

SWAT Swim-A-Thon

Tidal Wave

Pipeline

Battle of the Waves

Tsunami

Breakers

May 7th, 2011

Spokane Waves Swim-A-Thon

Hello Spokane Wave Families!

February 8, 2011

As most of you know, it is soon time for our annual fund raising event, The Spokane Waves Swim-a-thon! The date has been set for May 7th 2011, from 0800 – 1200, so mark the date!

We have many new families, and the Swim-a-thon committee would like to take this opportunity to explain what Swim-a-thon is and how it benefits our team. This is one of the first informational letters about the Swim-A-Thon that will be coming to you in the next few weeks.

Swim-a-thon is a fundraiser in which participants earn money for their team by swimming lengths of the pool. Swimmers have a two-hour period to swim a maximum of 200 lengths. The Ripples will be swimming in the smaller pool. Participants get pledges or donations from businesses, family, and neighbors. Some choose to get pledges and money prior to swimming, while others get pledges per length and collect the money following the Swim-a-thon. In the next couple weeks, we will be sharing other ways in which the swimmers can acquire money, besides the pledging method. Swim-a-thon is the only pledge-for-length swimming program recognized by USA swimming.

USA swimming, the organization that SWAT is affiliated with, receives 5% of the total earnings, while the other 95% goes to the Spokane Waves Aquatic Team for equipment, training aids, and to decrease cost for the families and the organization. In the past, money from the Swim-a-thon was used to keep the monthly fees reasonable, replacements costs for swimming equipment, purchasing new equipment for the swimmers, swimming clinics at Whitworth, and transportation assistance to swimming meets.

At the end of February, all the swimmers will receive pledge/donation packets. Swimmers are asked to acquire pledges and/or donations from March 1st to May 6th, 2011. The swim-a-thon will be at the conclusion of the pledge drive. This year, we are having the swimmers drop off their pledges /donations every two weeks during this period. We will provide more details on this process in the next few weeks and with your Swim-A-Thon packets.

*The 2011 SWAT swim-a-thon theme is: **“Battle of the Waves”**. The SWAT swimmers will be divided into four “Wave” teams. The teams are: Tsunami, Tidal Wave, Pipeline, and Breakers. There will be a little friendly competition between the teams, to see which team can bring in the most pledges and donations. Each team will have a SWAT coach as their lead wave-master! Stay tuned for more detailed information on the format, participation incentives and prizes for this year’s 2011 Battle of the Waves Swim-A-Thon!*