-2

Tigers
Grades 1-3



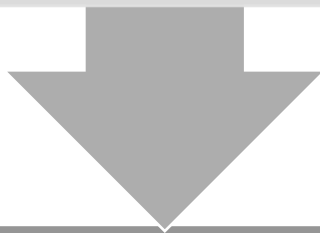
COMPETITIVE AGE GROUPS

Practice groups to introduce periodic training and racing along with technical aspects of competitive swimming.

Hammerheads
Grades 3-5

Great White Prep
Grades 6-8

Great White
Grades 6-8
"A" time Standards



SENIOR GROUPS

Competitive swimming programs for novice to elite 9-12th grade student-athletes.

Champs
Grades 9-12

National Prep
Grades 9-12
Sectional Meet Standards

National
Grades 10-12
Junior National Standards

DISCOVERY GROUPS: JUNIOR MAKO, MAKO, TIGER GROUPS

These programs are the entry level to competitive swimming. The focus of these programs is to teach fundamental competitive skills and expose young student-athletes to the process of improvement. Group placements/evaluations will be made in August, December, and March. You will be contacted in advance by a coach if your swimmer is placed into a new group.

JUNIOR MAKO (SEASONAL)

Junior Mako Sharks represents the step from a swim lesson program to our youngest competitive group, the Mako Sharks. This is for a swimmer who has learned to swim independently in the water with basic stroke skills and is ready for stroke development for our competitive team. Coaches will offer recommended next steps for each swimmer at the conclusion of the program. Junior Mako sessions are available throughout most of the year (seasonal); please check the team website at www.bollesswimming.org, for up-to-date availability. To be eligible for Junior Makos swimmers must be at least 5 years old, sit independently on the wall in a group setting, swim at least 15M without any assistance and have a basic understanding of freestyle and backstroke. Makeups classes are offered in the event of inclement weather, only, and will be offered if 2 or more classes are rescheduled. If you are looking for swimming lessons, please contact the swim office for recommended resources. The Bolles Sharks does not offer “learn to swim” or water safety group lessons.

Throughout the course, the swimmers will work towards completing at least one 25-yard lap of freestyle and backstroke through drills and activities. They will also exit the levels (JR Mako 1 and JR Mako 2) with knowledge of Breast and Fly.

- Swimmers who can kick 25 yards and swim 15 yards with their face in the water, as well as complete 25 yards swimming on their back are considered entry level of a **JR Mako level 1**.
- Swimmers who can kick multiple 25 yards and swim a 25-yard freestyle and backstroke are considered entry level of a **JR Mako level 2**.
- **JR Mako swimmers will register with USA Swimming under a FLEX Membership (\$30).**

MAKO SHARKS (YEAR-ROUND)

Offered: 4 Practices per week approximately 1 hour each.

Recommendation: 2-3 practices weekly.

Grades K- 2

Recommended competitions: “Ping Pong” Meets and Bolles hosted meets as specified by coaches.

The Makos are composed of the youngest competitive swimmers in the Bolles Sharks program. The main emphasis of this group is to teach the fundamentals of competitive strokes and competitive teams. This consists of kicking, drilling, streamline, and the development of the skills necessary to begin competitive swim meets.

Makos are expected to participate in Bolles’ Ping Pong meets and enter USA Swimming competitions as advised by the lead coach of the group. Bolles meets with 10&U sessions include meets in September, October, February, May, and July. Mako swimmers are encouraged to join local summer league programs as available.

TIGER SHARKS (YEAR-ROUND)

Offered: 4 Practices per week 1.25 hours each.

Recommendation: 3-4 practices weekly.

Grades 1-3

Recommended competitions: “Ping Pong” Meets, Bolles Hosted meets as specified, a summer invite, and Championship meets in December, March, and July. (Meet participation is expected at a Hammerhead level)

All swimmers within the Tiger Sharks must be able to legally swim each of the four competitive strokes. Furthermore, sharpening the competitive strokes through drills and kicking will be emphasized. Starts, turns, and skills for training for the next level will also be emphasized.

Tigers are expected to participate in Bolles’ Ping Pong Meets and specified USA Swimming competitions throughout the season. Qualified swimmers may be asked to join Age Group Championship teams. Tiger swimmers should join local summer league programs as available.

AGE GROUPS: HAMMERHEAD, GREAT WHITE PREP, GREAT WHITE

Age Group Programs provide training to athletes in third to eighth grades. Student-athletes are placed into a group based upon school grade and ability level. The foundations of the Bolles Swimming mission begins in these programs; elevate performance, elevate fulfillment, and elevate TEAM. Student-athletes and families will experience progressive growth in expectations and commitment with the goal to produce student-athletes ready to compete and thrive in their next steps. The Bolles Sharks strive to ensure there is a place for all athletes who want to swim competitively, whether new to year-round swimming or preparing to compete at the regional and state level. Quality coaching focuses on progressing athletes technically while building training foundations from the Hammerheads to Great White level. Student-athletes are required to select a consistent practice time and only with coaches' permission may attend another practice time as needed. **Student-athletes are placed into new groups starting January 1, April 1, and August 1.**

HAMMERHEAD SHARKS

Offered: 6 Practices per week, 1.5-2 hours each.

Expected: 3-6 practices weekly & designated USA Swimming competitions.

Grades: 3-5

Competitions: Coaches will have a competition season plan for student-athletes including at least one meet per month and focusing on championship meets in December, March, and July. Student-athletes in the group may have different meet assignments based on attendance and goals.

It is at the Hammerhead Shark level in which student athletes move from strict stroke and technique instruction to a balanced emphasis on training. Drill work and kicking will continue to make up most of the practices; training sets will be added. At this level, goal setting will be introduced, and student-athletes will be expected to be more accountable for their swimming progression. Consistent practice attendance is necessary for continued improvement and advancement. Hammerhead student-athletes will have designated USA Swimming competitions that make up their season plan. Attending competitions is necessary for athlete development. Athletes participating in multiple sports or activities should communicate with coaches about conflicts with practice and competition schedules.

GREAT WHITE PREP / MIDDLE SCHOOL PREP

Offered: 5 Practices per week, 1.5-2 hours each.

Expected: 3-5 practices weekly & designated seasonal competitions.

Grades: 6-7-8

Competitions: Bolles hosted/other local meets as specified and Championship meets in December, March, and July.

The Great White Prep group(s) are an opportunity for middle school students to advance their competitive swimming skills with practices that are more advanced than Hammerhead groups. Student-athletes in this group are striving to qualify for Great Whites and are seeking individual improvement. Student-athletes in this group are expected to attend designated competitions if they expect to advance to another practice group. Bolles Middle School student-athletes placed in this group will be included in the Bolles Middle School swim team (August-October).

GREAT WHITE SHARKS / MIDDLE SCHOOL

Offered: 7 Practices per week, 2-2.5 hours each.

Expected: 5-7 practices weekly, designated competitions and Championship meets.

Grades: 6-7-8

Consideration: 3 events at 11-12 "BB" time standards, the events have to include two different strokes and 50s of fly back, and breast are not considered.

Competitions: Coaches will have a competition season plan for student-athletes including at least one meet per month and focusing on championship meets in December, March, and July.

The Great White Sharks take on a more rigorous training load than the Hammerhead Sharks and Great White Prep. There is a minimum standard of achieving three 11-12 "BB" times in two different stroke events (not including 50s) to be considered for placement in this group. Practice attendance and competition attendance will also be considered. Student-athletes are expected to maintain regular attendance in practices and attend assigned competitions or they will be placed into the Great White Prep program. Student-athletes will be expected to understand interval training and will learn how to train at different effort levels and speeds.

Student-athletes enrolled at the Bolles school will participate in the practice scheduled for 'middle school.' All other student athletes will participate in the Great White practices.

SENIOR GROUPS: CHAMPS, NATIONAL PREP, NATIONAL

Senior practice groups are for 9th-12th grade student-athletes, with programs offered for Bolles and non-Bolles students (“Late Night”). Senior groups are competitive swimming programs for novice to elite student-athletes. Bolles swimming does not offer beginner level instruction for senior age student-athletes. Student-athletes in all groups are expected to meet team standards including commitment to practice and competition attendance, daily effort and attitude, and support for the team. The result is a graduate from the senior program is prepared for next steps in collegiate/international swimming and have developed skills to be successful as young adults in their next endeavors. Student-athletes are placed in groups based on championship meet performances and can be placed into a new group in August, January, or April.

CHAMPIONSHIP (CHAMPS) GROUP

Offered: 8-9 Practices per week, 1.5-3 hours each

Expected: 3-8 Practices per week, designated competitions

Grades: 9-12

Consideration: Coach evaluation or a minimum of 3 events with 13-14 “B” time standards (effective Aug 1, 2024).

This group is for student athletes in grades 9-12 with goals to compete at a State and Sectional level or to grow as a competitive swimmer. Coaches will develop lanes and practices appropriate to the swimmer’s goals within the group. Coaches will develop a seasonal plan to support progress several times per year. At a minimum student-athletes are expected to attend Bolles hosted meets as designated by the coaches. The weekly practice structure may differ from the National and Prep programs to best fit the development of student-athletes in this program.

NATIONAL PREP GROUP

Offered: 8-9 Practices per week, 1.5-3 hours each

Expected: 7-9 Practices per week, designated competitions and championship meets as qualified.

Grades: 9-12

Consideration: Be qualified for 3 events (excluding stroke 50s) at the Florida Spring Sectionals meet and maintain 80% attendance prior to consideration. Student-Athletes in this group are expected to commit to goals of competing at a State, Sectional, Futures, and Junior National level (as well as internationally). **National Prep Student-Athletes are expected to attend all practices and designated competitions offered**, except that 9th grade swimmers are only expected at a single morning practice per week. 9th grade athletes may attend additional morning practices after a discussion with coaches.

NATIONAL GROUP

Offered: 8-9 Practices per week, 1.5-3 hours each

Expected: All practices offered per week, designated competitions and championship meets as qualified.

Grades: 10-12

Consideration: A minimum of 2 USAS Winter Junior National time standards (excluding stroke 50s) and maintain 90% attendance prior to consideration. Student athletes must meet the minimum criteria to be considered for the group AND be placed in the group by the lead coach. To be considered for this group student-athletes are expected to commit to goals including competition at a National/International level (US Olympic Trials, The Olympic Games, USA Swimming Nationals, and Junior Nationals). National Group Student-Athletes are expected to **attend all practices offered (including morning practices) and designated competitions**. Athletes in this group maintain an academic focus while prioritizing practice and competition opportunities throughout the year. Student-Athletes and families are expected to be fully committed both in and out of the pool through regular communication with the lead coach. Student-athletes and families will need to make choices reflecting these priorities including aspects of well-being at and away from the pool. Should the number of eligible student-athletes qualified for the school group fall below 24 or 8 in the Late-Night Program (combined boys and girls), additional swimmers **may** be selected by the coaching staff based on the following eligibility:

- Must have a single winter junior standard or multiple Futures standards.
- Must have consistent practice and meet attendance that matches National Expectations.
- Must have the practice ability to train at a level consistent with existing National athletes.

LATE NIGHT SENIOR GROUPS

The Bolles School Sharks offers a Senior Program for high school athletes not currently enrolled at the Bolles School. This training program is designed as a mirror of the school program but with a few subtle differences. Practice times may differ, but the overall amount of programming will be consistent with what is best for both groups. With different constraints on space and coaching, practice groups may be combined during practice in a different way than school groups. During the summer & weekends, when combined with the full team, student athletes will report to their assigned practice group (Champs, Prep, National).

