



GILS - Great Illinois Swimmers

GILS is a competitive swim team located in Bradley-Bourbonnais (Bradley-Bourbonnais High School) and Tinley Park (Victor J. Andrew High School.)

The swimmers compete in separate Girls/Boys events according to their age. There are six age divisions: 6 & under, 8 & under, 10 & under, 12 & under, 14 & under, and 15 & up. Swimmers are placed in age categories according to their age at the time of the particular swim meet. The team competes in two seasons, Winter and Summer. The Winter season runs approximately from the months of September through March while the summer season runs April through July.

The **GILS** is a registered team with Illinois Swimming Inc. and USA Swimming.

Mission

The mission of our team is to provide every member an opportunity to improve swimming skills and achieve success at his or her level of ability, from novice to international competitor.

Vision

The **GILS Swim team** strives to be a premier swim club that fosters champions in and out of the water by providing a safe, healthy, and positive environment for young athletes to excel.

To achieve the principles set out in the mission statement, the following club goals have been established:

- To develop a program recognized for excellence in USA Swimming;
- To provide a high level of coaching;
- To provide a swim environment that enables athletes to develop their swimming skills.;
- To teach all swimmers essential life skills such as organization, planning, dedication and self-motivation;
- To assist our swimmers to define, to train for and to achieve their personal swim goals;
- To instill in all swimmers, a team approach to swimming that encourages recognition and celebration of their teammate's achievements.

Our Philosophies

In order to achieve the goals of the club, the following key elements form the philosophy of the organization:

- Each swimmer will be challenged to excel;
- Each swimmer will be given equal opportunity to train and compete to his or her maximum potential;
- Each swimmer will be allowed to develop at his or her own pace;
- Each swimmer will learn the important aspects of teamwork, sportsmanship, team spirit, respect, commitment, and self-discipline.