



Welcome to the 2025 - 2026 Season! We are very excited about the success that we had last season and can't wait to kick off our 25th anniversary season!

Highlights from 2024 – 2025 season:

- Named 10th of 110 teams in Illinois for swimmer retention
- Largest number of members in over 5 years
- Largest group of 8 & under in over 5 years
- Large showing at regionals, including relays
- 4 swimmers at Sectionals
- 6 swimmers at State
- 3 new team records
- Over 75 new top 10 swims in club history

We plan to build on our success and add even more accomplishments to the list this season.

The 2025 -2026 season will have some changes regarding registration. We are transitioning to a year-round season and payment plan system, which will begin in September and end in August. We believe that this will not only make the club stronger but also make it easier for members financially and reduce administrative registration work.

If you have any questions after reading the packet, please email Coach Jami at jami@swimbdsc.org

Registration Information

Registration will be through the website www.swimbdsc.org. Please be sure to read all the information in this packet.

All groups will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Once a group is filled, waiting lists will be created. Coaches will pull from our waiting lists to fill positions as spots become available during the season.

- **Registration Opens:**

1. Returning members open NOW
2. New Members on August 25th

- **Dates of Season:**

1. September 1st, 2025 – August 2nd, 2026
2. A break will be taken in March & August

- **Fees:**

1. Dues will be billed monthly
2. Dues are based on a 10-month season (Sept – Feb & April – July)
3. A yearly administration fee of \$175.00 will be due in August or at the time of registration
 - This fee includes – USA Swimming registration, one non-personalized team cap, one team T-shirt, and one team suit
4. Monthly dues include – facility rentals, dryland (if that group offers it), professional coaches, and facility training equipment
5. Monthly dues do not include - meet fees, coaches' meet fee, travel expenses, and personal training equipment (training suits, caps, goggles, fins, snorkel, kick board, clinics, etc.)
6. Members will be automatically registered for the next year in August, unless they suspend their membership
 - See how to suspend membership if the member wishes not to continue
7. **Discounts:** Families with multiple swimmers receive a discount on the team fees on an increasing scale.
 - 5% off the swimming registration fee for two swimmers
 - 10% off the registration fee for three swimmers
 - 15% off the registration fee for four swimmers
 - 20% off the registration fee for 5 or more swimmers
8. All fees will be posted to your account

- **Payment schedule:**

Billing Date	Due Date	Late Fee	Recommendation
Dues are billed 15 th of each month First dues begin Sept 15 th or the 15 th of your first month	Dues due by 1 st of the following month	A late fee of \$20 is incurred if not paid by 15 th of the following month	Set an automatic payment to ensure on time payment

- **Payment Methods:**

1. Payments can be made with a credit card, ACH transaction or check. No cash.
2. If paying with a credit card, there will be \$5.00 fee assessed per transaction
3. If paying with an ACH transaction or check, there is \$0 transaction fee
4. If paying by credit card, we recommend setting up the automatic payment to reduce the \$5.00 transaction fee

- **Suspending Membership:**

1. A swimmer may suspend their account for any reason at any time
2. A suspended account is for a minimum of a month and in month-length increments only
3. A notice must be given by the 10th of the month prior to the Coach Jami if you are suspending a swimmer's membership (ex., wishing to suspend June 1st, notice must be given by May 10th)
 - If notice is given after the 10th of the month and a fee is incurred, that fee will not be funded.
4. The annual administration fee is non-refundable
5. Account balances must be paid in full to suspend a swimmer's membership
6. Suspended swimmers may not participate in practices, meets or team events
7. To reactivate your account
 - There is no guarantee that there will be a spot for your swimmer upon your return
 - Contact Coach Jami at least 1-week before your return
 - The account will be billed for the full month's fee
 - A reactivation fee of \$25.00 will be charged
 - In some cases, the swimmer might need to try out for the team again

- **FAQ**

1. **What happens if my swimmer changes groups in the middle of a month?**
Congratulations! If you switch groups in the middle of a month, your monthly dues for the following month will be those of the new group.
2. **Is there a discount if my swimmer only attends some of the practices and not all?**
No, the monthly dues are based on the coaches and the facility being used for every practice offered, regardless of whether your swimmer attends or not.
3. **Is the returning swimmer start & turn clinic or any other clinics included in the monthly dues?**
No, the start & turn clinic, along with any other stroke clinics that may be offered, are not included in the monthly dues and will have an additional fee
4. **Will there still be a drop-in for the older swimmers?**
No, instead, we will be offering "keep the feel" practices during the breaks, which are included in the monthly dues.
5. **Who do I contact if I have a question about my account?**
Please reach out to Coach Jami at jami@swimbdsc.org

Group Placements:

The coaches spend quite a bit of time working on the placements for each swimmer, and all placements are based on each swimmer's ability first (including but limited to: times, leadership, and ability to follow directions and apply feedback) and second, that of the group as a whole. If you feel that your swimmer is incorrectly placed, please email Coach Jami right away so that we can set up a meeting to discuss the reason the coaches placed your swimmer in that group.

