

Newsplash

Issue 6

May 19, 2024

www.stseaotters.com



ST SEA OTTERS @ CROSSGATES GATORS - Saturday, 5/25

Online meet sign-up process: In order to ensure we know who will be swimming at each meet, *you must declare your swimmers' attendance, whether they plan to swim or not.* Sign-ups are online via [Team Unify](#) or the Sports Engine Motion App and are NOW OPEN. ***"Declare" for your swimmers status and sign up for individual events by 5pm on Wed, May 22.*** This [link](#) has swim meet sign-up instructions.

TIP: *You can sign-up your Sea Otter(s) for all of our meets. Changes for each meet can be made prior to that week's deadline.*

Please remember the following:

- DECLARE IF YOUR SWIMMER IS SWIMMING – YES OR NO.
 - If no, select NO and save & close.
 - If yes, select YES, select your events, then save & close.
- EVENT SELECTION:
 - 7 & Up: Enter three (3) events
 - 6 & Under: Enter Back and Free

General Information:

The timeline for the meet will be sent out later this week.

- Crossgates Cabana Club, 1297 Peralta Drive, San Jose, CA 95120. You can also scroll to find it [here](#).
- **Spot-in-the-Lot WINNER!!!** Congratulations to **Russel Valdez** for winning a front row parking spot at the meet this Saturday. Your spot will be located in the front of the parking lot with a sign.
- **No photos can be taken of swimmers from behind the blocks.** This is to protect swimmers from being photographed from behind, bent over. If you bring guests to the meet, please be sure you share this with them. And if you see someone taking photos from behind the blocks, please speak up and share this information with them. Protecting our swimmers is a top priority.
- Swimmers...don't forget your ST cap. Remember, no high school or competitive swim team caps. Non-personalized ST Swim caps will be available for sale from our merch team tent (cash or Venmo only).
- Swimmers will be notified at practice no later than Thursday before the swim meet if they are on a relay team. ***If your swimmer has been slated to swim a relay and won't be there, please let Coach Jerry know as soon as possible.***

Information on Relays: See Newsplash #5 for details about [relays](#), or on our website.

RIBBONS - AVAILABLE ON TUESDAY, MAY 21

Dual Meet ribbons will be available by Tuesday this week in the file boxes near the office. There is one folder for each family. ***Please recycle unwanted ribbons in the designated container.*** **The names on the ribbon stickers will be the names on the trophies at the end of the season, so please notify us no later than June 5 if name corrections need to be made.** Volunteers process over 1200 ribbons at each meet and mistakes sometimes happen. Please email requests for corrections/missing ribbons to our Awards volunteer, [Michelle Partsch and Nicole King](#).

SENIOR SEA OTTERS DEADLINES

Attention Graduating Senior Sea Otters Families! Please refer to the emails you received from Stacy Valenta on April 16th and May 17th, to ensure you have submitted, or will submit, all of the details and photos required for our Senior Sea Otters. **The deadline is MAY 27th so please don't delay!**

The Senior information and photos will be used for our Senior Celebration at the Shadowbrook @ ST dual meet on June 15th, the Senior posters, the CHAMPS meet program, Awards Night, and on our team's Facebook page. For questions, please reach out to [Stacy Valenta](#).

SPIRIT ACTIVITIES

- **Otter Buddies - Otter Week!**

Thanks to all the Otter Buddies who exchanged spirit signs at Pinehurst! Stop by the pool deck before or after practice this week to make an otter to give to your Buddy at Crossgates.

- **Car Decorating - Thursday, May 23**

We have a long standing tradition of decorating our car windows to show off our team spirit, especially ahead of away meets. We will have a blue bucket with car window pens and Sea Otter stencils at practice this Thursday. Feel free to grab what you need, and then return it for the next person. Let's all show our Sea Otter spirit!

- **P'otterluck Dinner - THIS FRIDAY!**

All Sea Otters families are invited to our annual P'Otterluck Dinner located on the upper deck on Friday, May 24. The evening will include a potluck dinner, s'mores and a fireside chat with the coaches. This is a fantastic opportunity to bring our swim team community together for fun, fellowship and food!

- 5:45pm: Drop off food contributions to the clubhouse
- 6:00pm: Dinner service
- 7:00pm: Fireside Chat, team cheers & s'mores

Food will be served inside and we will be sitting outside. Please bring your marshmallow roasting sticks from home, if you have any. Wear your Sea Otters apparel to show your team spirit! Don't have anything to wear? Don't worry...you will be able to pick up your pre-ordered t-shirts that evening from our merch team.

