

SHARK BITES

2021 Season, Newsletter No. 1

2021 will be the Sharks 40th Anniversary (again)!

Our Season in the Making

Our main goal for 2021 is to get our kids back in the water. USA Swimming, Colorado Swimming and CHSAA have been safely operating swim practices and competitions for months now, and the Mountain Hi Swim League believes we can do the same. The Sharks are working with the Smoky Hill Metro District pool on a COVID facility plan for our upcoming season. Although we do not know what our protocols will be, our summer season will look a little different than it has in the past. Our commitment is to our swimmers and to the health/safety of our swimmers, our coaches, and our families. If there is one thing this past year has taught us all, it is we can adapt and succeed! We will keep you updated on our season's plans as they develop.

Mark your calendars for the following dates:

March 14: Registration opens for all returning Sharks families

March 28: Registration opens for everyone

May 17 – 21: Preseason

May 24: Opening Day/Practice Begins

Coaching Update:

Final interviews are happening this month. We will send a separate announcement once the head coaching position is official. Please keep an eye out for this email soon! See page 2 for information about Team Captains and Junior Team Captains.



We are excited to welcome Karena Williams to the 2021 Board!

2021 Board Members:

Darcy Schenden, President:
president@shsharks.org

Jill Dawes, League Parent Rep:
parentrep@shsharks.org

Karena Williams, Secretary:
secretary@shsharks.org

Monica Burgeson, Treasurer:
treasurer@shsharks.org

Kathy Spears, Volunteer Coordinator:
volunteercoordinator@shsharks.org

Melissa Houlne, Team Coordinator:
teamcoordinator@shsharks.org

Elie Wild, Coaches Rep:
coachesrep@shsharks.org

Natasha Vulikh, Meet Manager:
meetmanager@shsharks.org

Make it official: Become an Official:

The success to our team's swim meets is our parent volunteers. Some of our volunteer positions require MHSL certification. These positions include Meet Referee, Starter, and Stroke and Turn Judge.

The Stroke and Turn Judge positions are essential to running a fair and clean meet. The process of becoming a certified official is simple. You will need to attend an in-depth 2-hour training session (schedule to be announced), where you will use videos to help teach what to look for in a swimmer's stroke. During the meets, you will not have to communicate with anyone else but your fellow officials; NO making children cry.

If you have already received Stroke and Turn certification, we highly encourage you to continue your training in Referee and Starter certification. Please contact Jill Dawes, League Parent Representative, at parentrep@shsharks.org, for more information or questions.

A full list of all our Volunteer needs and a description of those positions can be found on our website (located on the FAQs page.)

Team Captain and Junior Team Captains Wanted:

Team Captains are swimmers on the team who will work alongside the coaches during practices and meets. TCs share the responsibilities of coaching and being a swimmer. These athletes have chosen to dedicate their time and effort to helping the team grow. They help at practice, teach drills, run workouts, and are required to be at all team events and meets. Candidates must be 15 years old and are expected to be role models/leaders for the team. This is one of the most important and difficult positions on the team and is a paid position.

Junior Team Captains are swimmers on the team who help Team Captains and the coaches. This is an in-water position that focuses on teaching technique and the correct way to swim. Candidates must be over 13 years old on June 1st. This is a volunteer coaching position, and although it is not a paid position, Junior Team Captains can earn school required volunteer hours. Further information and applications can be found on our website (located on the About page).

Contact Us

Smoky Hill Sharks Website:

www.shsharks.org

Smoky Hill Sharks Facebook:

www.facebook.com/SmokyHillSharks

Mountain Hi Swim League:

www.mhsl.org

Amazing Sponsors

We are seeking new and returning sponsors to help support our team in the 2021 season. Sponsorship levels range in values and can be customized to work with any business' budget. It is our goal as the only organized community athletic activity in the Smoky Hill Metro District to create working relationships with businesses within the area to mutually support each other. To learn more about sponsorship please contact **Melissa Houline** at teamcoordinator@shsharks.org

Fundraising

Please share your fundraising ideas with the team. Suggestions for "Eat with the Sharks", organizations that offer team fundraising, innovative ideas for Swim-a-Thon; everything and anything is inspiration for our upcoming season. We are always on the lookout for new ideas.

Don't forget you can help the team everyday with King Soopers Community Reward Program and Amazon Smile.