

DMSF Social Committee Detail

Makes DMSF a fun experience for athletes through social events like team dinners and holiday celebrations.

Specific Social Programs and Timelines

(Budget will be set in August of each year for both Short and Long Course Seasons.)

a. Coordinating Volunteer Projects for the Team

There are a lot of opportunities for team building activities while also giving back to the community. Ideas include making breakfast casseroles with Sue Honkamp, volunteering at Meals for the Heartland or Ronald McDonald House, coordinating a Blessing Kit party, etc.

These activities can be by group or mixed ages, and could be spread out throughout the year

b. Halloween

We have organized a Trunk or Treat Event in combination with a Fun "Ghouls in the Pool" Swim

The trunk or treat event can occur right outside of the pool doors, and entails families signing up to decorate their cars and hand out candy to swimmers after practice.

c. Winter Holiday Event

We have organized a fun swim and treat event a couple of weeks prior to Christmas

Ideas include cookie decorating competitions, a white elephant party after practice, a secret Santa gift exchange after practice, or simply handing out a holiday treat bag)

d. Short Course Champs Meets Spirit Coordinator

Plan for on-deck spirit wear and snacks for short course champs meets (this can be signups for parents to contribute)

Hold a pasta dinner "fire up" the week prior to each of the short course state meets (this can be potluck style and/or with sign ups).

e. Short Course Banquet

This event is typically in March after spring break and before long course season begins.

This event could be at a location that is rented out, or at a donated location like Valley Community Center.

This event typically includes a catered meal for the team and their families. Seniors on the team will be spotlighted.

Coaches will hand out awards to athletes for performance and sportsmanship.

All athletes will get a certificate (great if their best times from the season could be placed on it).

Outgoing board members will be recognized.

In the past we have had a photo booth, laser tag, a photo slide show from the season, an "athlete's vote" teammate of the seasons for each group, a place with fire pits for athletes to gather and talk, rented out SmashPark, etc.

Timeline:

1. By December: Hold first committee meeting for planning
2. By January: Secure Location and Send Save the Date to the Team
3. By February: Send invitation with signups for food
4. March: Send a couple of reminders
5. Event is typically 2.5-3 hours

f. Morning Practice Breakfast and Birdland Breakfast

Our athletes come early to practice during summer, and we coordinate simple breakfast for them to enjoy after practice. Our Birdland Breakfast has traditionally been a larger breakfast during the week prior to the Birdland meet. This item takes a little planning by looking at the schedule, sending out a sign-up to all families with athletes in morning practice, and for any larger breakfasts, additional planning may be needed, such as coordinating with multiple families for set up and cleanup. Plan, sign-ups, oversee, clean up)

g. Long Course Meet Champs Spirit Coordinator

Plan for on-deck spirit wear and snacks for long course champs meets (this can be signups for parents to contribute)

Hold a pasta dinner "fire up" the week prior to long course state (this can be potluck style and/or with sign ups).

h. Summer Picnic/Team Social

This event is typically at the end of the long course season - usually after school is back in session to avoid sectionals and family vacations

This event is typically outdoors and potluck style for all families of DMSF. There is typically a short program by the coaches and Board, a gear swap, and a fun activity for the athletes (ideas: hold it at Raccoon River Park and have swimming after dinner with an ice cream truck stopping by; hold it at Valley Community Center and set up Volleyball nets and kickball games after dinner with an ice cream truck stopping by)

Timeline:

1. By May: Hold first committee meeting for planning
2. By June: Secure Location and Send Save the Date to the Team
3. By July: Send invitation with signups for food
4. August: Send a couple of reminders
5. Event: Typically 2.5-3 hours