Families are assigned a dish to bring based on their last names:

- A-I: Salad or veggie plate for 12
- J-N: Hot pasta dish for 12
- O-S: 2 loaves of garlic bread
- T-Z: Fruit for 12

*** PLEASE BRING SERVING UTENSILS * PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BEVERAGES ***
The club kitchen will NOT BE available for prep or to keep things warm/cold.

- **Drive-In Night - Sunday, May 26th**

Save the date to join us in seeing The Garfield Movie at the West Wind Capitol Drive-In on Sunday, May 26th at 8:45pm. Plan to arrive about 15-30 minutes early to get your parking spot and get set up. Admission is \$9 for 12 and up, \$2 ages 5-11 and free for 4 and under. We will be parked to the right of the screen, look for the balloons. This is not a drop off event.

- **Sea Otter Boardwalk Day - Sunday, June 2nd**

Come join your Sea Otter friends for a fun day at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk! We will be selling discounted unlimited ride wristbands for \$60 (normally \$70) which will be good for Sunday, June 2nd only. Rides are open from 11am-8pm and you can pick up your wristband from Allison or Alicia between 10:30-11:30 near the Pirate Ship at the Boardwalk. To reserve your spot, please register at <https://tinyurl.com/STBoardwalk> or via the attached Boardwalk Day QR code. This is not a drop off event.

- **Tie Dye - June 13 - Preorder shirts now!**

Join our annual tie dye party after practice on June 13. *New this year: save time and skip the line by preordering your 100% cotton shirt through the Team Store between now and June 1!* Ordered shirts will be shaped to the design of your choosing and presoaked so that they are ready for immediate dye application. Purchase via <https://stseaotters.square.site/> or using the attached Tie Dye QR code.

- **Cardboard Boat Regatta - June 15**

Save the date, and your boxes, for the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta! All Sea Otters are encouraged to team up with their swim team friends to construct a sea-worthy vessel using only cardboard and duct tape. *Parents, we kindly ask that you support your swimmers by offering guidance and help troubleshooting while they ship build, but allow the kids the opportunity to build, learn and be creative with their Sea Otter friends.* More information to follow in upcoming Newsplash issues.

- **Laser Tag at Lasermass - Tuesday, June 18th (evening)**

Join your fellow Sea Otters for some laser tag at Lasermass! Cost is \$26 and includes 2 private games. Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/STLaserTag> or via the attached Laser Tag QR code to signup and secure your spot - we are limited to the first 30 people! This is not a drop off event.

- **Great America - Monday June 24**

Spend a day at Great America with your friends! Price is \$45 per admission ticket; register at <https://tinyurl.com/STGreatAmerica> or via the attached Great America QR code. This is not a drop off event.

SEA OTTERS SHIRTS & MERCHANDISE

Our shirt pre-order will be arriving before the Crossgates meet! Those who ordered shirts online or during Time Trials will be able to pick up their shirts at the P'Otterluck Dinner. Please note that the hats and visors will not be in yet, but should arrive before the Shadowbrook meet. Our new car magnets, water bottle stickers and lawn signs will be available for sale at the dinner as well.

New items will be coming to the [Sea Otters team store](#) soon! Keep an eye out for our new water bottle stickers, car magnets, lawn signs and patches, as well as some hat and visor options!

The following families have not yet picked up their swimmer's shirt and personalized cap from the merch team: Conley, George, Peterson (E & E). Please contact [Amy and Kelly](#) to arrange getting them to you.

FUNDRAISING

Email stseaotters.fundraising@gmail.com with any questions:

- **Spot-In-The-Lot** (home and away meets) and **Pop-up-Spot** (home meets).
 - 1 ticket for \$5 | 5 tickets for \$20 | 12 tickets for \$50.
If you want to buy tickets please email stseaotters.fundraising@gmail.com with a receipt of your payment, your name/phone number, and how many tickets you would like to put towards your selected drawing.
- **Underwater Photos:** Victor Bittorf is back and offering action/underwater photo packages and will be donating a portion of sales to the team. Photo sessions will take place in the morning at the Rancho ST pool on June 2 and 9. Sign up [here](#).
 - Package #1 \$40 per person and includes a 10 min underwater / action shot photo session. You will receive 5 edited photo files.
 - Package #2 (Perfect for families): \$80 for up to 3 people and includes a 20 min photo session. You will receive 10 edited photo files.
 - Be sure to send payment via the instructions at the top of the [form](#) to reserve your spot! Include parent name and swimmer name in your payment notes so we can confirm payment.
- **Yard Signs:** Show your Sea Otter pride and pick up a yard sign at the Fundraising booth during home meets. Limited supply so grab one before they are gone, \$20.

