

SHARK BITES

2021 Season, Newsletter No. 3

2 weeks and counting...

Meet Assistant Coach Victor

The Smoky Hill Sharks would like to welcome **Victor Alfonso** as our new Assistant Coach. Victor is originally from Columbus, Ohio and began swimming at the age of 8. He swam throughout high school, where he competed and played club water polo. Victor attended DePauw University and graduated in 2020, with a B.A. in Cellular/Molecular Biology. While there he swam for 2.5 years with Coach Mary. He now resides in Denver and works for LabCorp as a Medical Lab Assistant. Victor enjoys hiking, snowboarding, playing video games and the bass guitar. He is excited to be joining for the SH Sharks and looks forward to meeting all of you. Welcome, Victor!!!

Preseason: We are going to have one!!!

The Preseason Clinic will be May 17 – 21, 6:00-7:00 Mini/Tiger Sharks, 7:00-8:00 Mako/Great White Sharks. It will consist of team building, dry lands (out-of-water stretches/exercises) and in-water drills.

We need to know how many swimmers are interested in participating. To sign up, please complete the form located on our website "Practice/Preseason Clinic" by May 9th. The cost will be \$25, nonrefundable regardless of possible (daily) weather cancelations. Payment will not be accepted until final plans/approvals* are set. We will notify all interested families when the time comes.

*Mini Shark Caveat: We may not be able to accommodate 6 & under swimmers this preseason. It all depends on 1) how many team captains are available and 2) how strong of a swimmer you have. If we do not have enough TCs and JTCs to help with preseason, we do not feel comfortable with weak swimmers at preseason. When you sign up, please specify your swimmer's ability – can they swim to and from the deep end unaided? Safety is our utmost concern.



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

Contact Us

Smoky Hill Sharks Website:
www.shsharks.org

Smoky Hill Sharks Facebook:
www.facebook.com/SmokyHillSharks

Mountain Hi Swim League:
www.mhsl.org

Practice Schedule Update

We have made on minor change to our summer schedule. It was requested to have a couple earlier Mini/Tiger Shark practices throughout the week. Please note that Mini/Tigers will practice from 7:40 – 8:25 am and Makos will practice 8:30 -9:30 am on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Remember there is a separate schedule for our first week of practice since most swimmers will still be in school.

Week of May 24 – May 28, 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Shark Age Group Key
PM Practices ONLY:				Friday Fun Night 7:00 – 8:00 Big Shark/Little Shark reveal	Minis: 8 & under Tiger: 9-10 Mako: 11-12 Great White: 13-18
Minis 6:00 – 6:45	Minis 6:00 – 6:45	Minis 6:00 – 6:45	Minis 6:00 – 6:45		
TS 6:00 6:45	TS 6:00 6:45	TS 6:00 6:45	TS 6:00 6:45		
MS 7:00 – 7:45	MS 7:00 – 7:45	MS 7:00 – 7:45	MS 7:00 – 7:45		
GWS 8:00 – 9:00	GWS 8:00 – 9:00	GWS 8:00 – 9:00	GWS 8:00 – 9:00		

June 1- July 16, 2021

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM Practices:				
GWS 6:30 - 7:30	GWS 6:30 - 7:30	GWS 6:30 - 7:30	GWS 6:30 - 7:30	GWS 6:30 - 7:30
MS 7:40 - 8:40	Minis 7:40 – 8:25	MS 7:40 - 8:40	Minis 7:40 – 8:25	MS 7:40 - 8:40
TS 8:45 – 9:30	TS 7:40 – 8:25	TS 8:45 – 9:30	TS 7:40 – 8:25	TS 8:45 – 9:30
Minis 8:45 – 9:30	MS 8:30 – 9:30	Minis 8:45 – 9:30	MS 8:30 – 9:30	Minis 8:45 – 9:30
	7PM Meet Sign Ups Due			
PM Practices:				Friday Fun Night 7:00 – 8:00
Minis 7:00 – 8:00	Minis 7:00 – 8:00		Minis 7:00 – 8:00	
TS 7:00 – 8:00	TS 7:00 – 8:00		TS 7:00 – 8:00	
MS 7:00 – 8:00	MS 7:00 – 8:00		MS 7:00 – 8:00	
GWS 8:15 – 9:30	GWS 8:15 – 9:30		GWS 8:15 – 9:30	

