

## **New Entry Procedure for all Purple & Gold Meets**

1 message

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New Entry Procedure for all Purple & Gold Meets

Hello WCAB Purple and Gold Group Swimmers and Families,

We face several challenges regarding meets for our Purple and Gold Group swimmers.

- A large percentage of our Purple and Gold Group swimmers are not participating in meets. Competition is fun and an integral part of the swim experience. All WCAB swimmers are expected to compete in meets.
- Zone 2 Age Group Meets are filling up within hours of opening, and we have not been successful in getting many of our swimmers into those meets (7 into the SRVA C/B/BB+ Meet on May 10, and 12 into the MONT Pentathlon Meet on May 18).
- We want to improve the meet experience for our Purple and Gold Group swimmers. Meets are much more fun when everyone is competing. Other than the Block Party Meets, we rarely have a 'whole' group at any meet because many swimmers who plan to compete are unable when meets fill so quickly. We are going to expand the Block Party Meets to involve another team or two. Those will be updated on the schedule as soon as those are confirmed.

To address these challenges, we are changing the way we handle meet entries for Age Group Meets.

All entries will go through our website, www.aquabears.org.

An entry deadline will be posted on the meet schedule and associated with each meet. Each swimmer is already pre-entered for all days of each meet that their practice group is assigned. Families may opt-out of any day that their swimmer cannot attend (before the entry deadline) on www.aquabears.org. On the homepage, there is a list of Swim Meets. You can bring up all meets by clicking the 'More Events' button at the bottom the meet list. Be aware that the Senior meets will also be listed. Be sure to find the Age Group Meet that you are looking for, and then:

If your swimmer *can attend all days of a meet*, then you don't have to do anything before the entry deadline.

If your swimmer *can only attend certain days of a meet*, then keep the 'Declaration' as "Yes, please sign-up [name] for this event," and in the Notes section, please write a specific note saying which days the swimmer *can* attend. For example, "Johnny can only attend Saturday." Then click the 'Save Changes' button.

If your swimmer *cannot attend the meet at all*, then change the 'Declaration' drop down menu to "No, thanks, [name] will NOT attend this event." Then click the 'Save Changes' button.

After the entry deadline passes, coaches will select appropriate events for each swimmer, based on ability and time standards, and compile an electronic meet entry file to submit as soon as online entries open. This will guarantee that *either* all our swimmers will be entered, *or* that none of swimmers will be entered - allowing us time to come up with an alternative competition plan.

Swimmers will only be entered into meets and events for which they have met the entry time standard for.

Coaches will consider the strokes and distances of races that are appropriate for each swimmer. The coaches will not enter swimmers into strokes and distances of races that they are not ready for (and will not let swimmers shy away from any strokes and distances of races that they are prepared and ready for).

## Here is how each type of meet will be handled:

**Block Party Meets:** the entry deadline will be *one Friday* before the meet. These meets do not have entry time standards - all swimmers are eligible to swim. There are no entry fees for these meets.

**Dual, Tri, or Invitational Meets:** the entry deadline will be determined on a meet-to-meet basis. These deadlines will be published on the Purple and Gold Meet Schedule as soon as possible. Dual and Tri meets generally do not have entry time standards - all swimmers are eligible to swim. Invitationals often have entry time standards - we will post that info for these meets. Once our entry file is uploaded, paid, and accepted (usually two Wednesdays before the meet), then entry fees will be charged to each entered family.

Zone 2 Age Group Meets (C/B/BB+, Last Chance B+, Zone 2 Champs): the entry deadline will be *six Sundays* before the first day of the meet. C/B/BB+ meets do not have entry time standards - all swimmers are eligible to swim (the letters mean that individual awards are given in three levels for each event: swimmers with C (slower than B) times, swimmers with B times, and swimmers with BB+ times). Winter Zone 2 Champs and Last Chance B+ meets have entry time standards - meaning you must have a B time or faster to enter an event. Summer Zone 2 Champs is B+/FW-meet, meaning you have to have a B time or faster, but not a FW time, to enter. Once our entry file is uploaded, paid, and accepted (usually *five Mondays* before the first day of the meet), then entry fees will be charged to each entered family.

Pacific Swimming Meets (14&Un Champs, Far Westerns): the entry deadline will be six Sundays before the first day of the meet (swimmers who qualify after the entry deadline will be added to the team entry, so make sure to enter their availability before the entry deadline). These meets have entry time standards - meaning you must have an 'AGC' or 'FW' time or faster to enter an event. Once our entry file is uploaded, paid, and accepted (usually two Wednesdays before the first day of the meet), then entry fees will be charged to each entered family.

The meets for the rest of summer are set up on the website. You can click here to see the Purple & Gold Group Meet Schedule. Each swimmer is already pre-entered for all days of each meet that their practice group is assigned.

Please take the time to make any changes before the entry deadline for each meet.

You can click here to see the Purple & Gold Group Weekly Reminders page. To help keep track of these deadline dates, I have added a sequential list of entry deadlines. You can also find a link to printable time standards, and a copy of this email for future use.

There are two entry deadlines this week:

Fri, 4/25, is the deadline for the WCAB Block Party Meet on 4/30 Sun, 4/27, is the deadline for the OAPB C/B/BB+ Meet on 6/7 to 8

If you have any questions, please ask your swimmer's coach.

Thank you,

Todd

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