

Newsplash: A Weekly Update

Issue 5 · June 1, 2025



Please be sure to check the dry erase board located near the girls restroom for up-to-date reminders! Also, in that area, you will find our [Sea Otters of the Week!](#)

🔥 **DUAL MEET #1 vs. SHADOW BROOK:** It was a scorcher for the Sea Otters! Our first dual meet of the season came with blazing temps and even hotter team spirit. Great job to all our swimmers for showing up strong and supporting each other! Final score: Shadow Brook 262 – Sea Otters 218. Congrats to everyone on completing your first meet of the season — we’re just getting started!

🏊 **CALLING ALL SEA OTTERS:** The countdown is on—only **28** practices left this season! We encourage all swimmers to come to as many practices as possible. It's a great way to build skills, bond with teammates and let our coaches cheer on your progress. Let's make every practice count!

★ **2025 TEAM CAPTAINS:** It was great to see so many Sea Otters and their families at our annual P’Otterluck dinner and rally this past Friday night! Thank you for joining us and being part of this amazing community. Also, in case you missed it, we are pleased to announce our Team Captains for the season: *Mia White and Franklin Valdez*.

🏊 **Pinehurst Piranhas @ Santa Teresa Dual Meet - Saturday, June 7**

Online meet sign-up process: **“Declare” for your swimmers status and sign up for individual events by 5pm on Wednesday, 6/4.** This [link](#) has swim meet sign-up instructions.

TIP: *You can sign-up your Sea Otter(s) for all of the meets at one time. And if needed, you can make changes prior to each 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

Meet Timeline for Pinehurst Piranhas @ ST - Saturday, June 7

5:30-6:45am Meet Set-up Volunteers ONLY
~6:45 & after Family Set-up
7:00-7:45am Swimmer Check-in
7:00-7:15am Sea Otters 13-18 Blue & Yellow warm-up
7:15-7:30am Sea Otters 9-12 warm-up
7:30-7:45am Sea Otters 7-8 and 6 & Under age groups warm-up
7:30-8:00am Volunteer Check-in
7:45am Swimmer Check-in tables close
7:45-8:15am Pinehurst Warm-up
8:00am Stroke & Turn Meeting (at the baby pool)
8:15am First Call: Clerk of Course, Timers & Recorders Announcement
8:20am Team Cheers and National Anthem
8:30am Meet Begins with Medley Relays

Swim Meet Set-up: Families will NOT be allowed into the club until after the meet set-up team has completed their work, which will be approximately 6:45am. **Please Note:** Any pop-ups that are in the pool area before the set-up team is done will be removed.

Additional Meet Information:

- **Spot-in-the-Lot and Pop-Up Winners!** Fundraising will announce winners on Monday. Stay by your phone to see if you will have a reserved parking spot or pre-set up Pop-Up for the next meet!
- 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 Mark know as soon as possible.***
- **For the safety and privacy of our swimmers, photos may not be taken from behind the starting blocks.** This rule helps prevent inappropriate angles, especially when swimmers are bent over on the blocks. If you're bringing guests to the meet, please make sure they're aware of this rule. And if you see someone taking photos from that area, kindly inform them of the rule. Protecting our swimmers is our top priority - thank you for your support.
- Swimmers...please wear your NEW personalized Sea Otters swim cap. Remember, no high school or competitive swim team caps are allowed at cabana club meets. If you have not yet received it, you can pick up your 2025 cap at the merchandise tent, near the diving well. Non-personalized Sea Otters 2025-style swim caps (\$10) or the blue ST swim caps from previous years (\$5) will also be available for sale. Contact [Amy & Kelly](#) for more info.
- If you are interested in swimming in a parent relay please contact [Mark Kleiner](#). A fun tradition!
- It can be cold in the morning and then, HOT! Bring layers and blankets, but be sure to have sunscreen, hats, and hydrate...drink LOTS of fluids!
- **The diving well, back pool, kiddie pool, playground and sand volleyball courts are OFF-LIMITS during a swim meet. Parents, we ask for your help in keeping kids out of these areas.**
- PLEASE be sure to clean-up after yourselves. The pool will be open after the meet, and the club must be clean!
- Have FUN!!!

Information on Relays: Check our website for information on [relays](#).

CHAMPS SWIMMER ELIGIBILITY

We need and want all of our athletes to swim at CHAMPS on July 12. To be eligible for CHAMPS swimmers 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.

