
	RAYS NUTCRACKER CLASSIC Nov. 30-Dec. 3, 2023 SANCTION NO. VS-24-38	Hosted by  Stingrays Swim Team
SANCTION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Held under the sanction of USA Swimming/Virginia Swimming, Inc., SANCTION NO: VS-24-38 USA Swimming, Inc., Virginia Swimming, Inc., Stingrays Swim Team and Jeff Rouse Swim and Sport Center shall be held free and harmless from any and all liabilities or claims for damages arising by reason of injuries to anyone during the conduct of this event. In applying for this sanction, the Host, Stingrays Swim Team, agrees to comply and to enforce all health and safety mandates and guidelines of USA Swimming, Virginia Swimming, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and Stafford County. 	
LOCATION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jeff Rouse Swim and Sport Center, 1600 Mine Rd., Stafford VA 22554, Phone: 804-387-1279 	
FACILITY:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Jeff Rouse Swim and Sport Center provides 2 indoor pools and supporting amenities including hospitality and concession stand. Eight lanes, 50-meter competition pool, 12 feet deep at the start end and 6.7 feet at the turn end; overflow gutters with non-turbulent lane markers. All sessions will be run in a 25 yd course. Indoor 6 lane 25-yard pool for continuous warm-up, cool-down. Non-Turbulent Lane Markers in both pools. Spectator seating for 700 plus The competition course has been certified in accordance with current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, Article 104.2.2C (4). The copy of the certification is on file with USA Swimming. There will be lifeguards and additional Aquatics staff along with 2 AED located on the opposite sides of the pool deck. In order to provide parents/guardians who are outside of the facility the ability to view their athletes' events, this meet may be video streamed following all MAAPP guidelines. By attending or participating in this competition, you acknowledge and grant permission to be included in the video-streaming. 	
MEET DIRECTOR:	Name: Megan Struder Email: meetdirector@swimrays.org Phone: 540-295-2087	
ELIGIBILITY:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to all USA Swimming athletes registered before the first day of the meet. No on deck USA Swimming athlete registration will be permitted. 2021-2024 NAG time standards are in effect. Age on November 30, 2023 will determine age for the entire meet. 	
DISABILITY SWIMMERS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athletes with a disability are welcome and shall provide advance notice of desired accommodations to the Meet Director. The athlete (or the athlete's coach) is also responsible for notifying the session referee of any disability prior to the competition. 	
FORMAT:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thursday: PM Distance Session – all events will be swum as Timed Finals. Friday, Saturday & Sunday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AM Sessions: 13 & Over Preliminaries Afternoon Sessions: 12 & Under Preliminaries Evening Sessions: Finals for all Ages All events Friday, Saturday, and Sunday will be swum in prelims/finals format with the exception of the 13 & Over 1000 freestyle. All relays will be Timed Finals and swum in the preliminary sessions. There will be a 5 min break after the relays and before relay events 5-6, 25-26, and 81-82. There will also be a 5 min break prior to the start of the 1000 Free Events 99-100 (13 & Over 1000 Free) may be limited to 32 Girls and 32 Boys depending on the timeline. Teams will be notified no later than Tuesday, November 21, 2023 of event limitations. Dependent upon the number of entries received, the meet referee may decide to utilize two courses. Teams will be notified no later than Monday, November 27, 2023 if two courses will be used. 	