The mission of the Bolles program as reflected in the late-night program requires specific performance parameters to ensure a productive practice environment. There are limited roster spots available in the program. If a student-athlete/family cannot maintain a commitment to the group expectations as listed, they will be offered a different practice group or support in finding a program that better fits their commitment.

For consideration to join the Late-Night Senior Groups:

- Swimmers moving from Great White practice groups must have achieved at least three 13-14 “B” times standards to be eligible to register with a Late-Night Senior group.
- Swimmers moving from Great White practice groups must maintain consistent practice attendance and consistent meet participation over the past season including championship meets in both LCM and SCY.
- Swimmers wishing to join a Late-Night senior program from another team should contact the swim office first. Based on eligible space in the program swimmers will be offered registration or to be put on a waitlist for future openings. Swimmers wishing to join a Late-Night senior program from another team need at least three senior champs time standards for consideration. If the member joining the team has a sibling in another practice group, please contact the swim office for next steps.

Other Considerations:

- The Late-Night program has a lead coach who works alongside school practice groups and coaches. The training plans, schedules, and overall philosophy of the groups are aligned, but will always have minor differences, to accommodate the variety in schedules across high school programs.
- From August to November, athletes will be expected to work with the coaching staff to develop a healthy balance between high school & club expectations.
- The total practice hours offered closely mirror the practice hours offered by the Bolles student groups. The coaching fees for the programs are the same. To make the best use of the Late-Night group’s time and space, some adjustments to practices may be necessary.
- When participating in Sharks events all member of the team are expected to abide by the Sharks codes of conduct and Bolles school policies as explained in this handbook.
- By athlete request, Late Night Prep & National athletes may join the Bolles morning practices as a supplement to the practice schedule. National athletes are expected to attend 1 of 2 offered morning workouts.

BOLLES INTERSCHOLASTIC TEAMS

LOWER SCHOOL

Student-athletes enrolled at the Bolles lower school campuses follow the policies and procedures listed in this handbook. Coaches and staff members will work to coordinate after school pickups from the Whitehurst campus for the start of the ‘early’ practice times. Each family has a responsibility to clearly define the schedule for their swimmer and pay for any after-school programming needed on days when swimming is not offered. Parents are expected to be on time for pickup following the practices. There is not an official interscholastic team for lower school student-athletes.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Sharks student-athletes enrolled in the Bolles Bartram Middle School are registered to Great White or Great White Prep groups. The 3:35pm practice time is reserved for middle school student-athletes, and they should strive to be on the first activity bus to San Jose following the last class of the day at the middle school.

Middle School swimming (Participation in FHSAA interscholastic season) starts with the first day of practice in August and ends at the last interscholastic competition. **Middle school student-athletes interested in swimming for the middle school season will need to do an evaluation with coaches and be selected to the team. The middle school team is not an instructional program, and swimmers are expected to have a foundational knowledge of competitive swimming.** There is a \$75 fee charged to the school account to participate. Practices for middle-school only swimmers will be with the Great White Prep group schedule (Monday – Thursday) and exclude mornings and weekend practices.

VARSITY

Sharks student-athletes enrolled at the Bolles upper school are placed into a senior practice group based on times. The ‘early’ practice times are reserved for Bolles student athletes.

High School swimming (Participation in FHSAA interscholastic season) starts with the first day of practice in August and ends at the State Championship in November. Upper school students interested in swimming for the high school will need an evaluation with the coaches (participate in practice for a day) and be selected to the team. There is a \$150 fee charged to the school account to participate. Practices for varsity only (not registered with Sharks) will be with the Senior Champs group Monday to Friday afternoons, morning practices, weight room sessions, and Saturday practices are not included.

DIVING

Bolles offers a diving team experience for middle and upper school students. During the interscholastic season divers may register with the interscholastic team and diving practices will take place from 3:30-5pm. The diving program overlaps and partners with two local diving clubs. Student-athletes can register and pursue diving beyond the interscholastic season with either club as needed. Diving coaches work under the head swimming coach for all interscholastic competitions.

AUXILLARY PROGRAMS

HOMESCHOOL

The Homeschool Program provides training to athletes in eighth grade and younger, who attend school in a home environment, and wish to participate in a competitive swimming environment during the day. Swimmers are typically placed into a group based upon age and ability level. The Homeschool Group will hold practices during the week, midday and join the regular team groups for Saturday practice. Weekly schedules will be shared via email from a lead coach. Homeschool athletes will be evaluated and placed in rosters based on the Competitive Age Group Programs for Grades K-8, described on page 2.

Homeschool families can find information on the website and via the homeschool weekly email. Registration fees, coaching fees, USA Swimming Membership, policies, Codes of Conduct, expectations, as well as parent conduct and volunteer commitments, and Team Handbook policies will apply to all members of the Bolles Sharks program. Parents and guardians are asked to park in the maintenance areas or other non-numbered parking locations.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact:
Office Administrator Carole Emerson emersonc@bolles.org

MASTERS

US Masters Swimming is a national membership-operated nonprofit that provides membership to adult swimmers across the country. The Bolles Masters program strives to offer competitive swimming (not open swim) experience for all masters age groups. Our coaches write workouts and practices and provide feedback and instruction. Adult athletes training for competitions, triathlons, as well as health reasons, participate at their own pace and time. Masters athletes have restroom access. Unfortunately, we cannot offer access to the locker rooms due to USA Swimming Safe Sport policies.

To be a part of the Bolles School Sharks Masters, you must join [U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING](#). You can register quickly and easily on the [USMS Membership Page](#). USMS cost is \$60 per year. Membership has benefits, including supplemental insurance, SWIMMER magazine and STREAMLINES e-Newsletters. Bolles Masters registration fee is \$25. Monthly coaching fees are \$25. Registration fees, coaching fees, USMS Membership, policies, Codes of Conduct, and Team Handbook policies will apply to all members of the Bolles Sharks Masters program. Masters athletes are asked to park in the maintenance areas or other non-numbered parking locations.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact:
Office Administrator Carole Emerson emersonc@bolles.org

COLLEGE GROUP/ALUMNI

Bolles Sharks offer a summer swimming program for student-athletes who have returned from college or are seniors in high school transitioning to collegiate swimming for the first time. Swimmers are expected to meet program standards and maintain challenging goals throughout the summer. Swimmers in the program are expected to follow the Bolles Swimming team policies while on campus at The Bolles School.

The cost for the summer will be a one-time payment of \$300 (Pro-Rated to \$200 after June 30) for all athletes who were not active Bolles School Sharks for the current swimming season. Athletes may be able to compete in Bolles meets upon request and by paying meet entry fees. Practices may not be available during hosted meet weekends.

At the time of registration please present Carole Emerson (emersonc@bolles.org) with proof of your Athlete Protection Training (ATP). If you have not completed ATP you can find the information needed to complete [ATHLETE PROTECTION TRAINING](#). College Group/Alumni athletes are asked to park in the maintenance areas or other non-numbered parking locations.

Contact:

If you have any questions about the program, please contact:
Office Administrator Carole Emerson emersonc@bolles.org

STRENGTH & CONDITIONING / “DRYLAND” TRAINING

Athletic development for all ages in competitive swimming includes both in-water and on-land activities. Bolles swimming programs include on-land programming to enhance athletic development in the pool in the following ways: mobility, strength, speed/power, coordination, and team building. Each practice group has assigned strength and conditioning or “dryland” time as part of their practice and participation is expected to be the same as the pool (student-athletes are not permitted to dryland and not swim).

DISCOVERY GROUPS

Mako and Tiger groups use dry-land training time to develop body awareness, coordination, and neuromuscular connections to skills being taught in the water. Coaches use teaching and games to develop young student-athletes in a short session before or after practices. Student-athletes do not need specific gear, coaches will advise if they need shoes for their activities.

COMPETITIVE AGE GROUPS

Hammerhead and Great White/Great White Prep groups advance to more training in their on-land sessions. Exercises are combined into workouts to create an adaptation for strength, fitness, and coordination in the pool. These groups have 3-5 sessions per week lasting 20 to 30 minutes. Coaches will advise what clothing and gear is necessary. Great Whites also begin a “Warm Up To Swim” program before swimmers enter the water.

SENIOR GROUPS

Senior groups incorporate additional advancements to the on-land training cycle including weightlifting, yoga, running, and more. There are three primary types of dryland work that all swimmers are expected to participate in:

- Warm Up To Swim (WUTS) – 10-15 minutes of specified movements prior to swimming.
- Strength and Conditioning – 1-2 sessions per week of 25-45 minutes in the weight room or dryland room focused on resistance training and conditioning.
- Circuits – 1-2 sessions per week can be in the weight room, dryland room, or on a field and focus on swimming specific conditioning with a team dynamic. Movements can change throughout the season.
- Yoga – instructor led sessions to enhance body awareness, mobility, strength, and breathing.

Senior coaches will communicate the dryland /strength and conditioning plan for each group in weekly emails. Student athletes are expected to be prepared with proper attire and equipment as specified by the lead coach. When using common use areas (example: Bolles Weight Room) then athletic tops and bottoms are required.

Not all student-athletes or groups will utilize the weight room or have specific weightlifting. Coaches for each senior group will utilize the available spaces/resources to match what is needed for the student athletes.

EXTRA PROGRAMMING / PERSONAL TRAINING

The strength and conditioning programs delivered by Bolles coaches are intended to cover all necessary physical development needs for student-athletes. If a student athlete is interested in additional training, **it is expected to involve their lead coach in the conversation about what they are seeking and what they are doing.** Just like private swim lessons, any extra work should be a shared collaboration with the lead coach and should never replace the team on-land training for a designated group. Lead coaches may advise against additional programming and student-athletes and families are expected to heed coach advice. In healthy swim coach-swimmer relationships, concerns are addressed proactively before seeking additional support (this may be different for other sports).

PRIVATE COACHING SESSIONS

It is a great benefit for our coaching staff to offer one-on-one coaching for Bolles Sharks student athletes. One on One or small group lessons are great for creating a unique learning environment catered to the student athlete. Lessons also help foster a positive coach-athlete and parent-coach relationship. Finally, lessons help our current staff members supplement their personal income. We want to encourage coaches to engage in one-on-one lessons in a safe and responsible way. The following policies define how CURRENT BOLLES COACHES may provide one-on-one lessons at the Bolles School.

1. ALL private or semi-private sessions are logged online in the 'Private Lesson Log.' Swim Camp Lessons have a separate online log.
2. Swimmers and instructors must be members of the Bolles Sharks team and registered with USA Swimming at the time of the lesson (unless part of Swim Camp). If non-members are interested in a private session, please contact the swim office.
3. A parent or another coach should always be present when giving one on one instructions.
4. Lessons are not permitted during practice hours for the age of the swimmer. Swimmers should not miss practice to attend a lesson session or replace practice with a lesson.
5. Just like the Bolles Sharks and all third parties who use the Bolles facilities, a percentage of the lesson proceeds is used to offset the costs of our facilities including maintenance, utility costs, and insurance costs.
6. Payment for instructors is considered part of employment by the Bolles School and instructors' access to Bolles swimmers would not exist without the Sharks program. Lawfully, lesson payments need to be considered part of the employee's compensation and processed appropriately for tax withholding, etc.
7. Lessons will be billed to Sharks Team Unify account or paid by check to "The Bolles School Sharks." Coaches do not accept Cash payments. Pay will be added to the instructor's paycheck for that pay cycle.
8. Lesson prices are set at \$50 per lesson (\$30 per person for small groups of up to 3).

