



## TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

1. The yearly team registration fee (which includes YMCA Swimming & Diving registration, and other required fees) is not refundable. The registration fee includes 3 team shirts and 1 latex team cap. The registration fee must be paid each year at the time of registration online and is good for 1 calendar year of the swim team (September 2024 - July 2025). When registering for the Rays swim team the YMCA Membership Joining Fee is waived. The YMCA joining fee is different than the registration fee for the swim team. By agreeing to this, I state that my swimmer(s) YMCA of Upper Palmetto membership will remain current and active while participating with the YMCA of Upper Palmetto RAYS swim team.
2. Training fees will be drafted from your account which you designate on the swimrays.com website under "My Account" and "Set Up Autopay" on a monthly basis. **YOU MUST SET THIS UP ON YOUR OWN; WE CAN NOT DO IT FOR YOU. THIS DRAFT IS DIFFERENT FROM THE YMCA DRAFT. PLEASE GO TO SWIMRAYS.COM, "My Account" and "Set up Autopay" to start monthly draft.** The draft will continue as long as your swimmer is swimming. If you wish to stop your draft, please email [raysadmin@ymcaup.org](mailto:raysadmin@ymcaup.org) or [jonathanmengerling@ymcaup.org](mailto:jonathanmengerling@ymcaup.org). If you request to stop the draft, your account will be deactivated, which means you swimmers spot will be released and filled with athletes on the waiting list. **A deactivated account also stops communication and ability to register as a returning swimmer for the next season.**
3. A Returning Swimmer is one who has remained active for the entire season – short course and long course. Returning swimmers will have priority registration when the registration period opens. If your swimmer cancels at any point in the season and wants to register the next season, they will register as a New Swimmer and a new placement swim will be required prior to registering. No registrations will be approved if a new placement swim has not been completed for cancelled swimmers who are wishing to return.
4. Meet entry fees are in addition to training fees. Meet entry fees will be charged to your billing account for each meet, **and will be drafted from your Payment Account on the Monday prior to the swim meet that weekend.** Exceptions only given in extenuating circumstances and a request must be emailed to Big Show.
5. **IF YOU DO NOT PAY YOUR TRAINING FEES, YOUR SWIMMER MAY NOT BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE UNTIL PAYMENT IS RECEIVED.** Access to meet signups will be disabled on all accounts with past due balances over 30 days and the athlete's account will be disabled.
6. If your payment is insufficient or cannot be processed for other reasons, you will be charged an NSF fee of \$25.00 per occurrence. You must pay any NSF fee together with the original amount due on or before the 10th of the following month, or your swimmer(s) will be marked inactive and will no longer be able to participate in practice or meets until payment is made.
7. If a swimmer decides to discontinue participation in the program with the RAYS, a termination form must be filled out and submitted. You may email [raysadmin@ymcaup.org](mailto:raysadmin@ymcaup.org) to obtain this form. There is a 15 day cancellation process and the remaining monthly training fee payments will be cancelled. Any outstanding meet entry fees, and any fees for unearned volunteer points are considered an obligation to the RAYS, and are payable upon termination of participation or will be drafted. If you do not meet this obligation, your info and amount owed will be sent to a collection agency

8. EACH FAMILY IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND TO ADHERE TO THE TERMS OF THE VOLUNTEER CONTRACT.
9. Swimmers will not be allowed to practice until the online registration process is complete, a group is assigned, and registration is approved by Rays staff.
10. Competing in Meets: The RAYS is a competitive swim team. As our team continues to grow and most groups have waitlists, competing in meets is expected in fairness to those who are on waitlists who are wanting to compete. Just as members of a football, baseball, softball teams are expected to compete, our competitive team is no different.

I understand and agree to the above terms and conditions of the RAYS in exchange for the privilege of my child(ren), registered with this form, participating in the activities and swimming program of the RAYS.