SENIOR SEA OTTERS DEADLINES - Saturday, June 7

Attention Graduating Senior Sea Otters Families! Please refer to the emails you received from Lauren Sullivan on May 5, to ensure you have submitted, or will submit, all of the details and photos required for our Senior Sea Otters. **The deadline is June 7 so please don't delay!**

The Senior information and photos will be used for our Senior Celebration at our home dual meet on June 28, the Senior posters, the CHAMPS meet program, Awards Night, and on our team's Facebook page. For questions, please reach out to [Lauren Sullivan](#).

RIBBONS - Available on Monday, June 9

Dual Meet ribbons will be available by Monday 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 8 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, [Sarah Miers and Nicole King](#).

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Save the date for future fun inside and outside of Rancho!

- **Otter Buddies:** Thanks to all the Otter Buddies who exchanged spirit signs at Shadow Brook. Stop by the pool deck before or after practice this week to paint a rock to exchange with your buddy at the Almaden meet, and to read your Otter Mail!
- **Secret Sea Otters - Delivery Friday, June 6!** Questions/comments, please reach out to [Emily Becker](#).
- **Tie Dye, June 18 - Preorder Shirts by Wednesday!** Join our annual tie dye party after morning practice on June 18. *Back by popular demand: save time and skip the line by preordering your 100% cotton shirt through the Team Store between now and June 4!* 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/>.
- **Swim Up Movie Night, June 24, 8:30pm:** Enjoy a movie while floating with friends! Vote [here](#) to help choose what to show.
- **Cardboard Boat Regatta, June 28:** Save the Date - and your cardboard - for the Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta! All Sea Otters are invited to join forces with their swim team friends to build a seaworthy vessel using only cardboard and duct tape. Parents, we encourage you to support your swimmers by offering guidance and helping troubleshoot - but let the kids take the lead. This is a chance for them to build, learn and get creative alongside their teammates. Stay tuned for more details in upcoming issues of the Newsplash!
- **Sea Otters Sleepover, July 5 (Rancho):** *Please fill out the interest form so we can make this event happen!* Get ready for a night of fun under the stars! The Sea Otters are hosting a poolside sleepover packed with swimming, games, a talent show and more! Don't miss this unforgettable night with your Sea Otter family. For more information, please contact [Alicia LaMarche](#) or [Allison Rice](#).
 - Important Tent Guidelines:
 - Swimmers age 12 and under must share a tent with their own parent.
 - Swimmers over age 12 may share a tent with a same-gender adult approved by their parent.
 - Prefer the open sky? You're also welcome to sleep under the stars (just bring your gear)!
 - There will be a cost for this event (TBD based on interest), so let us know if you're planning to join us by filling out the interest form [here](#) (link has been updated and is working!!)

SEA OTTERS MERCHANDISE

Merchandise Pre-Orders are here!

- All pre-ordered items (as well as personalized swim caps and swimmers' shirts) that have not yet been picked up will be available for pick up at the merchandise tent.

Did you miss pre-ordering gear?

- If so, please fill out this survey to see if we have enough interest for a second print run.
<https://forms.gle/gMigvLSMEoVLB4Ca6>

Sea Otters straw lifeguard hats are back!

- You can purchase at [Sea Otters Team Store](#) or the merchandise tent, located near the diving well at our home meet this week. Check out all of the great sale items available at the tent.

Team Swimsuits:

- The custom team suits will continue to be available to purchase at the [Agon Swimmer Storefront](#) throughout the summer, and can be shipped directly to you. To determine what swimsuit size to order, please reach out to our merchandise leads, [Amy & Kelly](#) with any questions, merch.stseaotters@gmail.com.
- Just a reminder that custom swimsuits are not required, but swimmers should wear suits in the team colors of navy, yellow and/or white to our swim meets. An alternate resource is [SwimOutlet](#), where you can get suits, team parkas, goggles and more. If purchased at the Sea Otters page, the team receives a small percentage of the sales.
<https://www.swimoutlet.com/collections/stseaotters>.

MAKE A SPLASH! SUPPORT OUR TEAM


- **Otter-Thon is back!** After a long break, the Otter-Thon is making a splash again — and we can't wait to see your team spirit in action!
 - When: Friday, June 13, 2025
 - Where: During your regular practice time (no Otter-Thon during make-up evening practices)

This fun, high-energy fundraiser is a great way to support the team. Swimmers will collect donations and earn tickets for awesome prize drawings — you choose which prizes to go for! Pledge sheets will be available at practice starting Monday, June 2. Let's make waves and bring the Otter-Thon back in style!