While we cannot oversee lessons given at private residences or other pools, we ask that each coach in this situation consider the benefit of hosting the lessons at Bolles (covered by insurance and benefits of facility) and the way they represent the Bolles name in the local community.

"EXTRA" COACHING SERVICES

Please contact the swim office if you have requests for additional services or programs not listed such as consulting, speaking, advising, programs for other aquatic activities or pool rentals. Any programs or activities conducted by Bolles Swimming coaches or Bolles Swimming staff will be contractually agreed upon prior to beginning.

For Sharks members looking for additional services beyond lessons such as dryland coaching, nutritional support, performance psychology, stroke analysis, please see your lead coach first. **It is expected to involve your lead coach in the conversation about what you are seeking and what they are doing outside of the program.** We welcome the conversation to see what you are looking to improve on and please respect our right to re-direct you if needed. We support student athletes and families seeking the best opportunities for their swimmers, we ask that you make your lead coach an integral part of the process. While using resources outside of discussion with your coaches is not against team policy we will request a conversation for next steps with our program if the extra support you are using affects other Sharks swimmers or supports another local team.

STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPECTATIONS

Student-athlete members of the Sharks program are expected to strive for **competitive swimming improvement**. The value of our program and expertise of our coaches are designed for the growth of a competitive swimmer and expectations are set accordingly. Student-athletes who use their time with the shark's program for reasons other than competitive growth may be asked to find an appropriate program elsewhere.

The general expectations below (6 P's) and the code of conduct on the following pages define program expectations with respect to their age. These expectations are meant to establish minimum acceptable behaviors for achieving the goals of the swimmers and of the Bolles Sharks as a club. The expectations listed below and the codes of conduct on the following pages are in addition to the Bolles School policies and procedures.

- Use great POSTURE – in and out of the pool.
- Be PRESENT – to be impactful you must be here, follow the expected attendance for your practice group.
- Be POLITE – to your teammates and coaches, listen when a coach is speaking.
- Be PROMPT – to practice and all activities, respect others by respecting their time.
- Be PREPARED – to practice with the right equipment, suit, clothes, and attitude.
- Be PURPOSEFUL – in all that you do.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Each training group has specific attendance expectations appropriate for the objectives of that group. The least possible interruption in the training schedule will produce the greatest amount of success. The expectation level of coaches is that practice attendance increases as swimmers move to older groups. Please ask your group coach what to expect in any individual circumstances.

For the safety and protection of swimmers, they should arrive at the pool no more than 15 minutes before practice starts and be picked up immediately after practice. It is imperative that the swimmers arrive on time so that the coaching staff can efficiently use the allotted time; however, it is also extremely important that children are not left unsupervised at the pool prior to or after practice.

The coaching staff is NOT responsible for supervising athletes prior to or after a practice session.

Each swimmer should plan to stay the entire practice as each practice is designed to be most beneficial when completed in its entirety. If your child needs to be dismissed early from practice, please notify the coach via email before practice begins. Senior student athletes should communicate directly with their coaches. This ensures that the coaching staff is aware of the location of all athletes during a workout session.

All practice groups are expected to be at their designated starting place with their practice equipment ready to start practice on time. Swimmers must notify their coach if they leave the pool and/or pool deck at any time during the practice.

INJURY & ILLNESS

Whenever possible, the coach should be informed in advance of an illness or injury, regardless of how serious or trivial it may be. If your swimmer is out of the water over a long period of time with an injury or illness, please notify your swimmer's coach by phone or email. If the swimmer suspends participation due to injury for over 1 month, please contact the swim office regarding billing.

WEATHER

Practice is only cancelled if The Bolles School closes, otherwise parents are expected to use their best judgement whether to bring their swimmer to practice. If severe weather is imminent, we ask that parents stay on campus in the event swimmers are dismissed. In a weather event, gates will be closed, and parents are asked to hold their athletes in the car until the all-clear is communicated. Staff utilizes several weather and lightning apps, as well as the storm sirens located on San Jose Blvd. Communication regarding potentially severe weather and all-clear are communicated through SMS texting. Parents are asked to update their SMS contact information in their Team Unify Account.

STUDENT - ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

The following policies reflect the rules for student-athletes in the Bolles Sharks Club. Disregard for the rules listed here are grounds for termination from the club or suspension from practices/competitions, as necessary.

1. The Bolles School rules are always to be followed, in all facilities including during travel or away competitions. Instructions from any coach are always to be followed.
2. The consumption or purchase of alcohol, smoking or chewing tobacco, or use of any other illegal drug or substance of any kind is prohibited. Team members involved with or in the presence of others using these substances will be considered as participating.
3. Disrespectful, indiscreet, or destructive behavior will not be tolerated. Each swimmer is responsible for making every effort to avoid others engaging in these activities.
4. Use of proper language is always expected.
5. All athletes will treat team members, coaches, staff, and competitors with respect, support, and kindness. These expectations apply to all forms of conduct and communication, whether physical, verbal, written, or electronic.
6. Inappropriate displays of affection between swimmers have no place on the pool deck. Public romance, physical expressions of mutual attraction, or behavior deemed inappropriate by the Bolles coaches will not be allowed.
7. Thievery is not allowed in any facility, campus, or outside of the program. Each swimmer is responsible for replacing accidentally lost or damaged equipment.
8. All athletes are expected to abide by the dress code and apparel policy determined by the coaching staff of the Bolles School Sharks at all practices, competitions, and during team travel.
9. Athletes will use the team locker rooms for changing only and will abide by the policies listed in the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies. Inappropriate or destructive behavior in the locker room will result in a loss of locker room privileges. In the event a specific action cannot be attributed to a student-athlete the team may lose locker room privileges.
10. ALWAYS represent the team positively in your behavior, appearance, and sportsmanship.
11. All athletes must agree to and abide by the policies and procedures explained in the Bolles Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies.
12. The Bolles School Sharks includes members who are Bolles Students and members who are not. All policies and expectations of positive conduct apply to both sets of student-athletes.
13. If requested and at the discretion of the coach, videotaping that is disruptive during practice and/or competitions will be restricted.

Bolles School Sharks official 2025-26 registration will stand as agreement to the above rules, on behalf of the swimmer. 

STUDENT ATHLETE APPAREL POLICY

The Bolles School Sharks apparel policy is in place to 1) create and promote a commitment to TEAM through a unified and consistent appearance and 2) provide student-athletes with the appropriate apparel and suits for optimal performance at their age and ability level. Exceptions can be made for religious reasons; out of respect we ask that you please contact a coach prior to practices/meets if you need an exception.

The apparel policy applies to all members of the Bolles School Sharks competitive programs and the Bolles Varsity / Middle School swim team. The requirements of each swimmer will change as they grow through the program, and this will be outlined in the Bolles Equipment and Apparel Guide on the team website. These policies apply to international student-athletes and boarding students while competing as part of the Bolles School Sharks.

Practice

1. Student Athletes must have a one-piece competitive training suit of their choice. Improper fit or inappropriate graphics/lettering will not be permitted.
2. Student-Athletes are required to have a TYR Bolles Swimming Cap (Other team caps not permitted unless designated by the coaching staff)
3. Student-athletes should have appropriate training attire for strength and conditioning sessions including proper footwear, athletic shorts, and an athletic top.

Competitions

1. Student athletes must wear a solid navy TYR competition suit for warm up and any races not performed in a technical suit. Practice suits will not be permitted in warm up for a competition.
2. When designated by the Bolles coaching staff, TYR Technical suits (Fusion/Thresher/Tracer/Avictor/Venzo) can be worn in competition. As of September 1, 2020, student-athletes 12 and under student-athletes only permitted to wear USA Swimming approved technical suits in competition. Athletes are expected to wear TYR suits in competition, any exceptions to this can only be granted by the coaching staff.
3. During competitions student-athletes should wear the designated team T-shirt and TYR apparel items to represent Bolles including warm-up jackets and pants, sweatshirts, parkas, and bags.

TYR is the largest single supporter of Bolles Swimming aside from the Bolles School. The partnership with TYR Sport is based on the quality of their racing suits, apparel, and customer service. The benefits of this partnership affect each swimmer directly (savings on TYR items through a team vendor and free apparel items for National level competition) and indirectly (uniform support for coaches, sponsorship for meets, and financial benefits for professional development). Our coaches trust TYR's products to give each swimmer the advantage they need.

We hope each athlete is proud to represent the history and success of Bolles Swimming by contributing to a team environment through our TYR apparel and suits. Coaches and staff members will ask student-athletes to change into appropriate team apparel as needed. Student-athletes not representing Bolles with the correct apparel may be asked to change, leave practice or a meet, and meet with the Head Coach prior to resuming activities. Please ask if you have any questions or concerns before being put in a position in opposition to the team's apparel policy.

Bolles School Sharks official 2025-26 registration will stand as agreement to the above rules, on behalf of the swimmer. [OBJ]

TEAM TRAVEL CODE OF CONDUCT

The following procedures apply to student-athletes on team travel in addition to the Code of Conduct, MAPP, and student-athlete expectations contained in this handbook. By committing to Team Travel events, the family and student agree to abide by these rules and will face consequences up to termination of membership if found violating them. These rules exist for the safety and well-being of the student-athletes travelling with Bolles.

- **Apparel: all athletes traveling with the team will wear appropriate and designated apparel on each day of the competition as well as travel days.** Unless otherwise communicated, travel day apparel is required: Navy Bolles Polo, Khaki, or dark bottoms (no gym shorts, jeans, or sweatpants), closed toed shoes (no sandals).
- **At NO time should a member of the opposite gender be in another student-athletes hotel room. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Athletes wishing to spend time with each other must do so in common areas (hotel lobby, hallways).
- **Athletes should be in their own rooms following dinner/prior to bed checks—all athletes should report to their own rooms after dinner OR be in common areas.** Athletes must stay in rooms after bed checks which are performed by coaches (2 at a time) each evening.
- **Student athletes who have family in town at the competition are welcome to have meals with their family.** These meals need to be planned AND communicated to the coaches in writing (whatsapp or email) PRIOR TO DEPARTURE for the trip. This helps the coaches to plan meals appropriately for the entire group, limits food waste, and helps coaches to keep track of student-athletes under their care. Coaches will ask for confirmation from an adult who will be with the student athlete when they are separate from the team. Athletes will be expected to check-in with a supervising coach upon return to the hotel.
- **Student athletes who travel to or from the event (or between sessions) with an immediate family member may do so with a written request to the coaches indicating who is taking responsibility and when they will be returning** (or returning to the student-athlete's home). There will be no adjustments in team travel costs for this.
- **There will be NO USE OR POSSESSION OF DRUGS, ALCOHOL, OR OTHER ILICIT SUBSTANCES on travel trips. NO EXCEPTIONS.** Use of any of these substances will result in immediate dismissal from the trip and will be followed up with appropriate disciplinary action through the team. Coaches reserve the right to search any team member's hotel room at any time during a trip.

Commitment to a team travel event will serve as an agreement to the above rules.