Email & SMS Verification

Quick communication with all Shark families is critical throughout our season. Whether we need to send a SMS/text notification of a weather cancellation or an email with a practice update, you need to verify your account to receive these. To verify, log into you team unify account (www.shsharks.org) then go to "My Account". Above the email and SMS number it states "unverified", click that and it will say "resend verification email (or SMS) now?" Click "yes". Then go to your email or text messages and follow the instructions to verify. Please provide an SMS number for your account.

Virtual Team Meeting – Wednesday, May 12 at 7:30pm

We will be hosting an online webinar for everyone to meet Coach Mary, Coach Victor and this year's Board of Directors. Darcy Schenden, President, will provide an overview of the season, discuss COVID restrictions/protocols for practices and swim meets, and will answer any questions pertaining to the team.

This summer we are going to try something a little bit different. Instead of conducting a team meeting at Friday Fun Night, we will be hosting "Webinar Wednesdays". Parents can join a 30 minute Zoom meeting with the Board and Coach Mary to get all the "need to knows" for that week's swim meet and team updates. This way Friday Fun nights can remain focused on the FUN!

A webinar invite will also be emailed to you (this is our first time trying this... fingers crossed.)

Topic: Smoky Hill Sharks Team Meeting
When: May 12, 2021 07:30 PM Mountain Time
Webinar ID: 824 7316 6130
Passcode: 760663

MHSL Division B Swim Meet Schedule

We have an official meet schedule from the Mountain Hi Swim League! Division B will be participating in in-person swim meets and will have 6 & under swim events this summer. (Division A is doing virtual meets and cancelled 6 & under swim events.) Please note we will be hosting 3 consecutive home meets. (A complete printable schedule is available on our website "Documents/2021 Meet Schedule".)

June 5 - @ Castle Pines Crocs, 7306 Oxford Dr, Castle Rock, 80108
June 12 – HOST Wildcat Ridge
June 19 – HOST Foxridge Foxes
June 26 – HOST Holly Park Sharks
July 3 – No meet
July 10 - @ Southglenn Country Club Gators, 1489 E Easter Ave, Centennial, 80122

It has been asked if swim meets are mandatory; they are not. We ask that if your swimmer plans to swim a meet, they attend a minimum of 3 practices that week. We highly encourage all swimmers to at least attend a swim meet, and possibly try one. Swim meets appear daunting, but they are so much fun! They are one of the great experiences associated with a summer swim team season.

Venmo

You can now Venmo the Smoky Hill Sharks Swim Team for many payment needs* @SmokyHill-Sharks. Venmo is a mobile payment service that you can download and set up on your smart phones. Swim Meet concessions, Shark Merchandise, donations, and other miscellaneous team charges can all be done now in the palm of your hand!

*Team registrations still needs to be made via credit card for the 2021 season. And please note, refunds are not available via Venmo.

Shark Merchandise: reduced prices

Sharks merchandise is available this year and some of it just got marked down! Styles, sizes, and quantities are limited. A link to spreadsheets that have photos, prices and sizes can be found on our website under "Gear/Apparel". If you are interested in seeing items in person (to try on, etc.), please contact Jill at parentrep@shsharks.org. Jill will arrange to bring any selection of items to practice, fundraisers, and/or meets. Payment by checks or Venmo (checks made out to Smoky Hill Sharks Swim Team.)