CHAMPS SWIMMER ELIGIBILITY

We need and want all of our athletes to swim at CHAMPS on June 29. In order for Sea Otters to be eligible for CHAMPS they must meet the following criteria:

- Must swim at a minimum of three Dual Meets (Time Trials does not count).
- Must have a legal time for any stroke they plan to swim at CHAMPS.

SPORTS ENGINE MOTION APP

TeamUnify recently moved to the GoMotion App, which is not known as the “Sports Engine Motion App”. Sports Engine Motion is available in the App Store and on Google Play. Log-in to the app with the same credentials as the team website. Here you can manage your account and swimmer information, enter swim meets, check results, sign up for volunteer shifts and get up to date team news, all from your mobile device.

MEET MOBILE APP

The MeetMobile App displays meet results during all home and most away meets. The timers record the swimmer’s time and then the data is entered by the Tech Team (after referee review), which allows you to quickly receive results. You can purchase the app in the App or Google Play Store. Your subscription is good on one device, for one year.

SEA OTTERS INFORMATION ON-DEMAND

Santa Teresa Sea Otters team website, www.stseaotters.com

[2024 season calendar](#)

Reference [Rancho Newsletters](#).

Follow us on Facebook - Santa Teresa Sea Otters

Santa Teresa Sea Otters Board Members

President, [Edie Fischer](#)

Vice President, [Mark Kleiner](#)

Treasurer, [Anuja Burns](#)

Secretary, [Tanja Seidel](#)

Activities, [Emily Becker](#) (at Rancho) & [Alicia LaMarche](#) and [Allison Rice](#) (off site)

Awards, [Michelle Partsch & Nicole King](#)

Champs Liaison, [Lauren Sullivan](#)

Equipment, [Scott Fischer](#)

Fundraising, [Tracy Raivio & Michelle Senner](#)

Historian, [Anthony Gianocarò](#)

Membership, [Jennifer Fusilero](#)

Merchandise, [Amy Raczkowski & Kelly Hodge](#)

New Otters Liaison, [Dina Mansuy](#)

Snack Shack, [Andrew Burns](#) & [Jenna Collen](#)

Technical Records, [Kumar Virwani](#)

Volunteers, [Michele Clark & Nina DeSimone](#)

Webmaster, [Kimberly Ahlgren](#)

2024 SEASON ACTIVITIES/SCHEDULE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5/20-22: Otter Buddies Activity (at practice)• 5/23: Car window decorating, Rancho• 5/24: Secret Sea Otters Delivery #2 P'Otterluck Dinner – Rancho, 5:45pm• 5/25: Santa Teresa & Crossgates, Dual Meet• 5/26: Drive-in Movie Night - Capitol, 8:45pm• 5/28-29: Otter Buddies Activity (at practice)• 5/31: Secret Sea Otters Delivery #3 Freestyle Friday – Socialize with Otters• 6/1: Almaden @ Santa Teresa, Dual Meet• 6/2: Underwater Photos Beach Boardwalk• 6/3-5: Otter Buddies Activity (at practice)• 6/6: Restaurant Night Fundraiser – MOD Car window decorating, Rancho• 6/7: Secret Sea Otters Delivery #4 Freestyle Friday – Socialize with Otters• 6/8: Santa Teresa @ Creekside, Dual Meet• 6/9: Underwater Photos Fundraiser• 6/10: Shift to summer practice schedule | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6/10-12: Otter Buddies Activity (at practice)• 6/13: Tie Dye (at practice)• 6/14: Secret Sea Otters Delivery #5 Freestyle Friday – Socialize with Otters• 6/15: Shadowbrook @ Santa Teresa, Dual Meet• 6/15: Cardboard Boat Regatta & Kona Ice Fundraiser – Rancho• 6/18: Laser Tag – TBC• 6/21: Freestyle Friday – Socialize with Otters• 6/24-28: Spirit Week• 6/24-26: Otter Buddies Activity (at practice)• 6/24: Great America• 6/27: Pancake Breakfast Car window decorating• 6/28: Secret Sea Otters Delivery #6 and reveal Freestyle Friday – Socialize with Otters• 6/29: CHAMPS, Independence High School• 7/1: Awards Night – Rancho |
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