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The following rules apply to parents of the Bolles School Sharks program. We consider our parents to be part of our team and if needed, may ask for parents to change, or align their behaviors with the goals of our program. In extreme circumstances families may be dismissed from the team for parent conduct.

1. During workouts, the pool deck is for coaches and swimmers. If you need to speak with the coaches, please call or email before practice. Swimmers and parents are discouraged from disrupting the coach or other swimmers with unnecessary communication, unless of course, an emergency.
2. Parents are responsible for a swimmer's behavior before and after workouts. This extends to carpool members as well.
3. Any individual not registered with USA Swimming, Inc. through the Bolles Sharks is not permitted in the pool at any time or on the pool deck. In accordance with the governing body of USA Swimming, Inc., parents may observe practice from the designated bleachers. At no time are parents, siblings, or non-registered people allowed on pool deck for liability reasons. Any siblings or guests must always have adult supervision and, in accordance with the governing body of USA Swimming, Inc., they may observe practice from the bleachers. The pool deck, space outside of the Swim Office, and the fence gate area shall remain clear of all patrons.
4. Bolles Sharks members and families are NOT permitted on the Bolles School's Whitehurst Campus playground (across the street from the pools) unless part of a designated activity under the supervision of a coach.
5. Do not coach or instruct the team or any swimmer at a practice or meet (from the stands or any other area) or interfere with coaches on the pool deck.
6. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by conducting oneself in a matter that earns the respect of your child, other swimmers, parents, officials, and the coaches at meets and practices.
7. Criticizing, name-calling, use of abusive language or gestures directed toward coaches, officials, and/or any participating swimmer will not be permitted or tolerated. These expectations apply to all forms of conduct and communication, whether physical, verbal, written, or electronic.
8. Displaying a lack of support for another Bolles team member or family through words, online posts, or actions will not be permitted and may be addressed by the coaching staff.
9. Always maintain self-control.
10. During competitions, questions or concerns regarding decisions made by a meet official are directed to a member of our coaching staff via email or after the session. Parents may address USA Swimming Officials via the coaching staff ONLY.
11. All parents agree to read, understand, and abide by the Bolles Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP) as posted at the end of the handbook and on the team website.

Bolles School Sharks official 2025-26 registration will stand as agreement to the above rules, on behalf of the family.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY:

The Bolles School Sharks recognize the prevalence of electronic communication and social media in today's world. Many swimmers and their parents use these means as their primary method of communication. We also realize that there are associated risks that must be considered when members use these methods to communicate with minors and other members.

Athletes and parents should remember that being a member for the Bolles School Sharks is a privilege, and they are expected to portray themselves, their team, and their community in a positive manner or risk club expulsion. The following expectations apply to both parents and student-athletes and may be grounds for consequences or termination from the team.

Furthermore, Bolles reserves the right to use each student-athlete's name, image, and likeness in the program in team social media posts.

1. BSS members will not use derogatory language, including sexist, racist, homophobic, obscene, or profane material of any kind.
2. BSS members will not use social media to degrade, demean, or attack any person, team, or organization.
3. BSS members will not use social media to contact team coaches.
4. BSS members will only post appropriate material to the club's profile, or any other FL Swimming and USA Swimming website.
5. All communication between athletes and coaches will be related to the team's activities and should be limited to communication as outlined in the communication policies in this handbook.
6. Coaches and Employees of BSS are not permitted to follow or communicate with athletes via social media. Athletes may follow coaches, but private communication is not permitted. Please see communication policies for more information.

The Bolles School Sharks have an official Facebook page and Instagram accounts that members can follow for information on team-related matters.

Instagram Accounts:

@Bolles_School_Sharks – All Things Bolles

@Bolles_Swim_Camp – Swim Camp highlights

@Bollesschoolswimdive – Bulldog Content for during HS Season

@Bolles_Sharks_Masters – Masters Swimming

Bolles School Sharks official 2025-26 registration will stand as agreement to the above rules, on behalf of the swimmer.

COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS

We strive to communicate as effectively as possible with all members while also balancing policies that protect our staff, families, and young swimmers. We always welcome conversations with parents and student-athletes even if the content of the conversation can be difficult.

1. Communication from the coaching staff regarding most general topics (upcoming meets, practice changes, etc.) will be sent via email on a weekly basis. Please be sure you are receiving “Weekly Emails” from the coaches for the groups your swimmer is in.
2. Communication specific to your swimmer will come in an email or phone call from a coach. In some instances (such as during a travel event) we may need to use text.
3. Coaches will not communicate directly with student-athletes unless another adult staff member or a group of student-athletes are copied on the message. Please read the Bolles Sharks Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy for further information.
4. Coaches will strive to respond to emails within 48 hours and phone calls within 24 hours. Please be aware we work to avoid scheduling any meetings during practice times to prioritize our focus on the swimmers in the water. Coaches are also asked to avoid communication between the hours of 8PM and 8AM to focus on their families and selves, please respect their privacy during those times.
5. Emails and messages with the use of foul language, insults, or inappropriate content will not be considered worthy of responding to and may result in removal from the team. Be respectful and calm even when bringing forth frustrations so that we as a staff may assist in resolving the issue with you.
6. Always discuss an issue first with your child’s lead coach, following the same guidelines noted above. If the coach cannot satisfactorily resolve your concern, then ask that the head age group coach or head coach join the dialogue as a third party.
7. If another parent uses you as a sounding board for complaints about the coach's performance or policies, listen empathetically, but encourage the other parent to speak directly to the coach. The coach is the only one who can resolve the problem.
8. Discussions with the coaching staff ARE NOT/WILL NOT be held during practice or competitions.
9. Athletes will not call or text their coach unless a parent/guardian or another coach/group is included in the communication. Likewise, coaches will not call or text their athletes unless a parent/guardian or another coach/group is included in the communication.
10. Email: only used for communicating information related to team activities, and a parent/guardian or another should be included.
11. Members may request, in writing or by email to the Swim Office, that their child not be contacted by coaches through any form of electronic communication.

Bolles School Sharks official 2025-26 registration will serve as an agreement to the above expectations.

MEMBERSHIP POLICIES SUMMARY

Membership with the Bolles School Sharks includes 4 components:

1. TEAM REGISTRATION

- Create an account on the team website, enter contact information, swimmer information, and payment information.
- Agree to policies and rules in the Team Handbook.
- Pay the per swimmer registration fee.

2. REGISTER OR RENEW STUDENT ATHLETES WITH USA SWIMMING

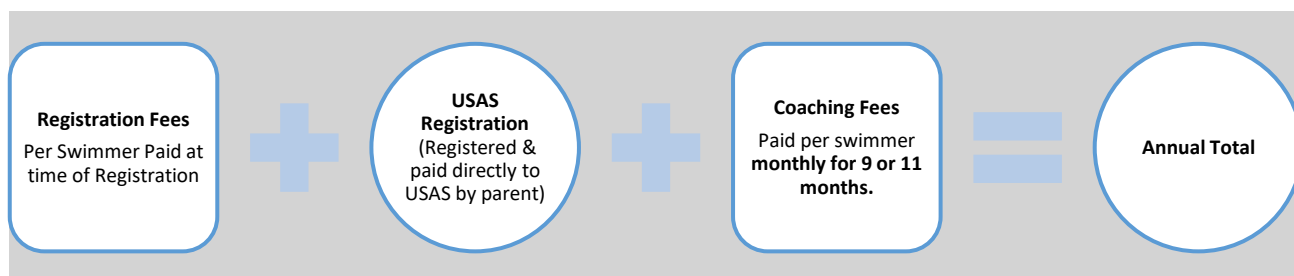
- Create an account or log in to usaswimming.org.
- Register or renew or add family members. Get the specific link from Swim Office for BSS USA Swimming Athlete Registrations.

3. ANNUAL FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

- Annual coaching fees are paid via installments on the 1st of each month from September – May. (Mako and Tiger)
- Meet Expenses or other items to be billed are added to your online account and are due on the 1st of the month following when they were added.

4. MEET SERVICE COMMITMENT

- For each meet your swimmer is participating in, a parent or family member must complete a minimum of one full session of service as a timer or official. (Two sessions are required for the June Summer Classic)



	Swimmer Registration	USAS Registration	Coaching Fees (9 Months)	Coaching Fees (11 Months)	2025-2026 ANNUAL TOTAL	ANNUAL INCREASE COMPARE TO 24-25
Mako	\$155	\$30 [^]		\$110	\$1,395	\$27.00
Tigers	\$155	\$95		\$150	\$1,900	\$36.00
Hammer Heads	\$195	\$95	\$200		\$2,090	\$48.00
GW Prep	\$195	\$95	\$205		\$2,135	\$48.00
Great Whites	\$195	\$95	\$220		\$2,270	\$48.00
Senior Champs	\$205	\$95	\$250		\$2,550	\$48.00
Senior Prep & Nat	\$205	\$95	\$270		\$2,730	\$93.00

*Mako, Tiger Fees will be paid over 11 months. [^]Makos will be registered with a flex membership.

TEAM REGISTRATION

Each member (student-athlete; new and returning) will be registered with the Bolles Sharks club via a registration process on the team website. New and returning members each year will update contact information, billing information, and student-athlete information through the process. The family member executing the registration process will be asked to agree with the listed team policies and waivers. This electronic agreement is recorded by date, name, and IP address as an electronic signature. Members should review the policies and waivers with student athletes and any family members to be sure policies and procedures are understood. To complete registration, a credit card payment for the registration fee must be completed and the credit card will remain on file for future payments.

The completion of the registration process will require you to pay the registration fees below (shown per swimmer) via credit card. A staff member will approve your registration, and you will be sent team information via the email account you use for registration. There are no discounts offered for Team Registration as these fees represent actual expenses for the Bolles School Sharks. Registration fees are non-refundable for any reason.

Your registration fee pays for

- Support for administrative costs to manage the program (supplies, services, fees, and insurance)
- Support for the registration and certification of the Bolles club and staff members.
- Essential apparel items for each swimmer include:
 - 4 Team T Shirts (Orange, Blue, White, and Gray – delivered in December)
 - 1 Silicone Cap (or two latex caps on trade in)
 - A Team Suit (Solid Navy)

Replacements for shirts and caps will be available for purchase in the swim office. Suit replacements or additional suit purchases can be made through the team vendor, Swim Jax Swim Shop.

2025-2026 BOLLES REGISTRATION FEES (PER SWIMMER)

Makos	Tigers	Hammerheads	GW Prep	Great Whites	Senior
\$155	\$155	\$195	\$195	\$195	\$205

REACTIVATION FEE

Families who de-activate a swimmer over the season will be subject to a \$75 re-activation fee if they return to swimming within the same season. This does not apply to student-athletes who have suspended membership due to injury or illness. At the time of swimmer's reactivation, the family installments will move to the 11-month plan. Athletes who suspend their account (for dual-sports, seasonal breaks, etc.), will be wait-listed, and until roster space is available. 30-Day Notice is required for any change to your membership. Returning swimmers will be placed on the regular billing cycle for their group. Membership changes must be provided in writing.

REGISTRATION AFTER SEPTEMBER 1

A swimmer registered after September 1st of the swimming year will complete the same online registration process. The family will begin coaching fee payments on the 1st of the month following registration on an 11-month billing plan. A charge for ½ of the current month's installment (at 11-month rate) will be added to their account. Returning swimmers will be placed on the 11-month billing cycle for their group.

