

Wickliffe Water Devils

Parent Information Guide 2025

Hello All! Welcome to the 2025 Wickliffe Summer Swim season. My coaches and I are VERY excited to have you with us this summer! At Wickliffe, we provide a fun, positive, and safe environment for your child to learn and thrive in, while also teaching them some cool swimming skills. Throughout your child's time with us, we hope you make lots of good memories and find a place to call home.

- Coach Ella & Staff

CONTACT INFORMATION

Board of Directors

President: Matt Ciavarelli and Karissa Morcelle (to take over 2026-27)

President@WickliffeWaterDevils.com

Vice President: Jesse Ebner

VicePresident@WickliffeWaterDevils.com

Treasurer: Katie Ball

Treasurer@WickliffeWaterDevils.com

Meet Scorer/IT: Brian Sable

Scorer@WickliffeWaterDevils.com or IT@WickliffeWaterDevils.com

Secretaries: Julie Sable and Nikki Formica

Secretary@WickliffeWaterDevils.com

SSL Representatives: Adrian Palomo and Brian Davidson

SSLRep@WickliffeWaterDevils.com

To reach the entire board you can email Board@WickliffeWaterDevils.com.

2025 Coaching Staff

Head Coach: Ella Huffstutler

HeadCoach@WickliffeWaterDevils.com

Assistant Head Coach: Sophia DiCillo

Age Group Coaches:

13-18s: Ella Huffstutler

11-12s: Mary Ivancic

9-10s: Sara Formica and Emily Swaffield

8 & Under: Sophia DiCillio, Ella George, Max Palomo

To reach the entire coaching staff, email Coaches@WickliffeWaterDevils.com

Swim Practice

Morning Practices: MONDAY - FRIDAY (Start Date: June 2nd)

8 & unders: 8:00 - 9:45am

9&10s: 8:00 - 9:45am

11&12s: 8:00 - 9:45am

13-18 year olds: 8:00 - 9:45am

Evening Practices: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND THURSDAY (Start Date: June 4th)

All age groups: 5:00-6:00pm

Daily attendance of practice is encouraged. In accordance with team guidelines and Suburban Swim League (SSL) rules, **a minimum of three practices** must be made each week to swim in the meet on Saturday morning. If a swimmer is unable to attend at least three practices in a week (vacation, camp, etc.) please send an email to Coach Ella at HeadCoach@WickliffeWaterDevils.com or speak to your age group coach ahead of time. Attendance exceptions can be made with pre-approval by the coach. If your swimmer will be missing a meet for which they have already declared, please email all coaches at Coaches@WickliffeWaterDevils.com as soon as possible.

We will communicate practice cancellations (due to inclement weather, etc) as soon as possible via text, email, and push notifications to the 'SE Motion' app. Meet delays due to weather will also be communicated as quickly as possible.

Swimmer of the Week: Every Friday, coaches will be recognizing one male and one female swimmer during the team meeting. Awards will be given based on a variety of factors, as determined by the coaching staff.

Discipline Policy

If a swimmer is more than 10 minutes late to practice, they will not be eligible for attendance recognition that day. If a swimmer misbehaves at practice, a verbal warning will be given. If he or she continues to cause problems, the swimmer will be removed from the practice. Finally, as a last option, the swimmer will be sent home with a note that must be signed by a parent. A copy of this note will also be given to the Head Coach. Until the signed note is returned to the coaches, the swimmer will not be allowed to participate in team functions, and any practices missed during this time will be considered unexcused.

Communication with the Coaches

Parents are encouraged to speak with their child's coach with questions or concerns. If you would like to talk with the coaches about your swimmer, please talk to them **before OR after practice/meets** or via email. The coaches are happy to discuss any topics with parents, just not while they are actively coaching. If any parent does not feel an issue is resolved after talking to the coach, please reach out to the board at Board@WickliffeWaterDevils.com to set up a time to talk. If a major concern or issue arises, please speak with a board member first. Age group coaches may loop in the head coach during discussions if they feel her guidance would be helpful. Please always approach coaches with respect and kindness!

Swim Meets

We have 8 swimmeets during the season. We run a practice "Mock Meet" on Saturday, June 7th. Then, our 6 dual meets are each Saturday from June 14, 2025, through July 19, 2025. The SSL Championship Swim Meet is a 2 day meet on July 26-27th, 2025. See separate attachments for more details. In dual meets, each swimmer will swim in 2 to 4 events, which normally includes at least 1 relay. According to the rules of the SSL, each swimmer must swim in at least 3 dual meets to swim at Championships. We will be having all swimmers check in with their age group coach by 7am on home meet days and 7:15am at away meets. These times may be adjusted slightly each week depending on warmup, meet start times, and age group. If the swimmer is not checked in by the designated time, they will be taken out of any relays for that meet. We have a short amount of time before the meet begins to make any changes to the line-ups. To avoid scratching any of our relays, we will replace late or missing swimmers with swimmers who are present. Meets are usually finished around 11:30am.

Swimmers should see a coach before and after each event to get feedback about their race. Relay swimmers should meet as a group well in advance of their relay and stay together before, during, and after their swim. It is important that all swimmers stay for the entire meet.

Team Uniforms

For practices, swimmers should have training swim suits, caps, and goggles.

