

## COMPETITION INFORMATION FOR SWIMMERS

for all and especially for new/recently joined swimmers.

The following points may help you to know about the competitions at HWI and in Hong Kong. All the information you need should also be on the Teamunify – but you are welcome to ask questions at any time – it is sometimes hard to understand at first. It is very important to look at all emails that reach you from Teamunify /GoMotion/Bev Wright!

On Teamunify – take a look at the Events page – it shows all the competitions coming up by date. When a new competition is put up on the site, it will send an email notification to all the squads. There is also a Competition calendar link on the Home Page which shows all the events for the year. The Competition ‘year’ runs **from April 1<sup>st</sup> to end of March of following year**. That is why swimmers are charged an annual fee during March of each year.

Types of Event:

### 1. **HKGSA – means Hong Kong China Swimming Association**

**Swimmers are registered for the HKGSA under the SCAA club – this means swimmers need to have an SCAA club membership also to compete in HKGSA meets.**

The HKGSA organize the following: Division 3, Division 2, Division 1, Age Group Championships, Open Championships. There is a Long course and a Short course series run through the year. The HKGSA year runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> to end of March each ‘year’. Swimmers need to be pre- registered to enter. Each meet has its own ‘pre-registration’ deadline as well as an event entry deadline. These dates are well in advance of the competition – that’s why we need swimmers to register with the HKGSA asap!

Each type of meet has its own qualifying times for each event according to age group. (and there are various other regulations)

You can sign up ‘yes’ as ‘available’ to compete – but final entries are the coaches decision -

Once a swimmers HKGSA REGISTRATION number is published to us we add this number to your Teamunify account – shown as ‘SWIMMER ID’ on your child’s profile. (if recently applied for HKGSA – the number may not be published yet – you can check with me the status) The HKGSA renew all registrations before the end of March each year (it has to be renewed whatever month you first registered)

### 2. **HWI organized meets – eg Sprint Meets and Time Trials**

These are the most important for new young swimmers and we encourage everyone to sign up for these, to obtain personal best times, and find out if you qualify for HKGSA meets.

### 3. **CASA meets** – these are organized by the Chinese Swimming Association – and a team is selected by coaches only – no need to sign up – but you may want to note the date if you are eligible. (must have one parent who is Chinese)

The annual fee paid in April by swimmers covers HKGSA registration costs, all entry fees, and any penalty fees for HKGSA competitions. It also enables HWI to run regular sprint meets for all squad swimmers.

Most events have an option to 'sign up yes or no' – signing up yes means you are **available for selection**. If you don't sign up – Coach may enter you anyway!

A week before the event entry deadline I will send a draft entry list to parents so you can confirm if you can or cannot attend.

When a young swimmer first join the team, the best competitions to look out for are the **HWI Sprint meets**. These are designed to be a relaxed and friendly introduction to competing, and enable swimmers to obtain personal best times, as well as practice skills learnt in training.

All new swimmers should be sent an HKGSA form after joining our squads. If you have not, or don't understand anything please let us know.

Once you have an HKGSA number it is stored on the swimmers Teamunify profile and is used to import the times swum in any competition.

The HKGSA meets all have qualifying times – all the Divisions and championships have a minimum time; Division 2 and Division 3 meets also have a maximum permitted time for each stroke/distance.

We also have another system called HyTek Team Manager – this system records all times of our swimmers and does not need a HKGSA ID number in order to store records. Any time you want a record of your child's times, you can ask us and we can send to you.

If a swimmer has been registered with a different HKGSA club before in Hong Kong – then he/she must 'transfer' to SCAA club once enrolled in our squads.