JUNE/JULY REGISTRATION

Student-athletes joining the team after June 1 will pay for the remainder of the year's coaching fees at registration. Registration will be updated on June 1 and July 1 to reflect appropriate amounts for each practice group.

USA SWIMMING REGISTRATION

All members of the Bolles School sharks must be registered members of USA Swimming. This requirement allows the Sharks club to offer its members participation in USA Swimming meets, USA Swimming insurance coverage, certified USA Swimming coaches, and more.

All new and renewing members to USA Swimming will register for this when they join the club. This amount is paid directly by the parent to USA Swimming/Florida Swimming.

During the month of September, you will receive a **TEAM SPECIFIC** link directing you to register or renew your child for USA Swimming for the 2025-2026 season.

The Process to complete USA Registration:

- Follow the link provided in your registration email.
- **CREATE NEW LOG IN**
- Add an email address.
- Wait for verification code from SWIMS.
- Set up your username and password.
- Return to log in.
- The first questions are about YOU, THE PARENT.
- If yes, enter your ID#.
- If NO, please follow directions as they pop up in registration.

For additional information regarding the PARENT account and the family MEMBER, please see [**THIS ARTICLE**](#)

There are 2 membership options for 2025-26:

- **USA Swimming Premium Membership (no difference for age)** \$95. This membership is renewable annually, with full membership into USA Swimming and unlimited competitions.
- **USA Swimming FLEX Membership – for Jr. Makos and Makos** (12 and under athletes, only) \$30. This is renewable annually, one time, with full membership into USA Swimming and 2 competitions. Ping Pong Meets are non-sanctioned and do not count towards the 2-event limit, while still offering participation, as well as insurance coverage, certified USA Swimming coaches and more.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

By completing the registration process, you as a member family commit to a healthy financial relationship with the Bolles School Sharks. Our model to provide a professionally led, high quality experience for Bolles swimmers is sustainable based on our membership commitment. We appreciate your time, talent, and treasure when it comes to supporting our club. Below are the annual financial requirements of our members.

ANNUAL COACHING FEES

Fees to pay for coaching and related expenses of operating the program are presented as an annual amount. Coaching fees are paid via installments through the team website's automatic billing feature. This feature bills your payment method on file on the first of each month. For groups with our youngest athletes, we offer 11-month billing to assist families with entry to our sport. For groups progressing towards the older practice groups of our program we offer 9-month billing to collect fees prior to summer months and support a professional year-round coaching staff.

2025-2026 Annual Coaching Fees

	Makos	Tigers	Hammer Heads	GW Prep	Great Whites	Senior Champs	Senior Nat&Prep
Annual Coaching Fees	\$1,210	\$1,650	\$1,800	\$1845	\$1,980	\$2,250	\$2,430
9 Month Billing			\$200	\$205	\$220	\$250	\$270
11 Month Billing	\$108	\$147	\$164	\$168	\$180	\$205	\$220

DISCOUNTS

The Bolles Sharks offer the following discounts off coaching fees only. Discounts for other expenses are not available.

1. For Bolles School Employees (you must notify the swimming office in writing): \$40 off per payment for 9 months billing or \$32 off per payment for 11 months billing.
2. Officials (See information on Officials Incentive Program later in handbook).
3. For families with multiple swimmers the following percentages will be discounted from your total coaching fees payment each month.

2 Active Swimmers in Competitive Programs	3 Active Swimmers in Competitive Programs	4 or More Active Swimmers in Competitive Programs
12% Discount	18% Discount	25% Discount

PAYMENT METHODS & BILLING POLICIES

Bolles Sharks Fees may be paid via the following methods.

Credit Card or Automatic Account Debit (Preferred)

A payment method will be required to process your registration. Members are expected to enter a Bank Card or Credit Card on-file that will automatically be processed for the account balance and any new fees on the first of each month. You will receive an email before the 1st of the month notifying you of upcoming charges. It is the member's responsibility to maintain a valid credit card on file, you will be notified via email of any failed transactions.

Lump Sum Payment via Check

For families interested in paying the annual cost of the coaching fees in one payment, they may pay via check only prior to September 1st. There will be a 2% discount on the annual total for paying via check. A valid payment method must remain on file for meet fees and other expenses. Multi swimmer discounts and Bolles employee discounts will only be applied if paying for all competitive swimmers at one time. Please contact the swim office for the exact total prior to payment.

Cash Payments (Not Preferred)

For families that have a good standing history of on-time payments and are not carrying a balance in their account we can offer the opportunity to pay in cash or check for a limited time (up to one season). Payments must be made by the 15th of the month to avoid a late penalty. Members wishing to pay in cash must have an agreement in writing (confirmation email) from the swim office.

Bolles School FACTS System (Boarding Students only)

If necessary, we can transfer your account balances to the Bolles School FACS system for payment. This is occasionally reserved for international and boarding students at the Bolles School. Please email the Swim Office for further information after your registration is completed.

LATE FEES

Late fees are automatically applied to the account if the member's account balance is not paid in full by the 15th of the month. A fee of \$20 will be automatically applied to the account.

NSF Fee – Currently, there is no fee for payments that result in insufficient funds for credit cards that are unable to be processed in a timely manner. During the registration process, families agree to payment terms that require a credit card be placed on file for automatic payment processing for swim fees, competitions, team travel, etc. Cards are placed on file and automatically charged each month. Accounts who remove that option through their bank may be assessed an additional processing fee after three failed attempts.

CANCELLATION POLICY

In the event a swimmer or family chooses to deactivate their account, the Swim Office must be notified by email before the last day of the monthly billing cycle to avoid being billed for next month's coaching dues. All outstanding fees and service hours must be paid, or FL Swimming Inc. will be notified of the swimmer's delinquency, and a team transfer will not be granted until all financial obligations are met.

- Swimmers who participate in a practice or meet within a given month are considered active for that month. There will be no pro-ration for cancelled accounts mid-month.
- There will be a \$75 fee for re-activation within the same season and a family will be moved to 11-month billing.
- Athletes who suspend their account (for dual-sports, seasonal breaks, etc.), will be wait-listed after 60 days, until roster space is available.

COACHING FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Coaching Fee payments are non-refundable for any reason. As soon as a member notifies the swim office of cancellation and swimmer stops participating, payments will be stopped. There is no pro-ration of fees for participating only a portion of the season. We will strive to hold a position for all members who deactivate during the season, but there is no guarantee the swimmer can re-activate without paying registration fees.

OTHER EXPENSES

- **Meet Entries and Travel Detailed in Following Sections**
- **Equipment:** Required equipment (fins, paddles, etc.) is used to help develop the swimmer. We work closely with equipment manufacturers to recommend equipment suitable for each swimmer at their respective age. Please refer to the team website to see the list of required and suggested items for your swimmer's group.
- **Sponsors:** Bolles School Sharks is sponsored by TYR. Athletes compete in the appropriate suits purchased through our TYR dealer, Swim Jax Swim Shop.
- **Apparel:** Registration fees include 'Essential Apparel.' The Bolles School Sharks requires that team members wear apparel assigned by coaches to promote the sense of team and the unity of teamwork in competition.
- **Suits:** Swimmers need to be prepared with both a practice suit and competition suit.
 - **Practice Suits:** It is a Bolles School tradition to wear the team practice suit (Solid Navy TYR Suit) available on the webstore or in limited quantities in the swim office. Swimmers are allowed to wear personal suits for practice. Swimmers are never allowed to wear two-piece suits at Bolles practice or at Bolles meets.
 - **Racing Suits:** For most meets during the year the team practice suit may be used for warm-up and racing. Coaches will notify swimmers prior to the meet if technical suits will be allowed for Bolles swimmers. As coaches, we work to balance the athlete's long-term path and the cost of the suits to better promote our sport's core values. Swimmers wearing technical suits at a meet not designated for them will be asked to change or leave, regardless of what competitors may be doing.
 - **Technical Racing Suits:** Athletes should wear the TYR suit models best suited for their development. 12 & Under Athletes are not allowed to wear technical suits in competitions other than Junior Nationals and higher per USA Swimming rules as of September 1st, 2020. All Bolles swimmers are asked to wear TYR brand suits, opting for another suit company may limit the team apparel available to the athlete. Athletes may be asked to change at a meet if not wearing a TYR Team Suit. Athletes who are fitted for, try out, and discuss viable options for other suits with the coaching staff will be supported in what is best for their racing.

If an account remains in good standing, members may "charge" items sold in the Swim Office to their Sharks account (T-shirts, caps, towels) with the expectation that their account will be paid in full on the first of the following month.

FINANCIAL AID

The Bolles School Sharks do not currently offer financial aid for Coaching Dues, Registration, or Meet Fees. If you have questions about how to make our program work for you, or experience hardship financially, please contact the Swim Office.

MEET SERVICE COMMITMENT

To ensure that The Bolles School Sharks swimmers can participate in team activities, swim meets, as well as supplement operating expenses, the Bolles Sharks must host swim meets throughout the year. All team affiliated events are staffed totally by parent volunteers and cannot run without family participation. The Bolles Sharks are fortunate to have an incredible group of very committed members who have volunteered generously; however, it is necessary to implement a Service Hour Obligation policy to ensure that ALL families participate.

A family's willingness to volunteer will greatly impact their child's athletic experience and love for swimming. Regardless of whether a swimmer participates in a meet, it is the positive experience of being involved in the whole TEAM event that will give each athlete the support and fellowship offered by being a valuable member of the Bolles Sharks TEAM.

The intent of this policy is not to raise money, but to ensure that The Bolles School Shark (BSS) swimmers can participate in competition, as well as emphasize how especially important it is that as members of a team, the volunteer effort required is shared equally among its members. We need help from everyone to continue to support the mission and vision of our team.

1. Each family must volunteer at every Bolles School Shark hosted USA Swimming Inc. sanctioned swim meet that their swimmer commits to and participates in from September to July of the current swim year.
2. Each family whose swimmer commits to and participates in a BSS hosted swim meet must sign up for ONE FULL SESSION during BSS hosted swim meets, and TWO FULL SESSIONS at the June Summer Classic (for swimmers who are entered).
3. Families are always welcome to volunteer beyond the requirement.
4. A swimmer (grades 6 and up) is permitted to fill a volunteer commitment for a family at any session they are not participating in. They will also be eligible for community service hours by making a request in writing to the swim office.
5. Bolles School boarding students who are also Shark members are expected to assist with meet breakdown and as assistants of Ping Pong meets. Volunteer service hours are available for helping with Ping Pong events or any other sessions.
6. In the event a family does not participate in volunteering at a hosted meet, \$100 per session will be billed to the members account directly following each hosted swim meet. In the days after a meet, all volunteer sign-in sheets will be compared to the athlete's event participation and online volunteer sign-up.
7. Failure to comply with the team policies may result in suspension or dismissal from the Bolles School Sharks swim team.
8. In cases of hardship for families with a healthy history of volunteerism, communication prior to the event will allow the swim office to collaborate with you on a reasonable solution.
9. Volunteering at away meets (hosted by other teams) will not count towards Bolles' volunteer requirements but is often welcomed by the host team.
10. Community Service credit is available for anyone who volunteers and would like to earn community service hours.

Bolles School Sharks official 2025-26 registration will stand as agreement to the above conditions. 