- **Returning Swimmers:**

- Click [here](#) to see group placements
- The majority of the move-ups will still happen in March & April, but may also happen mid-season
 - If a swimmer moves to a new group mid-season/month, the following month, you will be billed the new group's monthly fee
- If you have any questions about your swimmers' placements, please contact Coach Jami at jami@swimbdsc.org

- **New Swimmers:**

- All new swimmers must be evaluated
 - Option 1: Attend New Swimmer Tryout clinic in March or August
 - Option 2: Email Coach Jami at jami@swimbdsc.org to set up an evaluation outside of March & August
- After evaluation, an email will be sent with the group placement, notification of waitlist status or recommendation for continued pre-team development

Group Descriptions:

The Blue Devil Swim Club offers training and practice groups for swimmers of all ages and ability levels. It is the goal of the Blue Devils Swim Club to offer age-specific training for all of our athletes geared towards challenging and developing each individual to the best of their abilities.

These group descriptions are general guidelines, and the Head Coach, in conjunction with the assistant coaches, has the final say in all placements. In all instances, the coaches will do what is best for the swimmer and the team.

10 & Under

Junior Devil 1 - Beginner

- Must be able to swim 25 yards freestyle and 25 yards backstroke.
- Recommended practice attendance is 3 days a week.
- Must attend 1 day of the required meets, more meets are recommended.

Junior Devil 2 - Beginner to Intermediate

- Closer to having all 4 strokes legal and can swim longer distances.
- Recommended practice attendance is 3 days a week.
- Must attend 1 day of the required meets, more meets are recommended.

10 – 14 years old

Blue - Beginner to Intermediate

- Good knowledge of all 4 competitive strokes.
- Swimmers will be divided into lanes based on abilities during practice.
- Recommended practice attendance is 3 days a week.
- Must attend 1 day of the required meets, more meets are recommended.

Bronze - Intermediate

- Good knowledge of all 4 competitive strokes.
- Swimmers will be divided into lanes based on abilities during practice.
- Recommended practice attendance is 3 days a week.
- Must attend 1 day of the required meets, more meets are recommended.

11 – 14 years old

Silver - Intermediate to Advanced

- Capable of doing all 4 strokes efficiently.
- The goal for this group is to make regional qualifying times.
- Swimmers younger than 11 years old will only be allowed in this group with the coach's recommendation.
- 3 practices a week are required, 4 is recommended.
- Swimmers are expected to compete in meets regularly throughout the season.

Gold - Advanced

- Capable of doing all 4 strokes efficiently.
- The goal for this group is to make regional and state qualifying times.
- Swimmers younger than 12 years old will only be allowed in this group with the coach's recommendation.
- 4 practices a week are required, 5 is recommended.
- Swimmers are expected to compete in meets regularly throughout the season.

13 & Older

Seniors - Beginner to Intermediate

- Swimmers start in this group the spring before Freshman year of high school.
- Swimmers should be focused on improving technique and race strategy in competition.
- Many swimmers in this group are preparing for high school swim season.
- 4 practices a week are required, 5 is recommended.
- Swimmers are expected to compete in meets regularly throughout the season, including 1 day of the required meets.

Senior Advanced - Advanced to Elite

- Swimmers should be working towards open regional qualifying times.
- Any swimmer younger than 13 must have achieved regional times.
- Swimmers should be serious about the sport, train aggressively to achieve regional qualifying standards, and moving towards state-level competition.
- Swimmers are expected to attend 85%+ of all meets, practices, and dryland sessions.

Elite - Elite

- Swimmers should have at least 2 regional qualifying times to be in this group.
- Any swimmer younger than 13 must have achieved regional/state qualifying times.
- Swimmers should be serious about the sport, train aggressively to achieve Zones, Sectional qualifying standards, and move towards national level competition, as well as prepare for college swimming.
- Attendance of 90%+ of all meets, practices, and dryland in all seasons is mandatory.

Registration Fees:

All returning families must settle all unpaid meet fees/volunteer fees prior to registration.

