



2011 Newsletter

July 4th 2011

Happy 4th of July! I hope everyone had a great weekend!

We had a great meet in Lawrenceburg last week. The swimmers did a fantastic job and we brought another win home to Athens :) Remember, when looking at times, that this was a meter pool and the rest of our meets have been in yards. We will convert these times for our team's records. Ribbons will be placed in your folders on Tuesday for this meet. Sorry for the delay on this. Results are also now available at the pool and will be available on the web in the next day or so.

I want to thank everyone who signed up to volunteer at the meet and those who stepped forward to fill the volunteer positions that we needed them to. You are all great!!! Please remember that if you haven't already signed up for our upcoming meet in Fayetteville please do so. If there are any open positions we will be asking for volunteers, so please sign up if you haven't already.

Meets:

Our meet this week is away. Plan to bring towels, drinks, healthy snacks, suit, cap, and goggles. Just remember, if you are not in your designated area and miss your event, we will not come looking for you. You may also want to bring a book or small game. Also, remember to be courteous to our coaches, volunteers, and your fellow swimmers.

Please don't forget to clean up your area before you leave.

Team Communication:

Visit our website at www.athensgators.org. We will also have family folders at the pool for meet ribbons and medals. Please check these often! Also, you can always reach me at (djkkmelton@charter.net) or Coach Jessica (jessica.aaron@gmail.com) if you have a question or concerns.

Weather Policy:

Practices will not officially be cancelled via email but will take place at the pool group by group. Meets will hopefully be cancelled in advance and an email will be sent out. We will swim unless there is lightening and then we will be out of the pool for 30 minutes with each event.

Upcoming events:

Thursday, July 7th Athens vs. Fayetteville (away) Warm-up at 5:00; Meet starts at 5:30

Address: 1155 Winchester Highway, Fayetteville, TN

Deadline for this meet is Tuesday morning. If you haven't signed up for this meet please do. This is an outdoor, 25 yard pool. They are a larger team than some of the others we have faced and will be very competitive. There is a \$1 entrance fee at this facility. They will have a concession stand with drinks, pizza, nachos, snow cones and other items.

Coaches Corner:

Congrats again on the win last week! You guys are doing a great job. Stay dedicated to working hard and coming to practice and you will continue to see results. Remember at our meet this week to ask your timer for your time after your swim and then come and talk to your coaches when you finish. We do our best to talk to you guys before you swim and remind you of tips and things to focus on. It's your job to get your time and then talk to us in order to get immediate feedback on things you did well and things to work on next time. We're looking forward to another great week of swimming!

Swim fast and GO GATORS!
Your Gator Coaches

Tuesday, July 12th ARPA District Meet/Sate qualifying Meet (home) AST vs. NASA Warm-ups 4:00; Meet at 5

Our deadline for this meet is July 8th!

In this meet we will be competing for the District 1 title as well as qualifying for the state swim meet in Cullman on July 29th-30th. The top 3 finishers in individual events and top 2 in relays will advance to the state meet. There is also an opportunity for swimmers placing 4th and higher to swim at state, if they make the qualifying time. The times are listed in the meet sign-up book at the pool and are available on our web site at athensgators.org.

If you have an experienced swimmer and would like to enter additional events and then scratch after viewing the psych sheet, please indicate this with your sign-ups. The psych sheet will be released on the 8th and scratches MUST be received by the 10th! This is optional and should only be utilized if you intend to be responsible to view the psych sheet and send in your scratches prior to the deadline. The coaches will not make these decisions for you.

Saturday, July 16th RACE League Championships in Sewanee, TN: 1st session (10 & under) warm-up: 8:30 a.m. Start: 10:00 a.m. 2nd session (11& up) warm-up: approximately 1:00 p.m. Start: approximately 2:30 p.m.

Address:

The University of the South
Fowler Center Pool
77 Texas Avenue
Sewanee, TN 37383

In this meet, we will compete against 8 other summer league teams from southern-middle TN. The meet is held at the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. All 10 & under swimmers will swim in the morning session and 11 & Up in the afternoon. This is a really fun meet for all of our swimmers. We have placed 2nd for the past several years and hope to continue our pursuit for a 1st place finish at this meet. Despite our membership being down by a few swimmers, good participation and fast swims make all the difference.

Remember, if you don't have a chance to sign-up for a meet you can always email Coach Jessica at jessica.aaron@gmail.com

Other News and Deadlines:

Athens Swim Team is now on Facebook. We will be sending out invites from our email roster to our Facebook account. Please message "AST pictures 2011" to be accepted. We thought that this would be a great way for people to view pictures of their children from the swim meets. Please only tag, download or copy the pictures of your own children. This site is for **swim team members (parents) only!** Unfortunately we cannot open this up to families and friends. This is for security reasons. Jeanette Tucker has graciously accepted the job to manage the account. If she feels that there is anything inappropriate at anytime she will be deleting that person from the site.

We have a couple of meet sign-up deadlines coming up on Friday, July 8th. Our District and RACE league championship sign-ups will be going on all week. As before, you can always sign-up by emailing Coach Jessica at jessica.aaron@gmail.com. For the district meet, please indicate your top 3 event choices in the sign-up books. This is totally up to the swimmers and will not be chosen by the coaches as at the other meets. Relays will be put together based on top times and as many swimmers will be included as possible.

For RACE league, we need **EVERYONE** to attend! This is a bigger meet and is a really good experience for all of our swimmers. Sign up via book or email. Coaches will choose your events, but if you have a preference you can indicate this when you sign up. The league will only allow "A" relays at this meet due to time constraints. This means that only the 4 fastest swimmers in each age group will swim relays. For our older age groups, this will likely be everyone who comes.

Of special note, the RACE league championship does require a "2 meet minimum" as an eligibility requirement. Each swimmer must have competed in at least 2 dual meets against TN teams. We will be compiling a list of

swimmers that have not met this requirement and emailing this out to you. We have another dual meet on Thursday and are looking into the possibility of scheduling another on either the 9th, 11th, or 14th in order to assist with this. If scheduled, this meet would be entirely optional, as all our meets are. You are not obligated in any way to come if you have already met your meet requirements and do not wish to swim in another travel meet.

Volunteering:

Many of you have volunteered for multiple meets this year. We thank you for your assistance in making our meets possible and helping them run smoothly. We want to accurately keep track of your participation and know that many may end up helping when they are not signed up. We have placed forms in the volunteer sign-up book for you to sign-up for the meets that you have worked. Please take a few minutes and fill this out, so that we don't send you a note that you have not completed your volunteer requirement. You can also email Robin Holland at RobinHolland@bellsouth.net with your volunteer participation.

Dominos Fundraising Cards:

We are trying to compile lists of all the swimmers/family that have participated in fundraisers. If you planned to sell Domino's cards but have not received them, please let us know. If you have already gotten your cards, please turn in the money as soon as possible to help us in getting our finances wrapped up.

Also, if you participated in the Madison Medal Meet and have not yet paid your entry fees, please do so now. Please email Rita Aaron with any fundraising questions or concerns at juiceplus_mama@dotspot.net

Go Gators!

Jennifer Melton