The Shark Exchange

Back by popular demand! Clean gently used Shark gear and swim gear can be donated to the team for other members use. The "exchange" tote will be placed outside the gate during practices.

Leads Needed and Officials Training Dates

We are seeking commitments for a couple more lead/volunteer positions. We need someone to assume the role of "Head Timer". This position is responsible to run the timer meeting for both shifts prior to the meet, distribute stopwatches and clipboard, and monitor/aid timers during the meet. We are also in need of a couple of families to organize and plan our End of the Year party. If you would like to learn more about either of these commitments or would like to volunteer for them, please Kathy Spears, Volunteer Coordinator at volunteercoordinator@shsharks.org

The Mountain Hi Swim League has scheduled training dates for the following. If you are interested in attending one of these meetings, please contact Jill Dawes, League Parent Representative, at parentrep@shsharks.org, for more information or questions.

Stroke & Turn Training:

Virtual – May 15, 4:00 – 5:30 pm or
May 22, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

In Person – May 16, 7:00 – 8:30 pm @ Littleton HS or
May 23, 7:00 – 8:30 pm @ Littleton HS

Swimsuit Orders due May 9th!

This year we are going with a simple black Dolfin suit with an optional Shark's logo on it. You can find the style options and order directly from: <https://www.swimnthings.com/swim-teams/smokyhill/>

Due to current restrictions, all sizing and orders will need to be done at their store or on their website. We will not be hosting an in-person sizing event. *****Team suits are not required.*****

Please note the Dolfin String Back is not recommended for younger female swimmers - very low cut. Instead, please consider the V2 Back.

Swim 'N Things is also giving team members an in-store discount of 15% off all regular priced items. Swim 'N Things • 5494 E. Evans Ave • Denver CO, 80222 • 303-757-8866



V2 Back



String Back



Jammer



Brief

Swim Cap Orders

We are still accepting personalized swim cap orders. Our vendor requires a minimum order of 25 caps. If you would like to order (registered after May 3) or would like to purchase additional caps, please contact Monica Burgeson at treasurer@shsharks.org. Monica is keeping track of requests, and once we have at least 25 or more, she will contact you about finalizing payment (via Venmo).

Commemorative cap **\$13.50**,

Personalized cap **\$16.50**,

Personalized cap twin pack **\$31**

Big Sharks/Little Sharks: Calling all BIG SHARKS!

Big Shark/Little Shark registration is in full swing. We have many eager swimmers who want to be a part of this amazing program, but we need more Big Sharks! Any returning swimmer 11 years or older can sign up to be a Big Shark.

The Big Shark/Little Shark program is designed to partner young/new swimmers on the team with older/more experienced swimmers to provide guidance, support and to be a team resource. We highly encourage all new members to sign up for this amazing opportunity.

To sign up, please complete the form located on our website "About/Big Shark Little Shark" by May 25th. We will reveal Big Shark/Little Shark partners at Friday Fun Night, Friday, May 28.

Sponsorship Opportunities

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. Our 2021 Sponsorship Flyer is attached to the end of this newsletter. Please share with employers, neighbors, friends, etc. Please contact **Melissa Houline** at teamcoordinator@shsharks.org about signing up as a sponsor or for more information.

Other Ways to Support the Sharks

King Soopers Community Rewards Program – Use your King Soopers (or City Market) loyalty card to help raise funds for the SH Sharks! Registration is easy as 1, 2, 3.

1. Sign up or Login to your King Soopers Account. <http://www.kingsoopers.com>.
2. Visit the Kings Soopers Community Rewards page.
3. Click "Enroll Now" on the Community Rewards page and "Smoky Hill Sharks Swim Team INC" either by name or by using code "QK234", then click enroll.

Amazon Smile – switch from amazon.com to smile.amazon.com and earn .5% for the team! This is another easy way to contribute to Smoky Hill Sharks with purchases you already make. Remember, only purchases made at smile.amazon.com (not amazon.com or the mobile app) generate AmazonSmile donations.

