



## **Mission**

It is the mission of the Jennings County Swim Club (JCSC) to provide individuals in the Jennings County Community with the opportunity to participate in formal, structured swimming programs, designed to meet the needs of children and young adults.

At JCSC, we offer learning opportunities for swimmers of any caliber, with the intention of giving each swimmer the skills they need to make improvements in their swimming for years to come.

In this packet you will find numerous informational pieces, if for any reason you have questions that have not been covered in this packet, please feel free to ask your swimmer's group coach. If you have questions or concerns regarding the swim club, please ask one of the board members. The issue or question may not be resolved immediately; however all issues and questions will be addressed.

JCSC is a not for profit, 501c3 organization.

### **Board Members:**

**President:** *Deanna Jackson*

**Vice President:** *Lori Brown*

**Treasurer:** *Jenny Vogel*

**Secretary:** *Susie Webster*

**Meet Chair:** *Elizabeth Kirchner*

**Uniform Chair:** *Amanda Vogel*

**Board Member:** *Tonya Moore*

**Board Member:** *Randy Koons*

## **Organization**

JCSC is a competitive swim program affiliated with USA Swimming, and the Local Swim Committee (LSC) Indiana Swimming. USA Swimming and Indiana Swimming are the governing bodies. *All Swimmers are required to be members of USA swimming.*

JSCS offers two swimming seasons, winter and summer; both seasons participate in USA sanctioned swim meets.

In the summer season JCSC also participates in SEISA (South Eastern Indiana Swimming Association). SEISA meets are NOT USA Swimming sanctioned, therefore times do not count towards time standards or divisional or state cuts. The other local teams that participate in SEISA are Milan, Hidden Valley, Madison, Greensburg, and Batesville. SEISA meets are always dual meets against one of the other teams and are held weekday evenings. JCSC will also host a few of the SEISA meets. At the end of the SEISA season there is a championship meet where all teams participate together.

## **USA SANCTIONED EVENT**

- Meet must be conducted under USA Swimming technical and administrative rules.
- All times achieved will be recognized by USA Swimming.
- All participants must be registered members of USA Swimming (including meet host, meet director, safety director, marshals, coaches, officials (excluding timers), athletes, and participating clubs).
- Full insurance coverage is in effect (excess medical and general liability) for all registered members of USA Swimming. General Liability coverage is in effect for the meet host and volunteers.

**Short Course** –Winter Season: Short Course refers to a pool length of 25 yards

**Long Course** –Summer Season: Long Course refers to a pool length of 50 meters

## **Groups**

JCSC offers 5 group levels: Guppies, Beginning Minnows, Competitive Minnows, Dolphins, and Sharks. Each swimmer will be placed in a group based on skill level, not age.

## **Practices**

Each group has its own practice schedule, designed by the coaching staff. Attendance is not mandatory. Your swimmer's ability to swim faster is directly affected by attendance at practice, it is recommended that a swimmer attends at least 60-75% of scheduled workouts to show continued improvement.

## **Inclement Weather**

In the event of inclement weather, the club follows the school corporation's schedule. If there is no school or school is dismissed early, there will be no club practices. Any schedule changes made with practices is communicated through text messaging. Please make sure your numbers are on file with the club in order to receive the messages.

## **Parents at Practices**

Parents are always welcome to sit and watch practices in the bleacher section of the pool. \*\*\* Parents or Non swimmers are **NOT ALLOWED** on the pool deck for insurance liability purposes. Non-swimming children are also **NOT ALLOWED** on the pool deck. Please also ensure that they are not left unsupervised in the stands and they are not allowed to play in the hallways. If you have questions for the coaching staff please wait until practice is over.

## **Mailboxes**

Each swimmer will have a "mailbox" (hanging file folder). These folders are located in the cart in the bleacher area. These will be used for communication between the club and the swimmer/parents. Ribbons, meet information, billing notices, and other club announcements will be placed in these folders.