- **Discounts:** Families with multiple swimmers will receive a discount on the team fees on an increasing scale; 5% off the swimming registration fee for two swimmers, 10% off the registration fee for three swimmers, 15% off the registration fee for four swimmers, and 20% off the registration fee for 5 or more swimmers.
- **Fees are Non-Refundable:** Monthly dues and the administration fees are non-refundable.
- **Fees:**
 - Monthly dues will be billed on the 15th of each month
 - Monthly dues for March & August is \$0
 - A late fee of \$20.00 is assessed if all previous month's balances are not paid by the 15th of the following month.
 - Dues can be paid via check, ACH transactions, and credit cards (Visa, MasterCard and Discover) through Team Unify on our website www.swimbdsc.org
 - **If you choose to pay with a credit card, there will be a \$5.00 fee assessed per transaction.**
 - If you plan to pay by credit card, ensure your payment setup information is up to date in the Payment Setup section under My Account
 - If you pay by check, your canceled check is your receipt
 - BDSC does not accept cash payments

Monthly Dues

	Cost for the Year	Monthly Dues	Yearly Admin fee*
Jr 1	\$ 891.00	\$ 89.10	\$ 175.00
Jr 2	\$ 891.00	\$ 89.10	\$ 175.00
Blue	\$ 1,064.00	\$ 106.40	\$ 175.00
Bronze	\$ 1,232.00	\$ 123.20	\$ 175.00
Silver	\$ 1,409.50	\$ 140.95	\$ 175.00
Gold	\$ 1,624.50	\$ 162.45	\$ 175.00
Sr	\$ 1,870.00	\$ 187.00	\$ 175.00
HS Sports Sr	\$ 1,090.00	\$ 109.00	\$ 175.00
Sr Adv	\$ 2,027.50	\$ 202.75	\$ 175.00
HS Sports Sr Adv	\$ 1,375.00	\$ 137.50	\$ 175.00
Elite	\$ 2,027.50	\$ 202.75	\$ 175.00
HS Sports Elite	\$ 1,375.00	\$ 137.50	\$ 175.00

*Includes USA Swimming registration, one non-personalized team cap, one team T-shirt, and one team suit

Practices

We practice out 3 main locations. At all three of these locations, we share the pool with other programs, and our practice times reflect when we can use the pools. Please be sure to check the emailed Weekly Update for the most current practice schedule.

- **Locations:**
 - Warren HS, O'Plaine Campus – 500 O'Plaine Road, Gurnee IL
 - Waukegan Field House – 800 Baldwin Ave, Waukegan IL
 - RecPlec – 990 Terwall Terrace, Pleasant Prairie WI
- **Facility rules:**
 - We are guests at the HS, Field House and RecPlex
 - Be respectful to all facilities at practice and meets
 - There will be no running around the halls/facility before or after practices
 - There will be no messing around in the locker rooms, and should be used promptly for changing only
 - Misbehavior will result in loss of the use of the locker rooms
 - Parents/guardians will be responsible for the costs of any damage incurred
- **Practice Changes** – There will be times when practice times must be adjusted due to other activities at the facilities
 - Weekly Update
 - A Weekly Update is sent every Monday that includes:
 - Any schedule changes for that week – as stated prior, we share all pools (all changes are highlighted in yellow in the Weekly Update)
 - Quick glance of the week
 - Any other important team information or dates
 - Please check this every week
- **Equipment:** all swimmers are expected to have their own equipment every day
 - All groups are required to have:
 - Kickboard
 - Fins
 - Water Bottle
 - Mesh Bag
 - Extra goggles, cap & suit in their bag
 - Silver and above groups are also required to have:
 - Pull Buoy
 - Paddles
 - Snorkel
- **Drop Off & Pick Up Procedures:**
 - **Drop-off:**
 - Swimmers should not be at the pool more than 5-10 minutes before the start of their practice time and should not be unsupervised
 - We ask all parents to wait inside the building with their swimmer until practice starts

- **Pick-up:**
 - Swimmers are required to be picked up from practice no later than 5 minutes after their end time
 - A fee of **\$10.00** may be charged for a late pick-up

Meets:

- **Meet Schedule:**

- All meets can be found on the “Events” page on the website
- An email will be sent once a meet is available for registration, asking you to declare your intentions of swimming
 - No need to declare if you are not attending a meet
- Note that a meet entry deadline can be up to a month before the date of the meet
- Please contact Coach Jami at jami@swimbdsc.org if you have any questions

- **Mandatory Team Meets:**

- All swimmers are required to swim in all BDSC hosted meets
 - Fall Intersquad – Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025
 - Turkey Gobble – Nov. 21-23, 2025
 - Tri Meet – Sunday, Jan 25, 2026
 - Swim Your Heart Out – Feb. 13-15, 2026
 - Spring Intersquad – TBD
 - May Mania – May 8-10, 2026
 - And any additional dual/tri meets – TBD
- Mandatory meets are highlighted in Yellow on the meet schedule (see website for meet schedule)
- Please talk with Coach Jami if you are unable to attend, and we will pick a different meet to attend
- All the other meets will be optional, but the more meets you attend, the better your swim experience will be.