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

HOW TO SIGN UP FOR MEET SERVICE

Each event is posted on the team website under the Meet & Events section. Look for “Job Sign Up” next to the title of the event. When clicked, the user is directed to a page that offers the different jobs available, with various time slots to sign up for. Job slots will be available to sign up for one week prior to the event.

HOW TO TRACK MEET SERVICE SESSIONS

In the days following a meet all volunteer sign-in sheets will be compared to the Volunteer Check In information and the online volunteer sign up, and corresponding hours will be credited to each member’s account. All volunteers will check in at the Swim Office on each day of a Bolles Sharks hosted swim meet to ensure they receive the correct number of hours. A member can log into their Shark’s account anytime thereafter to check their status.

BECOME A USA SWIMMING OFFICIAL

Reasons to Become an Official

- You will be working with the greatest group of volunteers in all sports!
- It is a fantastic way to meet future Olympians—unless you already have one in your home.
- Great food in hospitality!
- Earn the ability to impact swimmers and coaches through assisting them in their growth through the sport.
- Earn a dues discount on your monthly dues.

Contact a BSS Coach or the Swim Office to begin this incredible and valuable service for your team.

Steps will include:

1. Registering as a non-athlete member of USA Swimming (Paid for by Bolles Swimming)
2. Attending a local clinic, usually here at Bolles, or online.
3. Take an official’s test available online.
4. Apprentice to get on the job training at either a Bolles home meet or local sanctioned meet.
5. Coaching fee discounts available with certain criteria met.

Announcer – announces events, heats, and notifications during the sessions.

Computer Hytek/SST Operator – manages the timing system as well as Hytek Meet Manager System, must have experience or be willing to train with team rep.

USA Swimming Official – these volunteers run the meet, assure fairness to ALL swimmers, and have completed the requirements to be a USA Swim Official by attending an information meeting, completing an open book online test, background screening, and Athlete Protection test. All parents are encouraged to consider becoming an Official! Please contact The Bolles School Swim Office for more information.

Timer – Start and stopwatch as a back-up to the timing system, record watch time.

Back-up timer - Start and stopwatch as a back-up to the Lane timers in the event of a watch failure.

Runner – Assist Officials and the Admin with collection of timers sheets, disqualification slips and communication.

Meet Support – Setup/Breakdown crew, hospitality, etc.

THE BOLLES SHARKS USA SWIMMING OFFICIALS' INCENTIVE

The goals of the Officials' Policy are to have enough USA Swimming Certified Officials officiating the Bolles Sharks Club (BSS) hosted meets and to also have BSS Officials serving as ambassadors for the Club by occasionally volunteering at other meets and serving as a resource of the Bolles Sharks members and coaches at the away meets.

Qualified Officials and Meet Referees will complete USA Swimming registration as non-athlete members, including required background checks, Safe Sport and other non-athlete certifications by USAS, and apprenticeship opportunities at hosted and local meets. Upon completion, direct fees associated with obtaining and maintenance of USA Swimming Officials' certifications, (USA Swimming Registration, background check, etc.) will be reimbursed by the Club by submitting receipts to the Swim Office. Indirect costs such as travel, or hotel will not be reimbursed.

- **Eligibility for discounts** will be determined based on the following criteria:
 - Work 50% of Hosted *Sessions*. This refers to all hosted meet sessions throughout the year (it includes Bulldog hosted invitationals and championships. This excludes Bolles Bulldog dual meets,) For example, if Bolles hosts 8 meets (all ages) per year with 4 sessions at each meet, the total hosted sessions will be 32, to qualify for the officials' discount, an official will need to sign in for 16 sessions throughout the year.
 - All Officials will submit his/her activities by completing the event sign in.
- **Eligible Meet Referees/Admin Referees** will:
 - Be listed on the meet letter sanctioned by USA Swimming.
 - Serve as referee at 3 or more (or 1 and the June Classic) Bolles competitions per year.
 - Serve the competition in its entirety performing all duties as required.
 - All Officials will submit his/her activities by completing the event sign in.
 - Should there not be sufficient opportunity for Referees to act in a lead position
- Qualified Officials and Meet Referees will receive discounts as follows:
 - Officials with multiple athletes in the program will receive the discount based on their single highest-level swimmer in the Club.
 - **A Qualified official** will receive a 50% discount on the annual coaching fees of their single highest-level swimmer in the Club.
 - **A Qualified Meet Referee/Head Admin Referee** will receive a 100% discount on the annual coaching fees of their single highest-level swimmer in the Club.
 - The discount will be processed as a refund (either by credit card or check) of paid coaching fees at the time the official meets the 'Qualified' criteria, or at the end of the competition season.

SWIM MEETS, MEET FEES & TRAVEL MEETS

A schedule of swim meets will be posted on the team website and listed in emails from the coaching staff. These are updated as often as needed and can be subject to change throughout the season. Each coach has a competition plan for the student athletes in a practice group and any question about which competitions a student-athlete should participate in should be directed to the lead coach. Bolles swimming is a *competitive* swimming program and while all levels of competition are supported, member athletes are expected to compete throughout the season. Hammerhead, Great White and Senior level student-athletes should plan to attend championship meets as scheduled. Swimmers can expect to participate anywhere from 5 to 15 club swimming meets each year.

Swim Meets require fees per student athlete and per event swam. For the host team, this provides revenue to cover the event costs and support the team. These fees are NOT included in Bolles Sharks coaching or registration fees. Each meet requires a meet surcharge (flat fee to enter), plus a per-event fee. The amounts for these fees can be found in the meet information document posted on each event page.

The following policies and procedures apply to Swim Meets and Meet Fees:

- **Swimmers (or their families) will be asked via email and by their coaches to “commit” to an event by using our team website.** We will only enter swimmers who have committed to being entered to an event so we have an agreement that you will be billed for the costs of the meet. Each meet will have a commitment deadline, and we ask that you consistently read emails to be aware of the deadline.
- **For each event posted a student athlete/family may indicate events they prefer or would like to swim.** If there are conflicts with the event order of the competition a family should indicate the conflict in the meet commitment page at the time of sign up.
- **Coaches at all levels reserve the right to finalize what events the athlete will swim in at each competition.** Any student-athlete entered in a competition is eligible for relays in that competition and should plan accordingly.
- **Entry in an event past the posted commitment deadline on the team website may not be possible.** Families must contact a coach to request late entry. Within a week of the meet start time, any adjustments will be at the discretion of meet officials. National level meets often do not have the ability to allow for adjustments. Coaches can advise the next steps for late entry, if possible, note that additional fees (up to triple the posted entry fees) may be requested for late entry. Deck entry into an open lane at a meet is not guaranteed.
- **Meet Fees are not refundable.** Should an account fall behind on payments, please note the meet fees represent an actual cost to the Sharks club, a student-athlete may be restricted from entering further events if their balance of fees is not consistently paid.
- **For a swimmer who enters a competition but does not participate (withdraws):**
 - If the swimmer withdraws for a health or family related reason prior to the meet entry deadline (posted on meet information) the swimmer will not be charged entry fees.
 - A swimmer who withdraws from the competition after the meet entry deadline for *any reason* will still be charged meet entry fees (for both home and away meets).
 - A swimmer who scratches or does not participate in specific events/sessions within a competition for any reason will not be refunded even entry fees.
- **Host surcharges can vary and may include a facility fee, heat sheet fee, out of LSC fee, etc. They are also different for timed finals and prelim-finals events.**

Bolles Team Meet Surcharges

The coaching fees paid by members do not completely cover the cost of coaches attending competitions with swimmers. In addition to meeting hosts' surcharge, Bolles adds an additional surcharge to a meet entry to cover the costs of having coaches attend meets. **To make sure this amount is accurate for families, the following table will be used to determine meet surcharges.** These charges are in addition to team travel and entry charges (team travel charges do not include the costs of coach travel). Examples of the total costs for meets are given below. The fees below are based on the number of nights between competition days or if the competition start time requires an overnight stay prior to the meet.

# of BSS Athletes	Bolles Hosted Meets	Local Meets	In State Competitions 1-2 Nights	In State Competitions 3-5 Nights	Out of State Competitions 1-5 Nights	National Competitions 1-5 Nights	International Competitions (Entered by Bolles)
0-20	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$400.00
21-50	\$10.00	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$200.00
51-100	\$10.00	\$15.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$50.00	\$100.00
101+	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00

Example 1: Bolles Hosted meet with 250 Bolles student-athletes, swimming 5 events.

Host Surcharge*: \$13.00

Event Charge: \$5.50 x 5 events = \$27.50

Bolles Surcharge: \$10.00

Total Meet Expense Billed: \$50.50

Example 2: Local Meet at another pool with 75 Bolles student-athletes, swimming 5 events.

Host Surcharge*: \$13.00

Event Charge: \$5.50 x 5 events = \$27.50

Bolles Surcharge: \$15.00

Total Meet Expense Billed: \$55.50

Example 3: FLAGS Championship meet with 70 Bolles student-athletes in Ocala, swimming 5 events.

Host Surcharge*: \$24.00

Event Charge: \$15.00 x 5 events = \$75.00

Bolles Surcharge: \$50.00

Total Meet Expense Billed: \$149.00

Families / student athletes are responsible for their own transportation and travel costs.

Example 4: Senior Futures meet with 42 Bolles student-athletes in Ft Lauderdale, swimming 5 events.

Host Surcharge*: \$30.00

Event Charge: \$15 x 5 events = \$75.00

Bolles Surcharge: \$75.00

Team Travel Fees: \$425.00

Total Meet Expense Billed: \$180.00

Total Meet Expense Billed Including Team Travel: \$605.00

Families / Student-athletes not on team travel are responsible for their own transportation and travel costs.

Example 5: Junior Nationals meet with 36 Bolles student-athletes in Greensboro, NC, swimming 5 events.

Host Surcharge: \$0.00

Event Charge: \$20.00 x 5 events = \$100.00

Bolles Surcharge: \$100.00

Team Travel Fees: \$1,050.00

Total Meet Expense Billed: \$200

Total Meet Expense Billed Including Team Travel: \$1250.00

Families / Student-athletes not on team travel are responsible for their own transportation and travel costs. All families are responsible for booking flights unless otherwise arranged.

Team Travel Descriptions

Travel Swim meets are one of the best parts of a swimmer's experience. These trips offer a chance to bond with other teammates, make new friends, build great team chemistry, and connect with other parents. We encourage athletes to enjoy traveling with Bolles as much as possible. There may be specific team travel opportunities for Middle School/Great White student-athletes; however, team travel is a regular experience for the senior program.