- **Weekly Prize Drawings:** Purchase tickets at our HOME meet this week for your chance to win!
- **Underwater Photos:** Victor Bittorf is once again offering action/underwater photo packages and will be donating a portion of the proceeds to the team. Photo sessions will take place at the Rancho ST pool Sunday, June 8th 9-12pm. - Reserve your spot [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 + friends): \$80 for up to 3 people and includes a 20 min photo session. You will receive 10 edited photo files.

Please note the payment information on the top of the form. Include parent name and swimmer name in your payment notes so we can confirm your reservation.

If you have questions or want to make a donation, contact [Tracy or Michelle](#) at stseaotters.fundraising@gmail.com.

 **SWEETEN THEIR SWIM:** Thank you so much to the families that have donated fun treats for our younger swimmers (ages 6–10)! We continue to invite families to help keep the smiles going by donating snacks, gift cards, or small contributions. Every bit helps support the kids and our amazing coaches! To contribute, please reach out to [Coach Kim](#) or drop off your contribution at the swim table near the entrance - thanks again for your support!

2025 SUMMER SCHEDULE

2025 Summer Practice Schedule June 11 - July 11 MONDAY-FRIDAY		
Age Group	Time	Coaches
13-18 Yellow	7:30am - 8:30am	Coaches Mark & David
13-18 Blue	8:30am - 9:30am	Coaches Mark & David
11-12	9:30am - 10:30am	Coach David
9-10	10:30am - 11:30am	Coaches Kim & Abi
7-8	11:30am - 12:15pm	Coaches David & Abi
6 & Under	11:30am - 12:15pm	Coach Abi
*Evening Practices MONDAY-THURSDAY		
All Ages	7:30pm - 8:15pm	Coach David
*Please note, evening practices will be reserved for swimmers who have camp/school/work conflicts that exclude them from attending their age groups' morning practice.		

TEAMUNIFY & MOBILE APP TIPS

We use a swim team management software called TeamUnify, which hosts our team website. For access, always use our team specific domain www.stseaotters.com. From there you can browse for general team information without logging in.

Log-in to:

- register your swimmer.
- see your volunteer shifts.
- sign-up your athlete for swim meets.

Please note: You must use the same email your family used for registration to log-in to Team Unify (TU). TU only supports one login email address per family.

SportsEngine Motion App: TeamUnify provides a FREE and simple-to-use mobile app called SportsEngine Motion, available in the App Store and on Google Play. Log-in to the app with the same credentials as the team website. Access app Tips-and-Tricks [here](#), and on our website.

Meet Mobile App: The MeetMobile App displays meet results during all home and some 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
[2025 season calendar](#)

Reference [Rancho Newsletters](#).

Follow us on Facebook - Santa Teresa Sea Otters

Santa Teresa Sea Otters Board Members

President, [Edie Fischer](#)

Vice President, [Dina Mansuy](#)

Treasurer, [Anuja Burns](#)

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Champs Liaison, [Lauren Sullivan](#)

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

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Membership, [Jennifer Fusilero](#)

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

New Otters Liaison, [Dina Mansuy](#)

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

Technical Records, [Kumar Virwani](#)

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

Web & Social Media, [Kimberly Ahlgren](#)

2025 SEASON ACTIVITIES/SCHEDULE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6/2-5: Otter Buddies Activity, at practice• 6/6: Secret Sea Otters Delivery #2• 6/7: Pinehurst @ Santa Teresa• 6/8: Underwater Photos Fundraiser (Rancho)• 6/9-13: Otter Buddies Activity, at practice• 6/11: Shift to Summer Practice Schedule (Wed)• 6/13: Secret Sea Otters Delivery #3• 6/14: Crossgates @ Santa Teresa• 6/16-20: Otter Buddies Activity, at practice• 6/18: Tie Dye, at practice• 6/20: Car Window Decorating (at practice) & Secret Sea Otters Delivery #4• 6/21: Santa Teresa @ Almaden | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6/23-27: Otter Buddies Activity, at practice• 6/24: Swim Up Movie Night (Rancho)• 6/27: Secret Sea Otters Delivery #5• 6/28: Creekside @ Santa Teresa• 6/28: Cardboard Boat Regatta, 5-7pm (Rancho)• 7/5: Sea Otters Sleepover! Details coming...• 7/7-11: Spirit Week, at practice• 7/11: Pancake Breakfast & Car Window Decorating, at practice• 7/11: Secret Sea Otters Delivery #6 and Reveal• 7/12: CHAMPS, hosted by Pinehurst• 7/14: Awards Night |
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