

# *REACH AQUATICS*

2025 - 2026

Short Course Season  
Information Packet

Welcome to the 2025 - 2026 Short Course season of the Reach Aquatics swim club! We are proud to offer the residents of District 211 and all of the surrounding areas this option for competitive swimming.

Reach Aquatics is a competitive swim team which practices out of James B. Conant High School in Hoffman Estates. During LC season we add the 50 meter outdoor pool in Rolling Meadows to our practice sites. Conant High School is a 10 lane 25-yard competitive pool. The Nelson Sports Complex is a 5 lane 50 meter outdoor pool.

We offer the residents within the D211 boundaries and all of the surrounding areas a high-quality option for athletes and their families who are looking for quality, engaged instruction and high standards in coaching. In addition, we understand and support the notion of developing well-rounded student-athletes.

It's our hope that this information packet will answer many of the questions you may have. Of course, if there are still questions, please reach out to me! We may have missed something or have taken something for granted that we assumed would be known. There are no dumb questions and we strive to be open with our swimmers, and our families.

Thank you for considering Reach Aquatics in your choices for a competitive swim program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "MChiappetta".

Monika Chiappetta  
Head Coach and Owner  
[coachmon71@gmail.com](mailto:coachmon71@gmail.com)  
708.951.5136

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

To build a strong, positively oriented, well-developed and long-lasting aquatic program to better serve District 211, its member schools and the surrounding areas. We believe in and support participation in High School sports.

## **GROUP LEVELS**

Reach Aquatics is an 11-and-up (10-and-under pending coach approval) competitive swim club. This is not a beginner club. There is an expectation that athletes coming to swim for us will have a foundation upon which we can build. Group Levels and descriptions can be found on our webpage under the "GROUPS" tab.

## **PRACTICE**

Practice is held at Conant High School. During our LC Season, we also practice at the 50-Meter outdoor pool in Rolling Meadows. Our season will begin on August 25<sup>th</sup> for A groups and September 3<sup>rd</sup> for Age Group and B level practice groups. All practice schedules will be posted to the team website. You must be logged into the team website to see the schedule. Practice times and locations are subject to change.

Attendance is paramount. Swimmers will get out exactly what they put in. Our coaches will take attendance at each practice. It will be used in various decisions throughout the season. There is no attendance policy, however, attendance is strongly encouraged for our A level athletes.

In the event practice needs to be cancelled or changed for whatever reason, we will utilize the SMS/text and email function within Team Unify. When registering, please fill out those areas accurately and with functional phone numbers and email addresses, which will be used to notify the team of any changes. The website and corresponding email/text function will be the method for nearly all regular communication between the coaching staff, athletes and their parents.

## **FEES**

Group Levels, descriptions and fees can be found on our webpage under the "GROUPS" tab.

When entering a swim meet, a per-athlete fee of \$5 will be added to your event fees. This is a flat fee, separate from the number of days or number of events your athlete swims. Out of state or travel meets including any Championship Season meets, will incur a fee to offset coaching expenses. These meets will carry that designation on the event landing page on our website.

There is a \$40 per family seasonal registration fee. This fee covers the cost of the coach's annual USA Swimming membership, the Club's annual membership fee and all the required certification costs for our coaching staff.

When you register for your first swim meet, we will require a \$100 escrow account to be established. We pull funds from your escrow account to pay for your swimmer's meet entry fees. There must be money in your escrow account to be able to swim in a meet. When you sign your swimmer(s) up to compete in a meet, you agree to pay for their entry fees, even if your swimmer ends up not swimming. Once the team is accepted to attend the meet, all monies paid to the host team are not

refundable. Invoices are emailed on the 1<sup>st</sup> of every month. Any account not paid by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month will be assessed an automatic \$10 late fee. At the end of the season, you will have the option to roll over any remaining balance to the next season, or a refund can be issued. Your balance will be available for you to check on the team website. A minimum balance of \$50 will need to be maintained throughout the season. If the account reaches \$25, the swimmer(s) under your account will be listed as 'suspended.' This means you will be unable to register for meets and compete until funds have been added to your account. Please note that swimmers will still be allowed to practice while listed as 'suspended.' Eventually we may utilize the credit card capture function of Team Unity, but at this stage, we will request a check. Zelle is an option as well. For Zelle, please contact me for direction.

Team relays will be put together prior to a meet and the athlete list will be emailed out for review and approval prior to final submission to the host team. The fees for a relay event are equally divided among the 4 athletes. If you are in a relay and are not able to make the meet, your account will be charged for the entire relay fee. Every attempt will be made to fill the relay(s) prior to that step. Relays are always subject to potential changes.

### **ISI/USA SWIMMING**

We are a USA Swimming sanctioned club. All our athletes must be registered with USA Swimming and our local swim committee (LSC), which is Illinois Swimming, Inc. Illinois Swimming and USA Swimming sets the cost of the yearly membership. When the time comes for open USA Swimming registration, this will be communicated with our members. You will be registering your athlete DIRECTLY with USA Swimming.