Bolles Sharks offer the following options for travel meets:

- **Family Travel** meets indicate that families should arrange for the family and athlete to attend the meet. Please look up the meet location and select accommodations and travel plans appropriate for your athlete. Coaches will provide a schedule and other information to make the trip as organized as possible. Families will incur the expenses for any travel related costs of the meet. Families will be billed for the entries to the meet and the Bolles Surcharge based on the size and location. When possible, a team hotel will be designated, and that information will be posted on the event website.
- **Team Travel** meets will be organized to provide transportation, lodging, and specified meals for athletes to travel together with teammates and coaches. For team travel, Bolles Sharks will incur the costs of travel and bill the expenses to each member participating. Families will be billed for the entries to the meet and the Bolles Surcharge based on the size and location of the competition. The policies and procedures for this are listed below. These meets are typically at or above a Sectional level and can be any distance from Jacksonville. Meets like Nationals, Junior Nationals, Futures, Sectionals will often be out of state and will incur a higher cost.
- **Boarding Travel** is the same as team travel (above), but only boarding student athletes are eligible to participate. All other team members should plan to Family Travel to these competitions. Typically, these competitions are within 4 hours of Jacksonville and below a Sectional level of competition (examples: Senior Champs, Area 1, December Invitationals). For boarding travel, Bolles Sharks will incur the costs of travel and bill the expenses to each member participating. Families will be billed for the entries to the meet and the Bolles Surcharge based on the meet size and location. For student athletes who are not boarders and experience a hardship in which they would not be able to attend a competition without traveling with the team, we ask that you contact coaches well in advance for the trip to work on a solution.
- **Bolles Bulldog Varsity Team Travel** to varsity competition (FHSAA meets) will generally not incur fees for participants (in some cases there may be a small fee for extra travel trips within the year ex: Busch Gardens, etc.). Team members are **REQUIRED** to travel with the team for these competitions. Any concerns or conflicts should be brought to the coaches in advance.

TEAM TRAVEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- **A travel commitment will be posted online in the form of a separate ‘event’ in Team Unify including an *approximate cost*.** Committing to the event will serve as an agreement to pay the *actual* costs of the travel incurred by the club (each swimmer’s share) and agree to travel and code of conduct policies contained herein. Team Travel is not required for all competitions; in some cases, coaches may require it to develop the swimmers or team in a specific way, which will be communicated.
- **The deadline for travel events is typically 30 days prior to the competition, sometimes even earlier.** This is required to submit hotel contracts and ensure meet entries in meets with limited participation. Late requests to attend a travel competition may not be accommodated. If a swimmer is striving for qualification for the competition, contact coaches for next steps.
- **Swimmers requesting team travel after the commitment deadline will result in the following:**
 - Within 7 days of departure a fee of \$200 *in addition to* total travel fees will be billed to the member’s account.
 - From the travel commitment deadline to 8 days prior to departure a fee of \$100 *in addition to* total travel fees will be billed to the member’s account.
- **After the commitment deadline, any cancellation in team travel may incur the following charges:**
 - Within 7 days of departure for the competition families will be billed a minimum of \$200 *up to* the total of any unrecoverable costs (hotel, transportation, meet fees, etc.) Coaches will do their best to change arrangements and eliminate undue expenses, families may be billed for up to the full team travel cost.
 - From the commitment deadline to 8 days prior to departure families will be billed \$100 *up to* the total of any unrecoverable costs (hotel, transportation, meet fees, etc.) Coaches will do their best to change arrangements and eliminate undue expenses, families may be billed for up to the full team travel cost.
 - Fees for cancelled team travel costs will still be billed in situations where athletes become ill, injured, or otherwise. Coaches will work to eliminate unnecessary expenses if possible.
- **Travel costs are determined by totaling all expenses for athletes (including but not limited to; lodging, transportation, meals) and dividing them by the number of swimmers participating in team travel.** Only in exceptional circumstances will separate amounts be billed for individual swimmers. Total costs may increase during a trip and require additional fees to be billed. Coaches work diligently to be cost-effective and reasonable with expenses with the performance of the student athletes as the priority.
- **All efforts will be made to find quality accommodation for our team.** Factors such as proximity to pool, the age of the athletes, the focus of the meet, the cost of travel, and duration of the travel will be factors. Within reasonable cost, coaches work to ensure every student-athlete has their own bed. In some cases, this is not possible, and student-athletes may be asked to share a bed with teammates.
- **Roommates are decided by coaches and communicated at check in on the trip, requests may be made to coaches prior to departure, however the final decisions on rooming will be made by coaches.** If there are specific individual concerns, student-athletes should contact coaches directly.

Florida Swimming Reimbursement:

- **Florida Swimming offers travel support for athletes attending meets at a Futures level and above.** The amount of support is dependent on the number of months registered with Florida Swimming. This support is available for two meets per year.
 - **For athletes who travel with the team to these competitions, receipts for hotels, transport, and meals (if needed) will be provided to families.** Families will be asked to fill out and submit support forms on their own. Families’ flight costs can also be included in the reimbursement amount.
 - All information on reimbursement is subject to Florida Swimming’s policies and can be found on their website.

BOLLES SCHOOL BOARDING STUDENTS

Many students travel from around the United States and world to be a part of swimming at Bolles. The traditions of Olympic success, State Championships, and personal excellence continue to thrive in the swimming programs at Bolles. To support these student athletes there are specific policies adapted from within the team handbook.

Boarding students participating with the Bolles School Sharks are expected to maintain membership with the Sharks club independently from the Bolles School. In other terms – membership with the Bolles School Sharks is not related to enrollment, financial aid, or tuition costs of the Bolles School. Below are the expected membership policies for Bolles Boarding Students.

REGISTRATION & COACHING FEES

New and returning families will be contacted before arriving in August to register online for the year. Families will agree to team policies and pay the registration fee, agreeing to pay the coaching fees and other policies. The Bolles Bulldog Varsity swim team will require a separate fee of \$150 (\$75 for middle school) paid through your school account. These are separate fees and programs, Bolles students registered for the Sharks club will automatically be registered for the varsity (Bulldog) team. All members of the Sharks team are **REQUIRED** to register with USA Swimming Completed online with USA Swimming. International swimmers can indicate foreign membership, and all students should speak with coaches about representing home clubs as needed throughout the year.

MEET & TRAVEL FEES

For each Bolles Sharks competition families will be asked to **commit** to the event via the team website. Student-athletes will **NOT** be entered in a competition without a commitment online. For any meets with associated travel costs (team travel options will be offered for any boarding students for out-of-town competitions) those costs will be sent to families prior to meets and a team travel commitment will be required to be included in the meet. The expenses for each trip will be billed to your Sharks account.

MEET SERVICE COMMITMENT

We understand it is difficult for parents of boarding students to commit to serving at our meets. In place of this requirement, we ask boarding students to help with setup and breakdown of meets here at Bolles and to support our program by volunteering at the “Ping Pong” meets for our non-competitive programs. This is a great way to get service hours and give back to the sport. We reserve the right to charge the account of a student \$100 if they are not consistent in helping at these events.

PAYMENT METHODS

The Bolles Sharks may transfer Boarding Students’ swimming fees and expenses to the Bolles School FACTS system.

TEAM APPAREL

Boarding students are expected to purchase and wear team apparel consistent with the Bolles School team policies. Including wearing TYR technical suits at meets.

WAIVERS AGREEMENTS AND MAAPP:

By checking the box in the registration process, you agree to the following waivers/agreements:

By registering for the Bolles School Sharks competitive team through the Team website, I hereby acknowledge that I have read, understand, and will abide by each of the terms and conditions of the Team Handbook. I certify that I have custody of Athlete or am the legal guardian of Athlete by court order. **I HAVE READ THE TEAM HANDBOOK AND FULLY UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO ITS TERMS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS AGREEMENT INCLUDES AN INFORMED CONSENT CLAUSE, A RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY, A MEDICAL WAIVER, AN ASSUMPTION OF RISK, A MEDIA RELEASE, AN AGREEMENT TO INDEMNIFY THE BOLLES SCHOOL SHARKS AND THE BOLLES SCHOOL, AN AGREEMENT TO CARRY PERSONAL INSURANCE, AND A CERTIFICATION OF FITNESS.**

INFORMED CONSENT

I have been informed of, and I understand the various aspects of the competitive team. I understand and agree that I/Athlete will engage in physical activities, which may pose a risk of harm. I/Athlete understands that these activities include but are not limited to participating in competitive team activities in various facilities, including physical and/or athletic activities and games in and out of the water, and traveling to and from competitive team events. I further understand and agree that the risks involved in the competitive team may include, but are not limited to: travel to and from the competitive team sites, including via private vehicle and/or common carrier, injury resulting from athletic, physical or other game-like activities as a result of the activity area's conditions, the acts of third parties or other unknown safety hazards, injuries resulting from loss of balance and footing during physical activity, injuries due to conditions of equipment, unpredictability of weather and conditions, wildlife, first aid operations or procedures of the Bolles School or the Bolles School Sharks, its directors, officers, employees, agents, volunteers, and any other athletes (hereinafter referred to as "Releasees"), and that there may be other risks not known to me or not reasonably foreseeable at this time. By participating, I/Athlete could sustain serious personal injuries, illness, property damage, or even death as a consequence of not only Releasees' actions or inactions, but also the actions, inactions, negligence or fault of others, the conditions of equipment used, facility conditions, weather conditions, negligent first aid operations and procedures, and I/Athlete understand that there may be other risks not known to me or not reasonably foreseeable at this time. I further understand and agree that any injury, illness, property damage, disability, or death that I/Athlete may sustain by any means is my sole responsibility except for those occurrences due to Releasees' gross negligence or intentional acts.

LIABILITY RELEASE AND WAIVER

I hereby waive, release, and forever discharge Bolles School Sharks and associated supervisor, coach or other team administrator from all rights and claims for damages, injury, loss to person or property which may be sustained or occur during participation in Bolles School Sharks activities, whether damages or loss is due to negligence. I hereby acknowledge that my children are (are) physically fit and capable of participating in all Swim Team activities.

By registering my child(ren) with the Bolles School Sharks, I agree to participate (or allow my child(ren) and family members to participate) in the Bolles School Sharks, and hereby release Bolles School Sharks, its directors, officers, agents, coaches, and employees from liability for any injury that might occur to myself (or to my child(ren) and family members) while participating in the Bolles School Sharks program, including travel to and from training sessions, swim meets or other scheduled team activities.

I agree to indemnify and hold harmless the above-mentioned organizations and/or individuals, their agents and/or employees, against all liability for personal injury, including injuries resulting in death to me, my child(ren) and/or other family members, or damage to my property, the property to my child(ren) and/or other family members, or both, while I (or my child(ren) or family members) participating in the Bolles School Sharks program.

MEDICAL WAIVER (FOR REFERENCE – AGREED TO AT ONLINE REGISTRATION)

I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian for my child(ren). I hereby give my permission to any supervisor, coach or other team administrator associated with the Bolles School Sharks to seek and give appropriate medical attention to our child(ren) in the event of accident, injury, illness. I will be responsible for all costs associated with any necessary medical attention and/or treatment.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK

I understand that there are potential dangers incidental to my/Athlete's participation in the competitive team because it includes physical activities, some of which may be dangerous, and which may expose me/Athlete to the risk of personal injuries, property damage, or even death. I understand that these potential risks include, but are not limited to: travel to and from the competitive team site(s), including via private vehicle, and/or common carrier, injury resulting from athletic, physical or other game-like activities as a result of the activity area's conditions, the acts of third parties or other unknown safety hazards, injuries resulting from loss of balance and footing during physical activity, injuries due to conditions of equipment, unpredictability of weather and conditions, wildlife, first aid operations or procedures of Releasees and/or others, and that there may be other risks not known to me or not reasonably foreseeable at this time. I KNOWINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, BOTH KNOWN AND UNKNOWN, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE ACTS OF THE RELEASEES, UNLESS THEY ARISE FROM THE RELEASEES' INTENTIONAL OR GROSSLY NEGLIGENT ACTS and assume full responsibility for my/Athlete's participation on the competitive team.