	<p>FINALS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13-14 Events – Top 16 (two heats) • 15 & Over Events – Top 24 (3 heats) with the C final limited to 15-16 swimmers only. • 13 & Over Events (400 IM and 500 Free) – Top 16 (two heats) regardless of age • 13 & Over 1000 Free Top 8 swimmers swim in finals. • 12 & Under events Top 8 11-12 and Top 8 10 & Unders swimmers. • 11-12 Events (200 Breast, Fly, and Back) - Top 8 Only.
<p>WARM-UP:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Warm-ups start at 3:30PM; competition starts at 5:00PM • Friday, Saturday & Sunday: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 13 & O session: Warm-ups start at 6:30AM; competition starts at 8:15AM. ◦ 12 & U session: Warm-ups start no earlier than 11:00AM; competition starts no earlier than 12:00PM. ◦ Finals: Warm-ups start no earlier than 4:00PM; competition starts no earlier than 5:00PM. • Lane assignments and warm-up times will be posted on the RAYS website - www.swimrays.org, no later than Sunday, November 26, 2023. • If any session runs long, warm-ups for the following session(s) will begin immediately after the final event of the preceding session finishes.
<p>ENTRIES:</p>	<p>DEADLINE FOR THE RECEIPT OF ENTRIES IS Tuesday, November 21, 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entries must be submitted in SCY times using Commlink-2 software. teams submit entries via email. • Coach Time (CT) and “No Time” (NT) will be accepted for events in which a swimmer does not have a time of record. <u>CT must be slower than an “A” time.</u> All entry times other than CT must have been achieved in USA Swimming sanctioned, approved, or observed competition. • Swimmers may enter a maximum of 3 <i>individual events per day but no more than 7 events for the meet.</i> • Entries will be processed in the order received and <u>accepted to</u> the greatest extent possible without exceeding the 4-hour/session timeline limit or the limits as mandated by current Commonwealth of Virginia guidelines. • Email entries to: Anthony Pedersen: meetentries@swimrays.org, phone: 703-919-5889 • Deck entries will be accepted in the order received for swimmers already entered in the meet, to the extent that open lanes are available. No additional heats will be added. Deck entries must be submitted to the Administrative Official on the provided forms.
<p>FEES:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual events: \$12.00 • Relay events: \$25.00 • Swimmer surcharge: \$2.50 per person (entered in the meet in any capacity) • Checks should be made payable to: RAYS. • Mail payment to: Debby Martinich, PO BOX 866, Stafford VA 22555 • Payment must be received by November 28, 2023 for all entries. Failure to pay entry fees by this deadline could result in teams being barred from the meet. • IMPORTANT: If payment is sent via Express Mail/FedEx/Airborne/UPS/etc., please ensure that a signature is NOT required for delivery.
<p>SEEDING:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary events will be pre-seeded. • Events 1-2 (12 & Under 500 free), 3-4 (13 & Over 1650 free), and 99-100 (13 & Over 1000 Free) will be swum fastest to slowest. All other events will be swum slowest to fastest. • Fastest heat of the 13 & Over 1000 free will be swum in Finals. • Positive check-in for events 1-2 (12 & Under 500 free) 3-4 (13 & Over 1650 free), 29-30 (13 & Over 400 IM), 65-66 (13 & Over 500 free) and 99-100 (13 & Over 1000 free). Deadline for Thursday events will be 4:30pm and Friday, Saturday and Sunday events at 8:15am. • The scratch procedures listed in the current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, Article 207.11.6, sections D and E.1-.3 only, will be in effect and apply to all heats of individual events with the exception of timed final events. Swimmers not adhering to these modified rules shall be barred from further competition for the remainder of the meet.
<p>AWARDS:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual and relay events: Medals will be awarded for 1st-3rd places and ribbons for 4th-8th places. • 13 & Over events will be given separate awards for 13-14 and 15-18 age groups. • 12 & Under events will be given separate awards for 11-12 and 10 & Under age groups.