*It is the responsibility of each family to retrieve the items from their swimmer's folder and be aware of club announcements. Please check your folders at least once a week.*

## **Try-outs and Practice Trial Period**

During swim try-outs our coaching staff will evaluate your child's swimming ability. Your child will be placed in the proper group based on the coaching staff's recommendations. At anytime throughout the season (winter or summer) if you believe, or are curious, whether your child is ready to move to the next group level, we encourage you to discuss the issue with your child's coach. With so many swimmers and varying degrees of program commitment, coaches sometimes rely on the parents and swimmers to initiate discussion on advancement. The swimmers current coach and next level coach will confer and make the final decision. If the recommendation is not to advance the swimmer, the coaches will help the swimmer set the appropriate goals to make moving up feasible.

All swimmers are given a one week trial period. The first week please have patience as some swimmers may be moved around within/between groups. Our coaches are learning each swimmers skill, abilities and adjusting the groups accordingly. In the case that a swimmer is moved up a level, this may require additional fees in accordance with the next level group fees.

## **Outreach Program**

If your swimmer qualifies for free and reduced lunch program at school, then they also qualify for a reduction of the USA swimming fee (with the proper documentation from your child's school). The fee will be reduced from \$61 to \$7.

## **Pro-Rating Fees**

JCSC will pro-rate club fees for swimmers who join the team after the start of the season. All other fees are to be paid in full. (USA Swimming Fee) These rates will be pro-rated to the nearest week and calculated based on the group fees. Once the swimmer begins, club fees will not be adjusted for missed practices, illnesses, etc.

## **Financial Standing**

Any swimmer, whose fees or any additional paperwork requirements (birth certificate, free/reduced statement) that have NOT been submitted to the club treasurer by the end of the first week will be considered in non-compliant status and will NOT be permitted to continue swimming until all fees or paperwork has been submitted.

## **When is My Child Ready for a Swim Meet?**

We encourage ALL swimmers' to participate in every meet that JCSC swim club participates in as group. Ask your swimmer's coach if your child is ready to participate in a meet. The coach's can help determine which events your swimmer is ready to undertake.

USA swim meets are optional but SEISA meets are **MANDATORY**. All Competitive Minnows, Dolphins and Sharks will be expected to participate in all SEISA meets, home & away. If you have a Beginning Minnow and think they may be ready to participate in a swim meet too, check with your swimmer's coach, we love having as many swimmers as possible representing the club at meets!

As mentioned before SEISA meets are through the weekday evenings in the summer. The meets are dual meets against: Milan, Hidden Valley, Madison, Greensburg, and Batesville. **THESE MEETS ARE MANDATORY.**

SEISA meets are free to all swimmers and is great way to introduce beginning swimmers to competitive swimming. These meets are more laid back and a fun atmosphere, younger swimmers love getting ribbons!

JCSC will also host meets, parent participation is also **MANDATORY** for these home meets. There will be various job positions that will need to be filled in order to run a smooth swim meet. Those job descriptions will be posted at a later date.

At anytime you have conflicts that will prevent you from participating in any SEISA meets; you must let your swimmers coach now ASAP.

## **Meet Entry Forms**

SEISA meet events will be picked for your swimmer by the coaches. SEISA meets are **FREE** to all swimmers.

USA meets will have a form to fill out that is posted on the website [jeswim.org](http://jeswim.org) Please read carefully and follow all instructions on how to enter your swimmer. Again if you have questions as to which events, ask your swimmer's coach which events are recommended. USA meets have an additional cost aside from the initial registration fees. Once you have committed to a USA meet an invoice will be given to you or put in your "Mailbox" with the charges for each meet. USA meets are NON-REFUNDABLE. Each event is \$4.00, \$10.00 Coach Fee (per day) and \$2.00 Indiana Swim fee charge. All payments are required in full prior to the meet. *Please be mindful of the enrollment deadlines and act accordingly!*

## **Transportation**

Transportation to and from meets is to be provided be families. *A parent or guardian must accompany any swimmer participating in any swim meet.* In the event a parent or guardian cannot attend, other arrangements must be made with another JCSC family to supervise the swimmer. Coaches are not permitted to transport individual swimmers for any reason.