MEDIA RELEASE

I hereby irrevocably authorize The Bolles School Sharks and the Bolles School to use photographs and/or video of me, the Athlete, and/or my property and authorize the club and its assignees, licensees, legal representatives and transferees to use and to publish (with or without my name, Athlete name, company name, or with a fictitious name) photographs, pictures, portraits or images herein described in any and all forms of media and in all manners including composite images or distorted representations and for the purposes of publicity, illustration, commercial art, advertising, publishing (including publishing in electronic form or internet websites), for any product or services, or other lawful uses as may be determined by The Bolles School Sharks & the Bolles School. I further waive all rights to review or approve any uses of the images, any written copy or finished product.

INDEMNITY

I, on behalf of myself and the Athlete, my personal representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, agents, and assigns, agree to hold harmless, defend and indemnify the Releasees from any and all liability, including any and all claims, demands, causes of action (known or unknown), suits, or judgments of any and every kind (including attorneys' fees), arising from any injury, property damage or death that I/Athlete may suffer as a result of my/the Athlete's participation on the competitive team, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE INJURY, DAMAGE OR DEATH IS CAUSED BY THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, UNLESS THE INJURY DAMAGE OR DEATH IS CAUSED BY THE RELEASEES' GROSS NEGLIGENCE OR INTENTIONAL ACTS.

PERSONAL MEDICAL INSURANCE

I agree to purchase and maintain during the competitive team season in which I am registered personal medical insurance for myself/Athlete. I further acknowledge that I am responsible for the cost of all medical and health services I/Athlete may require because of participating in the Program.

CERTIFICATION OF FITNESS TO PARTICIPATE

I attest that I/Athlete am/is physically and mentally fit to participate in the competitive team and that I/Athlete do not/does not have any medical record of history that could be aggravated by my participation on the competitive team.

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

Individuals needing special assistance (e.g., ADA, allergies, etc.) should notify The Bolles School. 

THE BOLLES SCHOOL SHARKS MAAPP

Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy Effective October 2024

THIS POLICY (herein referred to as “MAAPP”)

APPLIES TO “Applicable Adult(s)” DEFINED AS: **Adult Participants:** Any adult 18 years of age or older who is a:

- USA Swimming member, either athlete or non-athlete.
- Participating non-member (e.g., meet marshals, meet computer operators, timers, etc.);
- Authorized, approved or appointed by USA Swimming, Zones, Local Swimming Committees (“LSCs”) or member clubs to have Regular Contact with (e.g., ongoing interactions during a 12- month period wherein the individual is in a role of active engagement) or authority over minor athletes; and/or
- Within the governance or disciplinary jurisdiction of USA Swimming, Zones, LSCs or member clubs.

GENERAL REQUIREMENT

All members of the Bolles School Sharks must acknowledge and agree to the MAAPP in writing. This policy is provided electronically in our registration process with an electronic signature recorded for each registered account. Additional copies are provided in writing in the swim office upon request.

I. ONE-ON-ONE INTERACTIONS

Observable and Interruptible

All one-on-one In-Program Contact interactions between a Minor Athlete and an Adult Participant must occur at an observable and interruptible distance from another adult, except:

- a. In emergency circumstances.
- b. When a Dual Relationship exists; and/or
- c. When the Close-In-Age Exception applies.

II. Meetings

- a. Meetings between a minor athlete and an Applicable Adult may only occur if another adult is present and where interactions can be easily observed and at an interruptible distance from another adult, except under emergency circumstances.
- b. If a one-on-one meeting takes place, the door to the room must remain unlocked and open. If available, it must occur in a room that has windows, with the windows, blinds, and/or curtains remaining open during the meeting. Meetings must not be conducted in an Applicable Adult or athlete’s hotel room or other overnight lodging location during team travel.

III. Meetings with Mental Health Care Professionals and/or Health Care Providers.

If a Mental Health Care Professional and/or Health Care Provider meets with a minor athlete in conjunction with participation, including at practice or competition sites, a closed-door meeting may be permitted to protect patient privacy provided that:

- a. The door remains unlocked.
- b. Another adult is present at the facility.
- c. The other adult is advised that a closed-door meeting is occurring; and
- d. Written legal guardian consent is obtained in advance by the Mental Health Care Professional and/or HealthCare Provider, with a copy provided to the club.

IV. Individual Training Sessions.

- a. Individual training sessions outside of the regular course of training and practice between Applicable Adults and minor athletes are permitted if the training session is observable and interruptible by another adult. Legal guardians must be allowed to observe the training session.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

- I. Content
All electronic communication from Applicable Adults to minor athletes must be professional in nature.
- II. Open and Transparent
Absent emergency circumstances, if an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes needs to communicate directly with a minor athlete via electronic communications (including social media), the minor athlete's legal guardian must be copied. If a minor athlete communicates to the Applicable Adult (with authority over the minor athlete) privately first, said Applicable Adult must copy the minor athlete's legal guardian on any electronic communication response to the minor athlete. When an Applicable Adult with authority over minor athletes communicates electronically to the entire team, said Applicable Adult must copy another adult.
- III. Requests to Discontinue.
Legal guardians may request in writing that their minor athlete not be contacted through any form of electronic communication by the club, LSC or by an Applicable Adult subject to this Policy. The organization must abide by any such request that the minor athlete not be contacted via electronic communication, or included in any social media post, absent emergency circumstances.
- IV. Hours
Electronic communications must only be sent between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., unless emergency circumstances exist, or during competition travel.
- V. Prohibited Electronic Communication
Applicable Adults with authority over minor athletes are not permitted to maintain private social media connections with unrelated minor athletes and such Applicable Adults are not permitted to accept new personal page requests on social media platforms from minor athletes, unless the Applicable Adult has a fan page, or the contact is deemed as celebrity contact as opposed to regular contact. Existing social media connections with minor athletes must be discontinued. Minor athletes may "friend" the club and/or LSC's official page. Applicable Adults with authority over minor athletes must not send private, instant, or direct messages to a minor athlete through social media platforms.

MAAPP Travel Policies

I. Local Travel

Local travel consists of travel to training, practice and competition that occurs locally and does not include coordinated overnight stay(s). Applicable Adults must not ride in a vehicle alone with an unrelated minor athlete, absent emergency circumstances, and must always have at least two minor athletes or another adult in the vehicle, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor athlete's legal guardian.

II. **In-Program Travel:** Any transportation or travel involving an Adult Participant and any Minor Athlete(s) related to participation in sport authorized or funded by USA Swimming. Examples include, but are not limited to transportation or travel to or related to: competition, practices, meetings, camps/clinics, training/instructional sessions, pre/post event meals or outings, team travel, video review, team- or sport- related team building activities, celebrations, award ceremonies, banquets, team- or sport-related fundraising or community services, sport education, competition site visits, conventions, conferences, summits and/or workshops.

III. Team Travel

Team travel is travel to a competition or other team activity that the organization plans and supervises.

- a. During team travel, when doing room checks two-deep leadership (two Applicable Adults should be present) and observable and interruptible environments must be maintained. When only one Applicable Adult and one minor athlete travel to a competition, the minor athlete's legal guardian must provide written permission in advance and for each competition for the minor athlete to travel alone with said Applicable Adult. Team Managers and Chaperones who travel with the club or LSC must be USA Swimming members in good standing.
- b. Unrelated non-athlete Applicable Adults must not share a hotel room, other sleeping arrangement, or overnight lodging location with an athlete.
- c. Meetings during team travel must be conducted consistent with the One-on-One Interactions section of this Policy (i.e., any such meeting must be observable and interruptible). Meetings must not be conducted in an individual's hotel room or other overnight sleeping location.

LOCKER ROOMS AND CHANGING AREAS

- I. Requirement to Use Locker Room or Changing Area
The designated locker room or changing area must be used when an athlete or Applicable Adult changes, in whole or in part, into or out of a swimsuit when wearing just one suit (e.g., deck changing is prohibited).
- II. Use of Recording Devices
Use of any device's (including a cell phone's) recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras in locker rooms, changing areas, or similar spaces by a minor athlete or an Applicable Adult is prohibited.
- III. Undress
An unrelated Applicable Adult must not expose his or her breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals to a minor athlete under any circumstance. An unrelated Applicable Adult must not request an unrelated minor athlete to expose the minor athlete's breasts, buttocks, groin, or genitals to the unrelated Applicable Adult under any circumstance.
- IV. One-on-One Interactions
Except for athletes on the same team or athletes attending the same competition, at no time are unrelated Applicable Adults permitted to be alone with a minor athlete in a locker room or changing area, except under emergency circumstances. If the organization is using a facility that only has a single locker room or changing area, separate times for use by Applicable Adults must be designated.
- V. Monitoring The club must regularly and randomly monitor the use of locker rooms and changing areas to ensure compliance with this Policy. Locker rooms and changing areas may be monitored by use of the following methods:
 - I. Conducting a sweep of the locker room or changing area before athletes arrive.
 - II. Posting staff directly outside the locker room or changing area during periods of use.
 - III. Leaving the doors open when adequate privacy is still possible; and/or
 - IV. Making occasional sweeps of the locker rooms or changing areas with women checking on female locker rooms and men checking on male locker rooms. Every effort must be made to recognize when a minor athlete goes to the locker room or changing area during practice and competition, and, if the minor athlete does not return in a timely fashion, to check on the minor athlete's whereabouts.
- VI. Legal Guardians in Locker Rooms or Changing Areas
Legal guardians are discouraged from entering locker rooms and changing areas. If a legal guardian does enter a locker room or changing area, it must only be a same-sex legal guardian, and the legal guardian should notify a coach or administrator in advance.

Practices and meets are hosted at: The Bolles School, Uible & Lobrano Pools, 7400 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville, FL, 32217

General public restrooms with individual lockers available (must provide your own lock) and located on the back side of the Uible archway structure. As such, there are likely people not associated with BSS in the changing area around the time of practice. It is suggested that swimmers arrive dressed for practice and bring warm clothing to put over their swimsuit at the conclusion of practice. No showers are available.

During hosted swim meets, the Uible restroom and lockers are for participating athletes ONLY and will be monitored by security guards outside of the entrances. Portable bathrooms are outside the pool fence and there are many other public restrooms open around campus. Maps are available upon request. Athletes are NOT allowed in the public restrooms during a swim meet. If during practice or a swim meet, an athlete needs assistance with his or her uniform or gear (for example, a child under the age of eight), or an athlete's disability warrant assistance, then we ask that parents accompany their athlete in one of the public restrooms.

MASSAGES AND RUBDOWNS/ATHLETE TRAINING MODALITIES

- I. Definition: In this section, the term “Massage” refers to any massage, rubdown, athletic training modality including physical modalities (e.g., stretching, physical manipulation, injury rehabilitation, etc.) and electronic or instrument assisted modalities (e.g., stim treatment, dry needling, cupping, etc.).
- II. General Requirement
Any Massage performed on an athlete must be conducted in an open and interruptible location and must be performed by a licensed massage therapist or other certified professional. However, even if a coach is a licensed massage therapist, the coach must not perform a rubdown or massage of an athlete under any circumstance.
- III. Additional Minor Athlete Requirements
 - a. Written consent by a legal guardian must be obtained in advance by the licensed massage therapist or other certified professional, with a copy provided to the club.
 - b. Legal guardians must be allowed to observe the Massage.
 - c. Any Massage of a minor athlete must be done with at least one other adult present and must never be done with only the minor athlete and the person performing the Massage in the room.