RULES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The current USA Swimming Rules and Regulations including the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy will govern this meet. • All adults participating in or associated with this meet, acknowledge that they are subject to the provisions of the USA Swimming Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP) and that they understand that compliance with MAAPP is a condition of participation in the conduct of this competition. • Any swimmer entered in the meet must be certified by a USA-S member coach as being proficient in performing a racing start or must start each race from within the water. When unaccompanied by a member-coach, it is the responsibility of the swimmer or the swimmer's legal guardian to ensure compliance with this requirement. • Operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas, spectator areas and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present without written USA Swimming approval. • Use of audio or visual recording devices, including cell phones, is not permitted in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms. In addition, photography behind the blocks is <u>not permitted</u>. • Changing, in whole or in part, into or out of swimsuit when wearing just one suit in an area other than in a locker room, bathroom, or other space designated for changing is PROHIBITED. • In accordance with VSI Best Practices, swimmers should shower before entering the pool. • An athlete suspected of sustaining a concussion or exhibiting signs of a concussion will immediately be removed from competition and shall not return to competition that day. The athlete may return to competition on a subsequent day, but only with a release authorization signed by a licensed healthcare provider. • In accordance with VSI Policy, only those coaches who have current, valid USA Swimming credentials will be permitted to act in a coaching capacity at this meet. Coaches with expired or non-current credentials will be required to leave the deck area.
PENALTIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fine of up to \$100 per event may be assessed for any illegal participation in the meet. Illegal participation is defined as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entries using fraudulent or non-verifiable times. • Athlete competed in the incorrect age group. • Athlete is not registered with USA Swimming prior to the first day of the meet • If the swimmer is representing a club in competition, the fine will be levied on the Club. If the swimmer is unattached, the fine will be levied on the swimmer. • Any event in which an athlete participated illegally will be rescored and re-awarded.
OFFICIALS:	<p>MEET REFEREE: Michael Sizemore Email: mcsizemore@gmail.com Phone: 540-834-8120</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officials will be needed for all positions and all sessions for this meet. • Training for Officials will be offered in accordance with Training Guidelines and Initial Certification, Virginia Swimming Officials Handbook. • Officials are asked to sign up to support the meet at the following link by Monday, November 27, 2023. 2023 Nutcracker Classic Officials Sign up • Questions should be directed to Bill Fairfax at billf574@gmail.com, or to the Meet Referee. • Officials' meetings will be held at least one hour prior to the start of each session. • There will be a coaches' meeting at 8:00 am on Friday, December 1, 2023.
SAFETY:	<p>MEET SAFETY OFFICER: Megan Struder Email: meetdirector@swimrays.org Phone: 540-295-2087</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virginia Swimming Meet Safety Procedures will be in effect.
TIMERS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs will be required to provide timers in proportion to the number of swimmers they have entered in each session. • Athletes must supply their own timer for events 1-8 and 99-100. Athletes must supply their own counter for events 1-4, 65-66 and 99-100. • The number of timers required per club and their lane assignments will be posted on the www.swimrays.org website, no later than Monday, November 27, 2023 and will also be emailed to the contact person of each of the individual clubs. • Timers' meeting will be held approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of each session.

GENERAL:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimmer/Spectator Conduct: Each club is responsible for supervising the conduct of its swimmers/spectators. • Deck Access: Limited to athletes, coaches with their credentials, officials, timers and individuals helping work the meet. • Team Areas: Seating is available on deck for the swimmers. • Heat Sheets: Will be posted on our website, around the facility and on Meet Mobile. • Snack Bar: Concessions will be available for purchase through JRSSC. • Swim Supplies: Sport Fair will be available for swim supply purchases. Fine Design will be available for meet t-shirts. • First Aid: See Lifeguard for assistance. • Lost and Found: Check with the front desk for lost and found items. • Hospitality: Will be open throughout the days.
FACILITY RULES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No glass containers of any kind are permitted in the facility. • Lawn/deck chairs are not permitted in the grandstand • No smoking is allowed on the campus. • All pool rules are posted pool side. • No flash photography.
DIRECTIONS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go to MapQuest.com for directions.

NUTCRACKER CLASSIC ORDER OF EVENTS

Thursday and Friday Events

Thursday Distance Session 1 Warm-up: 3:30pm; Competition Start 5:00pm		
<u>Girls</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Boys</u>
1	12 & Under 500 Free	2
3	13 & Over 1650 Free	4
5	13-14 800 Free Relay	6
7	15 & Over 800 Free Relay	8

Friday 13 & Over Prelims Session 2 Warm-up 6:30am; Start 8:15am			Friday 12 & Under Prelims Session 3 Warm-up no earlier than 11:00am; Start no earlier than 12:00pm		
<u>Girls</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Boys</u>
9	13-14 400 Medley Relay	10	31	9-10 200 Medley Relay	32
11	15 & Over 400 Medley Relay	12	33	11-12 400 Medley Relay	34
13	13-14 200 Free	14	35	12 & Under 200 Free	36
15	15 & Over 200 Free	16	37	12 & Under 50 Breast	38
17	13-14 100 Breast	18	39	12 & Under 100 Fly	40
19	15 & Over 100 Breast	20	41	12 & Under 50 Back	42
21	13-14 100 Fly	22	43	11-12 200 Breast	44
23	15 & Over 100 Fly	24			
25	13-14 200 Free Relay	26			
27	15 & Over 200 Free Relay	28			
29	13 & Over 400 IM	30			