## New to Swim Meets

Relax –Swim are fun! The best thing to do is ask a “seasoned” swim meet parent what to expect. Some things to keep in mind:

- ❖ *Pick up your swimmer’s meet information the week of the meet in your swimmer’s “mailbox”. Generally this will be a three page packet with a list of events your child has been entered in, a meet instructions and directions sheet. Read all the meet information. If you have questions –ASK!*
- ❖ *Ask which coach will be attending the meet.*
- ❖ *Arrive well before the scheduled warm-up time for the AM or PM session, not the meet start time. Your child must be signed in and the host team will have a designated area for the sign-in sheets. Failure to sign in will result in your swimmer being scratched from the session and possibly the meet. If this happens or you believe there is an error, find and speak with the attending coach immediately!*
- ❖ *Mark your child’s events in permanent marker on their arm or leg, and explain the events.*
- ❖ *Have your swimmer locate and report to their coach. The coaches will tell them where they are camping as a team and which lane they are to warm-up in.*
- ❖ ***PARENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON DECK OR IN THE LOCKER ROOMS FOR ANY REASON FOR INSURANCE REASONS!!!***
- ❖ *Once the heat sheets are posted, your child may ask to have you write their heat next to the event number (on arm or leg)*
- ❖ *Younger children should stay with the coach on the pool deck so the coach can easily assist them to the “Clerk of Course” to line-up for their event.*
- ❖ *Swimmers should always ask their coach if they are done for the day before leaving a meet.*
- ❖ *Bring dry clothes for your swimmer, small nutritious snacks, dry towels and activities for between events.*
- ❖ ***CHANGING ON DECK IS PROHIBITED!!!***
- ❖ *Wear comfortable clothing –Swim meets are usually HOT and STEAMY (inside & outside)*
- ❖ *Enjoy the positive experience and congratulate your swimmer regardless of how they place!*

## **Parent's Role in Swimming**

- ❖ ***DON'T COACH*** –Leave coaching to the coaches.
- ❖ ***Support the coach*** –Your coaches are experts. They need your support for everyone to WIN!
- ❖ ***Support the program*** –Get involved. Volunteer. Help out at meets, fundraisers. JCSC can't do this without your support!!
- ❖ ***Be your child's best fan*** –Support your child unconditionally. Do not withdraw love when your child performs poorly. Your child should not have to perform to win your love
- ❖ ***Support and Root for All Swimmers on the Team*** –Foster Teamwork. Your child's teammates are not the enemy. When they go faster than your child, your child now has a wonderful opportunity to improve.
- ❖ ***Take your concerns and problems directly to the coach*** –If you have a problem with the coach, do not go to other parents to discuss it. Go straight to the coach involved.

## **Parental Involvement**

REMINDER: All parents are EXPECTED to assist with the execution of ALL home meets. Regardless of weather your child participates in the meet. The funds generated from the concession stand help to offset many expenses that accrue throughout the season that benefit the club and your child. It is very important that everyone contributes and participates, to help this club continue to succeed!

We all have busy schedules and conflicts do arise, so please mark your calendars. Sign-up sheets for jobs needed at meets will be posted on the bulletin board in the lobby.

We encourage parents to try to fill in at any position, this leads to greater understanding of the swim meet process.

## **Activities**

Our Swimmers work hard throughout the season. Celebrating large and small successes on an individual basis and as a team, are important parts of the growth of young swimmers. Throughout the year, (more during the winter season) the JCSC board plans special events to help these swimmers celebrate successes. Look for notices and requests to help pitch in for items needed for these activities.

## **JCSC Apparel**

Each season JCSC offers a chance to order apparel, look for notices on the next apparel order.

## **JCSC Web Site**

The web-site features information about the club. Calendars, meet information and updates can also be found on the website.

## **JCSC Text Remind Messaging**

Please be sure to sign up for the Text Remind Messaging to receive vital club information. This is a tool used to communicate with parents for important information such as reminders, practice cancellations, updates, etc. Instructions for signing up are taped to the railing located next to the folders.