- **Meet Fees (approximate)**

Meet fees are not included in your monthly dues, and meet fees vary as they are determined by the host team.

1. Event fees – per event charges from the host team, generally, \$5.00-\$8.00 per event
2. LSC fee/facility surcharge – anywhere between \$17.00-\$30.00 per meet.
3. BDSC Coaches fee - \$10.00 per swimmer per session
4. Family Travel trips - \$30.00 flat fee for out-of-town team travel meets to cover coaches' travel expenses.
5. Time trials and championships fees - are based on the meet packets, plus a \$10.00 per day coaching fee

- **Meet Fees Payments**
 - All meet fees will be posted to your account after the meet
 - Meet fees can be paid via check, ACH transactions, and credit cards (Visa, MasterCard and Discover) through Team Unify on our website.
 - If you choose to pay with a credit card, there will be a \$5.00 fee assessed per transaction
 - A late fee of \$20.00 is assessed if all previous month's balances are not paid by the 15th of the following month.
- **Meet Changes:**
 - If a swimmer is entered to swim at a meet, fees will be charged
 - Fees will be charged even if they don't swim in the meet for any reason
 - No changes can be made after the meet entry deadline
 - Changes can be made before the entry deadline

BDSC Volunteer Policy and Family Participation Expectations (2025-2026)

BDSC is a parent run organization, and we depend on volunteers to ensure the club runs smoothly. Without volunteers, we would need to hire additional employees, which would tremendously raise our membership dues. To ensure a positive experience for your swimmer and all BDSC families please review the following required Volunteer Agreement as well as other opportunities for volunteering and involvement.

BDSC families must adhere to the following Volunteer Agreement:

BDSC Hosted Invitational Meet Agreement - Mandatory

- Each family must fulfill the following volunteer requirements for the Sept. 2025-Aug. 2026 season.
- Families not fulfilling the following requirements will be charged \$100 for each volunteer session not fulfilled after each meet.
- Families that are charged volunteer fees must pay any balances prior to registering for the next year.
- **Requirements:**
 - Volunteer at all BDSC-hosted invitational meets:

Meet	Turkey Gobble* (Nov. 21-23, 2025)	Swim Your Heart Out* (Feb. 13-15, 2026)	May Mania* (May 8-10, 2026)	Intersquad (Blue/Gold Meets) or Duel/Tri Meets (TBD)
# of Sessions Required	ONE Session	ONE Session	TWO Sessions	One Session at one of these meets

- *One representative age 13 or over from each family must volunteer at the BDSC-hosted meets, whether or not you have a swimmer participating in the meet
- If you meet the volunteer requirements, you will not be charged the \$100 fee in the month following the meet

- If you are unable to fulfill your commitment, special arrangements can be made with the Volunteer Coordinator which may include a buyout of your Volunteer Fee. Please contact the Volunteer Coordinator as soon as possible.
- No-shows at our hosted meets will result in your account being charged the volunteer fee.
- No exceptions.

Away Meet Expectations

- Time at away meets if your swimmer is registered for that meet and BDSC is asked to provide timers.

Additional BDSC Volunteer Committees – Encouraged

In addition to the required Meet Volunteer Agreement, it is appreciated if families volunteer at other enrichment events throughout the season. Volunteer opportunities evolve each year to fit the needs, interests and talents of the club and may include:

- Fundraising/Sponsorships
- Social Events
- Travel Trip
- Hospitality
- Apparel
- Membership
- Camps/Clinics

Being involved sets a great example for your athlete and also helps our club ensure a high-quality experience. These additional opportunities are what makes Blue Devil Swim Club special and allows you to contribute to the strong culture for which our club is known. Additionally, volunteer committees are an important way to gain the experience needed to be a part of the Parent Volunteer Board.

Parents are also invited to serve as a lead committee chair for an event or important function. Committee chairs are asked to communicate with parents on their committee and oversee and facilitate the activities of their committee. Committee chairs are expected to provide an update at each Open Board Meeting (which occur once a month during the swim season).