Friday Finals Session Session 4 Warm-up no earlier than 4:00pm; Start no earlier than 5:00pm		
<u>Girls</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Boys</u>
35	12 & Under 200 Free	36
13	13-14 200 Free	14
15	15 & Over 200 Free	16
37	12 & Under 50 Breast	38
17	13-14 100 Breast	18
19	15 & Over 100 Breast	20
39	12 & Under 100 Fly	40
21	13-14 100 Fly	22
23	15 & Over 100 Fly	24
41	12 & Under 50 Back	42
29	13 & Over 400 IM	30
43	11-12 200 Breast	44

Saturday Events

Saturday 13 & Over Prelims Session Session 5 Warm-up: 6:30am Start: 8:15am			Saturday 12 & Under Prelim Session Session 6 Warm-up no earlier than 11:00am; Start no earlier than 12:00pm		
Girls	Events	Boys	Girls	Events	Boys
45	13 -14 400 Free Relay	46	67	10 & Under 200 Free Relay	68
47	15 & Over 400 Free Relay	48	69	11-12 400 Free Relay	70
49	13-14 200 Fly	50	71	11-12 200 Fly	72
51	15 & Over 200 Fly	52	73	12 & Under 50 Free	74
53	13-14 50 Free	54	75	12 & Under 100 Breast	76
55	15 & Over 50 Free	56	77	12 & Under 100 Back	78
57	13-14 200 Breast	58	79	12 & Under 100 IM	80
59	15 & Over 200 Breast	60	81	11-12 200 Medley Relay	82
61	13-14 100 Back	62			
63	15 & Over 100 Back	64			
65	13 & Over 500 Free	66			

Saturday Finals Session Session 7 Warm-up no earlier than 4:00pm; Start no earlier than 5:00pm		
Girls	Events	Boys
71	11-12 200 Fly	72
49	13-14 200 Fly	50
51	15 & Over 200 Fly	52
73	12 & Under 50 Free	74
53	13-14 50 Free	54
55	15 & Over 50 Free	56
75	12 & Under 100 Breast	76
57	13-14 200 Breast	58
59	15 & Over 200 Breast	60
77	12 & Under 100 Back	78
61	13-14 100 Back	62
63	15 & Over 100 Back	64
79	12 & Under 100 IM	80
65	13 & Over 500 Free	66

Sunday Events

Sunday 13 & Over Prelim Session Session 8 Warm-up 6:30am; Start: 8:15am			Sunday 12 & Under Prelim Session Session 9 Warm-up no earlier than 11:00am; Start no earlier than 12:00pm		
<u>Girls</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Boys</u>
83	13-14 200 Medley Relay	84	101	11-12 200 Free Relay	102
85	15 & Over 200 Medley Relay	86	103	11-12 200 Back	104
87	13-14 200 Back	88	105	12 & Under 100 Free	106
89	15 & Over 200 Back	90	107	12 & Under 50 Fly	108
91	13-14 100 Free	92	109	12 & Under 200 IM	110
93	15 & Over 100 Free	94			
95	13-14 200 IM	96			
97	15 & Over 200 IM	98			
99	13 & Over 1000 Free	100			

Sunday Finals Session Session 10 Warm-up no earlier than 4:00pm Start no earlier than 5:00pm		
<u>Girls</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Boys</u>
99	13 & Over 1000 Free	100
103	11-12 200 Back	104
87	13-14 200 Back	88
89	15 & Over 200 Back	90
105	12 & Under 100 Free	106
91	13-14 100 Free	92
93	15 & Over 100 Free	94
107	12 & Under 50 Fly	108
95	13-14 200 IM	96
97	15 & Over 200 IM	98
109	12 & Under 200 IM	110