### **FUNDRAISING**

There are no mandatory fundraising events during the SC Season.

During the LC Season, we hold our annual, USA Sanctioned, Swim-a-Thon.

Beginning in the 2023 LC season, we started a **100% optional** scholarship fund. Donations would be accepted in any amount and at any time of the season. These funds will ONLY be used to help those less fortunate who wish to be on our club. Over the years, we had to turn away some athletes due to financial situations and we would like to eliminate that from happening again. Please reach out directly to Monika for any further details.

### **PARENT VOLUNTEER SUPPORT**

Some meets that we attend require parent volunteers from visiting teams to serve as timers or officials (if certified). As soon as we are informed that timers are needed, a job board on the event page will be created. It is a first-come, first-serve process. If you have a swimmer in the session in which volunteers are needed, please be prepared to step in. If a last-minute circumstance prevents a parent from volunteering, it will be the responsibility of that parent to find a volunteer replacement. If a parent fails to fulfill a volunteering commitment, the swimmer's account will be charged a fee of \$50. We request your time, not your fees as it relates to volunteering.

## **TEAM SUIT/TRAINING GEAR/MEET EXPECTATIONS**

We will have a Team Suit that **must be purchased and worn if you plan on participating in meets**. In addition, you must be in a REACH shirt at any meet we attend. We are sponsored by All American Swim. Our practice gear and team suits can be ordered directly from them from the link on our homepage. (username is reach, password is aquatics10) In the event you attend a meet without a team suit or shirt, your account will be charged the price of that apparel and you will still need to purchase one. A team suit and shirt are expected at all meets.

**Tech suits** are allowed during Champ Meets, Prelim/Final meets, goal meets, some travel meets, or Club designated last chance qualifier meets. At these meets, athletes will be allowed to wear the suit of their choice.

A list of suggested practice gear can be found on our website. ***Drag socks, parachute and snorkel are required for Lead A, HS A/B and College.***

Team relays at meets will be decided by the coaches. It will be based on performance at the meet (not always necessarily best times in database), practice attendance and other variables. If relays need to be designated prior to meet, **these spots are not permanent and can be changed based on performance at the meet**. If changes are made, the coach will discuss it with the athletes affected. It is expected that the athletes (and parents) will support the coaches' decisions. Lists of possible relay candidates will be emailed prior to meet. If you are in a relay and are not able to make the meet your account will be charged for the entire relay fee. Every attempt will be made to fill the relay(s) prior to that step. Relays are always subject to potential changes.

If attending a prelim/final meet, any athlete earning the opportunity to swim in finals are **required** to compete. If there is a strategy that may override this, it will be discussed with the athlete and coach. Please take this into consideration when signing up for meets. Athletes are **expected to compete** in **any** Championship meet they have cuts in. Even if participation is limited.

Championship meet events are entered by the coaching staff. You would simply declare your participation and enter any limitations in the "notes" box that is on TeamUnify when declaring. Decisions aren't made in a vacuum and discussions with the athletes on event choices are encouraged.

## **ATHLETE BEHAVIOR**

We hope swimmers are here because they want to be better swimmers. Our coaches are here to assist with this journey, and they expect the athletes to be attentive and respectful. The same will be shown in return. If at any point during practice or a meet, a swimmer becomes disruptive, he or she will be asked to sit out. If the behavior continues, the swimmer will be excused from practice or a meet and a coach will speak with the parents. If the behavior continues, the swimmer will be removed from the team.

## **THE SEASON**

Our season will begin on August 25<sup>th</sup>. All athletes' seasons extends through the last meet you QUALIFY for regardless of participation. After that date, we will try to leave lanes open for any athlete wishing to come and work out during Champ Season practices. The focus during this time is on the Champ Season athletes but you are welcome to come and workout.

## **REFUNDS**

For “A” practice groups and College, a full refund of any registration fees paid will be available through August 25th. A refund of 1/2 the registration fees paid are available through August 29<sup>th</sup>. After this time, there are no refunds. For the “B” and Age Group practice groups, full refunds are available through September 3<sup>rd</sup>. A refund of 1/2 the registration fees paid are available through September 5<sup>th</sup>. Refunds in the cases of “athlete ability” will be discussed directly with the parents and athletes and will be on a case-by-case basis. Any fees paid for meet entries or USA/ISI Swimming are not refundable.

District, County and State level situations may impact practice, meet, and season decisions and are subject to change. Anything pertaining to swim team operations will be communicated to the team as they become available.

We will amend the information in this packet as time goes on. The purpose in creating this was to have a starting point, to address commonly asked questions and share the overall vision for the team.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M Chiappetta'.

Monika Chiappetta  
and the REACH coaching staff