***\*\*\*Registration for the 2024-25 Season will open in August 1st for Returning Swimmers and August 15th for New Swimmers***

*If you are interested in joining the Rays, we encourage you to schedule a placement swim prior to registration so you will know what group you will be registering for when it opens. Feel free to contact [raysadmin@ymcaup.org](mailto:raysadmin@ymcaup.org) with any questions!*

***\*\*NEW SWIMMERS MUST HAVE COMPLETED A PLACEMENT SWIM IN ORDER TO REGISTER\*\****

***\*\*SWIMMERS WHO CANCELLED 2 MONTHS OR MORE PRIOR TO REGISTRATION MUST COMPLETE A NEW PLACEMENT SWIM WITH A RAYS COACH\*\****

Welcome to the **YMCA of Upper Palmetto Rays** Electronic Registration platform for our upcoming swim season! We are pleased to offer electronic registration. The process is simple for both new and returning members. You will complete the registration through your own private account which will enable you to easily declare for swim meets, sign up for volunteer jobs, see your children's swim times, watch coach-uploaded videos of your swimmers, maintain your contact information, access important information, receive team communications, and more. **Note that if you already have an account, you**

should log in to your existing account before registering. Also, please do not register your swimmers multiple times. Please update all your swimmer's info (t-shirt, etc)

**\*\*\* IMPORTANT NOTE FOR NEW SWIMMERS/FAMILIES \*\*\***

*All new swimmers need to register as soon as possible after their placement swim. If your swimmer has not had a placement swim, or if you have questions about their registration, please contact [raysadmin@ymcaup.org](mailto:raysadmin@ymcaup.org).*

*The registration is not complete until the registration payment is made by credit card directly online at the time of registration.*

*Attendance at practice is not allowed until you receive an email from the website confirming your approval.*

As part of the registration process, you will be required to agree to 5 separate pages: Medical Release, Release and Waiver of Legal Liability, Terms and Conditions for Participation, Code of Conduct, and Volunteer Contract. You can download a printable copy of these pages by clicking the link for a "printable copy" as you go through the registration screens. You will also be able to access them under the Member's Page on the website.

Three things to remember during this process:

**1. YMCA of Upper Palmetto membership must be current and active for your swimmer or family for your swimmer to be a part of the Rays Swim Team. This Membership must be active by the first practice attended by the swimmer and be active during your swimmers entire time with the team. Your swimmer must have a YMCA of Upper Palmetto specific membership, No nationwide memberships accepted for swim team participation. Swimmers are required to scan their membership card at all facilities to get into practice.**

2. YMCA Membership is a separate form/draft that is not included in this online process. It must be completed at the front desk of the Rock Hill Aquatics Center or your home YMCA branch. The YMCA joining fee is waived if you are joining the swim team.

3. The monthly draft for the swim team is separate from the monthly draft for your YMCA membership. The swim team draft runs through this website and must be set up on the website. Sign into the website; click on "My Account" and under "My Account" is "Setup Autopay." On this screen you can add a credit card or checking account to pay your monthly fees by electronic draft. **The only option for payment of your athletes training fees is online through autodraft on swimrays.com.**

We look forward to having you join the **YMCA of Upper Palmetto Rays** and are excited for another great season!



### **SWIM (VOLUNTEER) Program**

### ***SWIM Program - Success With Involvement Members Program***

The YMCA of Upper Palmetto RAYS swim team is a family-supported organization with the overall success of the team determined by the involvement of its families. A key factor in our success is the number of meets we are able to host.

### **BENEFITS OF HOSTING MEETS:**

- Hosting meets raises money for our team which allows us to offer our swimmers reduced training fees. The Rays monthly training fee for all groups when broken down per hour of offered practice is one of the most cost-effective youth sports programs in the area.
- Eliminates the travel expenses of gas, food, hotel, etc. associated with coaches needing to travel to meets to support your swimmers. This also eliminates these travel expenses for you and your family as well

- Allows parents to become more involved in our sport and our team; this is a community-based sport. We want everyone to be involved!
- When you volunteer, most employers in the area will offer compensation for your volunteer hours directly to the non-profit you are volunteering for (Duke Energy, Bank of America, Microsoft). Again, allowing the YMCA to offer this great program at such a great cost.

***However, to enjoy these benefits, hosting meets at our facilities requires involvement from all families for every home meet. (Mini Rays excluded)***

We use a "participate and reward" volunteer system called the SWIM program. This system gives families the opportunity to choose how and when they want to get involved. This is a points-based system with the minimum number of points set at an easily achieved standard. The standard for each year is based on the number of days of swim meets that we host. Families which exceed the minimum number of points will be eligible for rewards at the end of the year.