Eating with the Sharks

Please save these dates for a dinner out with the Sharks. We will also be posting all these events on our Facebook page and will send emails and Text messages closer to each event.



Raising Cane's, 6645 S. Parker Rd (Arapahoe Rd & Parker Rd)

May 5 from 4:00-10:00pm – Mention the fundraiser while ordering, and the team receives 15% of all orders!



Chick-Fil_A, 5600 S. Parker Rd (Parker Rd & Chambers Rd)

May 26 from 5:00-8:00pm – More information will be shared closer to this date.



Coloradough Pizza, 15430 E. Smoky Hill Rd (Smoky Hill Rd & Chambers Rd)

June 2 from 3:00-9:00pm – More information will be shared closer to this date.



MOD Pizza, 23890 E. Smoky Hill Rd (Smoky Hill Rd across from Southlands)

June 23 from 10:30am-9:00pm – We need 20 commitments for this event by June 20.

<https://www.groupraise.com/events/186697-smoky-hill-sharks-swim-team-inc-at-mod-pizza>



Freddy's Frozen Custard & Steakburgers, 15705 E. Briarwood Cir (Arapahoe Rd & Parker Rd)

July 8 – More information will be shared closer to this date.

SUMMER 2021 COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP



The Sharks remain the only organized community athletic activity in the Smoky Hill Metro District. We are a local non-profit summer swim program located at 5405 South Telluride Street, Centennial, Colorado 80015.

Swimming, especially competitive swimming, offers numerous benefits for the children such as building self-esteem, teamwork and physical conditioning. We believe in community involvement that strengthens relationships between our organization and local businesses. This valuable relationship is a benefit to all, as both sides provide support to each other. We, as a local nonprofit organization, are asking for your support for the 2021 Smoky Hill Sharks season.

2021 is an exciting year as we celebrate our 40th Anniversary (again)! As a community sponsor, you and your business can help the Sharks obtain and maintain resources critical to the team's seasonal success and longevity. This year the Sharks have an ambitious goal to raise over \$12,000 to replace the dive blocks at the Smoky Hill Metropolitan District Pool. Every dollar raised will bring us one step closer to this goal. Thank you for your consideration.

BUTTERFLY \$1500 +

- **Individual banner at every home pool event***
- **Your logo on 40th Anniversary (again) Banner displayed at all home swim meets ***
- **"Congrats from our Butterfly Sponsors" flyer in family folders (weekly, we provide)**
- Your logo on 40th Anniversary (again) Banner displayed at all home swim meets
- Thank you recognition announcement at all home swim meets
- Your logo (one color, **large**) on swimmer shirts*
- Recognition on Smoky Hill Sharks website
- Recognition on Smoky Hill Sharks Facebook page

BREASTSTROKE \$1000

- **Your logo on 40th Anniversary (again) Banner displayed at all home swim meets ***
- **Thank you recognition announcement at all home swim meets**
- Your logo (one color, **medium**) on swimmer shirts*
- Recognition on Smoky Hill Sharks website
- Recognition on Smoky Hill Sharks Facebook page





BACKSTROKE \$500

- **Thank you recognition announcement at all home swim meets**
- **Your logo (one color, small) on swimmer shirts***
- Recognition on Smoky Hill Sharks website
- Recognition on Smoky Hill Sharks Facebook page

FREESTYLE \$250

- Recognition on Smoky Hill Sharks website
- Recognition on Smoky Hill Sharks Facebook page

****Commitment must be received by 5/1/2021 for banner and t-shirt application.***

For more details, please contact Melissa Houlne at 720-235-6489
teamcoordinator@shsharks.org

Please make all checks payable to **Smoky Hill Sharks Swim Team**

(Sponsorship amounts are generally deductible as an advertising expense. Please check with your CPA regarding your specific situation. Donation opportunities are also available.)

Thank you for your consideration and support!