For swim meets, swimmers can choose to wear any of the “team suits” listed on our SwimOutlet.com store. Swimmers may also wear any plain navy blue suit to meets. A team shirt and cap are included in your registration fees. The team swim caps are not required to be worn for swim meets but are strongly encouraged. Please wear your team shirt to swim meets!

Parent Responsibilities

There are some simple things that you can do that will go a long way in helping our team. These include the following:

- **VOLUNTEER AT MEETS!** We cannot run these meets without parent help!! There will be opportunities to sign up prior to the meets in the SE Motion App. Jobs include timers, runners, finish judges, officiating, and heat winner awards. Our biggest need is for timers because we must have 32 timers per home meet and 16 timers for each away meet.
- Provide transportation. Please accompany your swimmer or plan for another adult to do so. Please make sure a responsible adult stays at the meet with your child.
- Ensure your child's attendance and promptness at practices and meets.
- Support our fundraisers - especially the All Nite Swim.
- Make sure your swimmer brings a water bottle or sports type drink to practices and meets.
- Make sure your swimmer has their swimsuit, goggles and a swim cap at every practice and meet.
- **DECLARE** your child for swim meets on the app! -- It is easier to just declare for all meets from the beginning (DECLARE means to mark your child as attending a meet). You can always go in and remove them as needed in the future. It is much easier for

the coaches to remove your child from a meet than it is to add them to a meet at the last minute. A review of the SE Motion app will be conducted at the parent meeting and again at the Mock Meet.

Important Dates

June 2: Morning Practices Begin
June 4: Evening Practices Begin
June 6: Picture Day (during practice time)
June 7: Mock Meet and Hot Dog Roast 8am-12:30pm
June 14: Dual Meet 1
June 21: Dual Meet 2
June 28: Dual Meet 3
July 5: Dual Meet 4
July 12: Dual Meet 5 & All Night Swim Fundraiser
July 19: Dual Meet 6
July 24: Team Spaghetti Dinner
July 26-27th: SSL Championship Meet
July 31: End of Season Awards Banquet

Swimming Jargon

Dual Meet: Swim meet between two teams, one or two heats per event.

Invitational: Swim meet between several teams, many heats per event. Championships (of "Champs") is this type of meet.

Heat: A division of an event in which there are too many swimmers to swim at one time. Your swimmer will be assigned a heat of their event in which to swim.

Heat Sheet: Printed schedules of events with swimmers listed in heats and lane assignments.

Jammer: style of swimsuit for boys. Tight fitting with the length hitting just above the knee to reduce drag in the water.

Meters Pool: 25 Meters (~82 feet) from end to end. Most SSL pools are this type.

Yards Pool: 25 Yards (75 feet) from end to end. Euclid's pool is a yards pool.

Scratch: Withdrawal from an event.

Split Time: Time recorded for one segment on a longer event; most notably relays.

Exhibition: Swimming for a time, but not for team points.

DQ: When an official calls an illegal execution of a start, stroke, turn, or finish - the swimmer's time is not official and he/she scores no points for that event.

False Start: When a swimmer leaves his mark before the starting signal. Two in a row result's in a DQ in this league.

Medley Relay: Four swimmer relay with each swimmer swimming 1 of the 4 strokes in this order: Backstroke (BACK), Breaststroke (BRST), Butterfly (BFLY), and Freestyle (FREE).

IM: Stands for "Individual Medley". This means one swimmer swims the required distance in the following order: Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Freestyle.

NT: When a swimmer has no previous time for an event.

Navigating a Swim Meet

Swimming is a great sport, but can be a lot to learn, especially for new families. We hope our handbook explains most of what you need to know in swimming terms but realize that there is no substitute for the actual experience. Veteran parents will be available and identifiable so that you can ask any questions that you have. The mock meet will help you prepare for the real thing.

What to bring:

- A pop-up tent, a canopy or shelter. The weather can be very unpredictable, and it is a long morning without anywhere to rest and keep your supplies. In addition, not all pools provide shaded areas.
- Chairs or blankets for sitting on
- Extra towels, blanket, clothes, swimsuit, goggles, cap
- Sunscreen
- Snacks and drinks. Some common snacks that are good for meet days are: granola bars, trail mix, fruits, veggies, cheese cubes, pickles (the swimmers do sweat in the water and the salt helps in replenishment of electrolytes), hard boiled eggs, water, electrolyte drinks.
- Money for the snack bar. Some teams have a large variety of items, some do not.
- A Black Sharpie for writing swimmers' events, heats, and lanes on their arm.

- Games, books, magazines to pass the time between your swimmers' events. We like to encourage swimmers to spend time with their friends and families between events. They should cheer on their teammates and watch other races. Please leave the electronic devices at home!

A Message from Matt Ciavarelli

Welcome to the 2025 summer swim season! For those new families, I am the Wickliffe Water Devil's (and the league's) Head Official/Starter. We need more officials, so I invite you to be an official for the Wickliffe Water Devils. You do not need to have any prior swimming background to become an official. Officiating is a fantastic way to help the team, as well as fulfill the necessary Volunteer hours needed by each family. As an Official, you have the best seat in the house to watch a meet! All that is needed to become an Official is to attend one of the Officials Clinics. These will be held in May and early June. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me on my cell @ 216-798-4966. Hope to see everyone at one of the clinics!

Thanks,

Matt Ciavarelli

Remember to follow the [Wickliffe Water Devils team page on Facebook](#) for updates, photos, and more!