Other opportunities for volunteering at social and team enrichment events may arise throughout the season and will be communicated as needed.

Other Important Team Information

MAAPP:

- Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy. All members must acknowledge that they have read and understood this policy.
- Click [here](#) to read and acknowledge the Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policy

SafeSport:

- BDSC is a USA Swim team, and we are required to follow SafeSport Regulations. This includes but is not limited to no adults in the locker rooms.
- Click [here](#) for more information about SafeSport

Code of Conduct:

The Blue Devil Swim Club was established to support participation in youth athletics as well as a deep respect for the traditions of teamwork, life-long learning, and athletic activity.

We feel as a club that it is important that all our members: Swimmers, Staff, and Parents, promote our club's mission through positive behavior and conduct.

The Disciplinary Code applies to all members, Swimmers, Staff and Parent behavior occurring during or at an activity or function that is associated with the Blue Devil Swim Club including but not limited to: swim practice, swim meets, team trips, team outings, or individual group outings and in some cases, objectionable behavior by members of Blue Devil Swim Club outside of club activities.

The code of conduct is broken into three levels of severity: Class I, II, and III, with Class I being the most severe.

Class I Objectionable Behavior:

Unacceptable Behavior (including, but not limited to): Sale or distribution of illegal drugs: conviction of felony, and fighting that results in the severe bodily injury of any person (regardless of whether at a club activity or not).

- ***Disciplinary Procedure:***

- The Board shall send notice of hearing to the parent/ guardian and swimmer via certified mail.
 - Hearing before quorum of Board of Directors with parent/ guardian and swimmer being given the opportunity to be present: The facts shall be presented by the Board President or his/ her designee: Head Coach shall be present in an advisory role.
 - Board decision to be mailed to the parent/ guardian and swimmer within one week via certified mail.

- ***Recommended Discipline:***

- May result in membership termination or other action as determined by the board of directors.

- **Class II Objectionable Behavior:**

- Unacceptable behavior as a member of the Blue Devil Swim Club at BDSC team functions, practices and meets. This behavior would include but not limited to: Possession of use of illegal drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, theft or significant vandalism.

- ***Disciplinary Procedure:***

- Hearing before the Disciplinary Committee consisting of three members of the Board of Directors chosen by a majority of the Board.
- The committee shall send notice of hearing to the Parent/ Guardian and swimmer via certified mail, with parent/ guardian and swimmer being given the opportunity to be present.
- The facts shall be presented by the board President or his/ her designee: the Head Coach shall be present in an advisory role.
- Board Committee decision to be mailed to the parent/ guardian and swimmer within one week via certified mail.

- ***Recommended Discipline:***

- 1st Offense – Suspension* from the team for a minimum period of thirty (30) days of the swimmer's season (these days may extend into the swimmer's next season, if needed).
- 2nd Offense – Suspension* from the team for a minimum period of sixty (60) days of the swimmer's season (these days may extend into the swimmer's next season if needed).
- 3rd Offense – Shall be considered a violation of Class I Objectionable Behavior and handled according to the disciplinary proceedings of Class I Objectionable Behavior.

*Terms of suspension shall be spelled by the Disciplinary Committee and must be adhered to by the swimmer/ parents in order to be reinstated by the Committee at the end of the suspension period. During the periods of suspension, swimmers and/ or parents remain a member of Blue Devil Swim Club and thereby all dues and fees are still due in full from the swimmer. The swimmer cannot be reinstated until any fees and/ or dues that are in arrears² are paid in full. Additionally, during periods of suspension, all work session requirements remain the responsibility of the swimmer and any missed session will be charged in accordance with the then current fee schedule.

Class III Objectionable Behavior:

Unacceptable behavior at Blue Devil Swim Club practices, competitions and team functions that include, but are not limited to: minor vandalism, being disruptive at practices or meets, abusive language or behavior, insubordination to members of the coaching staff, chaperones, or others, littering, other acts of misconduct as determined by the coaching staff.

- ***Disciplinary Procedure:***

- Handled by the Coaching Staff (Parents will be involved if anticipated discipline will result in a suspension).

- ***Recommended Discipline:***

- As determined by the coaching staff (including but not limited to, clean-up duties, suspension from practice, and/ or suspension from meet(s)). Repeated Class III offenses may result in the offense being considered a Class II Objectionable Behavior.

During all investigations into allegations of Class I and II offenses, involving questioning or interviewing of the subject swimmer, a parent, or guardian of such swimmer shall be present.