**Mark your Calendar!** We will be holding an Intersquad Meet in September which will include information for parents regarding the volunteering system. Families will learn what opportunities are available, as well as how and when to sign up for them. Look for information regarding volunteer training in early September.

Families can earn volunteer points by working at meets and in other ways as well. In addition to working at meets, points can be earned by volunteering at Team Events (Christmas Party, New Year's Breakfast, Mini Rays Meets etc) or by performing certain other tasks which are not meet-related but are needed to run the team. There are opportunities for everyone... JUST ASK! ([raysadmin@upymca.org](mailto:raysadmin@upymca.org))

The minimum volunteer point requirement for the season **REGARDLESS OF PARTICIPATION IN MEETS** is calculated as follows:

- 120 Points: Short Course Season (September – April)
- 30 Points: Long Course Season (late April-July)

If your swimmer is participating in the Long Course Season, 30 of the 150 points are required to be obtained during the long course season regardless of how many points were obtained in short course.

The point requirement has been calculated to include the running of bigger meets. These meets include:

**\*\*\*The Rock Classic (January); Palmetto State Championship (March); Rays of Sunshine Invitational (June), SC Senior State Meet \*\*\***

### **Rewards**

All families who achieve at least the minimum number of points will be entered into a drawing for a reward. Rewards will range from reduced program fees to team apparel.

In addition, those who go above and beyond earning 200, 300, 400 points and up will be placed into a category of Bronze, Silver, or Gold depending on the number of points you have exceeded and will automatically be put into a drawing to receive reduced training fees for the next season.

### **Important Information**

1. All families are required to volunteer a minimum of one session of a meet that your swimmer is swimming in. While all swimmers are encouraged to compete, competition is required in most groups. Hosting swim meets significantly reduces training fees for every swimmer, all families are asked to help at all meets possible.

The point requirement must be met regardless of your swimmer's participation in meets to avoid a fee.

2. Each family will only receive credit for the number of volunteer positions they actually signed up for and completed. If both parents want to work, please sign up for two spots.

At certain meets, particularly smaller meets, the number of signups may be limited to 1 per family.

Points for volunteer positions are calculated based on one session (approximately 4 hours) being worth 10 points.

3. The penalty for not meeting the 150 point minimum (120 points during short course and 30 during long course) will be a fee of up to \$500 charged to your Rays billing account at the end of your swimmer's enrollment for the season.

If you are charged a volunteer fee, your swimmer will not be eligible to register for the next season until the fee is paid.

4. At each meet there will be a Volunteer Check In table for you to sign in for your volunteer role when you arrive at the pool. It is your responsibility to make sure that you have signed in properly and that you stay until the completion of the task.

5. Families who sign up for a volunteer position and find that they cannot volunteer must remove their names from the signups prior to the time that volunteer signups are closed or contact [\*\*raysadmin@ymcaup.org\*\*](mailto:raysadmin@ymcaup.org). This will allow other families to sign up for those spots.

6. Each family can track their volunteer points in their account during the year. Each family is responsible for verifying after each meet that credit was properly allocated online. If there is an error, please email [\*\*raysadmin@ymcaup.org\*\*](mailto:raysadmin@ymcaup.org)

7. We appreciate all of the support that you and your family give to the program to run successful home meets!

Without family and community support we are not able to host the quality meets that we host.

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I understand the SWIM program and will abide by the terms of the program.

I understand that if I do not meet the minimum 150 points requirement (120 for short course and 30 for long course) for volunteering that my account will be billed up to \$500 at the end of the swimmer's enrollment for the season.

I understand by clicking the check box that if my child is in any one of the following groups; Atlantic Rays, Blue Rays, Electric Rays, Manta Rays, Pre-Senior 2, Pre-Senior 1, Senior 2, and Senior 1; that **regardless of my intentions for my child to compete or not, we agree to abide by this contract.**

\*If you are in the **Mini Rays** program you are not required to fulfill these requirements unless your swimmer is entered into any of the CYSL or USA Swimming meets. If your swimmer starts to compete in these competitions the volunteer coordinator will generate a point total for you based on the time that your swimmer starts competing. \*