

Farmingdale Aquatics
A DIVISION of FARMINGDALE YOUTH COUNCIL
Farmingdale Public Schools



September 2011,

Dear Parents & Swimmers:

Welcome! Farmingdale Aquatics (FA) is primarily a self-sustaining organization with membership in the Farmingdale Youth Council, Metropolitan Swimming and United States Swimming Organizations. We operate under our own set of by-laws as well as under the rules and regulations of each of the aforementioned organizations. Swimming is year-round training sport with vacations and rest periods built in. Combining exercise, skills and competitive challenges, FA is a rewarding program for your child to join and for you to give your support. We participate in United States Swim sanctioned meets at various locations in the Long Island and Metropolitan areas. The purpose of the club is to develop a swimming environment that builds confidence and team spirit. Our coaches are certified and will encourage your child to swim to the best of their ability.

PRACTICE TIME/SCHEDULE: FA coincides with the Farmingdale School District calendar, which means we swim only when school is in session.

Practice schedules are as follows:

Pre-Team: Wednesdays 7-8pm, & Saturdays 5-6pm

Developmental: Monday through Friday 6:00- 7:00 pm, Saturday 4-5pm

Intermediate: Monday through Friday 6:00-7:00 pm, Saturday 4-5pm

Jr. Team: Monday-Friday 5:30-7:00 pm & Saturday 4-5pm

Sr. Team: Monday - Friday 5:00-7:00 pm & Saturday 4-5pm

Practice times & schedule are subject to change as directed by Farmingdale School district, Varsity Swim Meets, and enrollment of Adult Ed Courses. Every attempt will be made to notify you of new swim times, either via memo, email or website.

Monthly practice times are also available on our website, www.farmingdaleaquatics.com. There are no make-ups when practice is cancelled. During Sept/Oct & Dec/Jan there are Jr. High Meets and H.S. meets which may force us to cancel. Please check your calendar and/or website.

POOL CLOSINGS ??: If for any reason the Farmingdale School District cancels after-school programs, there will be **no swim or meetings**. Channel 12 news & local radio stations will have listings. Information as to closings will be handled by E-mail and through our website www.farmingdaleaquatics.com.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: FA functions through a board of directors, which is elected by the parents & the committee chairpersons. Aside from the coaching staff, the club is a volunteer organization. Parent meetings (mandatory) are held to discuss upcoming events, new ideas and answer questions. Your input and support is an important asset.

DROP-OFF & PICK-UP POLICY: We ask swimmers to arrive on time as it is not fair to the coaches and fellow team members if you are late. **Parking is not allowed in circle by pool parking lot.** This area is a fire zone. All swimmers must be picked up on the pool deck. No child will be allowed to leave alone or to wait unsupervised in the pool lobby downstairs. Your child's safety is always a priority to us. A coach will stay until all swimmers are picked up. If you have an emergency and cannot arrive on time, please call the pool at **516-752-6649** to let the coach know. If your child needs to be picked up early, please send a note with your child stating the time you will be picking them up. Attached to this packet is a Waiver and Liability form which will require your signature.

PARENTAL SUPPORT & INVOLVEMENT: Participating in the events and workings of the club is a great way to share in your child's interests, while supporting & encouraging them & promoting team spirit. It also contributes to the general health & success of the club. ***The Board cannot do it alone.*** We look forward to receiving your assistance and **ask for 2 HOURS of your time during the course of the swim season to help us make this a fun experience for your child.** We will also need assistance with people to coordinate phone chains (in the event pool closes last minute, inclement weather, or emergencies). Anyone who would like to help (coordinate events, trips or assist with our holiday or end-of-year parties) - please sign up! For more information, feel free to contact Barbara Blair-Reade 516-795-5579.

CLOSED DECK POLICY: FA is reinstating a closed deck policy during swim practices. This policy does not pertain to preteam squad. Details of this policy will be discussed by Head Coach Bill Manton at our mandatory parent meeting. (Parent meeting to be announced)

TEAM APPAREL: *The club will supply all swimmers with a team swimsuit, cap & goggles.* T-shirts are available to order at registration and during the year. We would like our swimmers to wear FA apparel at swim meets. Parents can also purchase and wear t-shirts to show your kids you are proud of FA. We also recommend that our swimmers purchase a practice suit for everyday practice and save the team suit for meets. All swimmers are required to purchase snorkels. You can purchase your own or FA will have them available to purchase at a discounted rate.

TUITION/PAYMENT SCHEDULE: Tuition/payment schedule for the 2011/12 season are as follows:

Senior team swimmers: \$1,250

Junior team swimmers: \$950

Developmental and Intermediate team swimmers: \$800

Pre-Team swimmers: \$400

***The Farmingdale Youth Council requires families living outside of the school district to pay an Out of District fee of \$60 per family, checks payable to Farmingdale Youth Council. This is not a Farmingdale Aquatics Club fee and is payable at registration.**

Registration includes entry in 4 Metropolitan swim meets.

****All swimmers are required to attend 2 mandatory meets.****

Any meet fees incurred after that will be paid by the swimmer.

FEE PAYMENT SCHEDULE: All fees, which include registration and meet fees, are due and payable upon initial sign up unless otherwise arranged.

Partial payment will be as follows:

- 50% of registration fee initial sign up.
- 50% of balance is due and payable on the 15th of November.
- Balance is due and payable on the 15th of January.

(Meet fees are only waved if upon initial sign up the team is notified in writing that the child will not be swimming in any meets.)

If for any reason these deadlines are not met the swimmer will no longer be considered to be a member in good standing and will be removed from all meets and practices until such time as the fees owed are paid. If meet fees have already been paid for meets entered they are forfeit.

Please make your payment on time. If payment is late, there will be an additional late charge incurred of \$25. Your child will not be allowed to swim without payment after due date. All final payments on any payment plans are due by Jan. 15, 2012.

NEW SWIMMER'S TRIAL PERIOD: There is a two week tryout period for new swimmers. Your child attends practice for 2 weeks. If your child does not wish to continue swimming within the two week period, contact Mike Parrinello for a refund check, less a \$25 tryout fee.

QUESTIONS ???: The coaches & Board will always try to address your questions and concerns. Coaches can answer questions regarding swimming in the pool & at meets, but not to be discussed while practice is in session & swimmers are in the pool. Team apparel, parties & meet info can most often be found on our website, www.farmingdaleaquatics.com, or directed to any Board member. Payment questions should be directed to our club Treasurer, Mike Parrinello or Membership Secretary, Lisa Giordano. All other concerns may need to be discussed at a board meeting.

SWIM MEETS: Swim meets are held in the Long Island Metropolitan area. Swim meet entries will be posted on the Team bulletin board and on the web-site no later than two weeks prior to any meet. Directions to the meet with warm-up times, event schedule and the coach on deck will also be posted on the bulletin board.

Swimmers are to arrive at Swim Meets no later than fifteen minutes prior to their scheduled warm-up time wearing their meet suit and team cap as well as team shirts and shorts. Any lateness and absence for a meet need to be relayed to the coach on deck for that session as soon as possible prior to the beginning of the scheduled warm-up. Notification of any other coach will only delay that information being made available to the coach on deck and may interfere with the swimmers ability to participate in that meet. See the team policy concerning Meet Entry Criteria.

If a swimmer who is entered in a relay and is a no call, no show or whose inability to attend the meet is given on the day or comes too late to scratch the relay, that swimmer will be charged the fees for all of the swimmers in the relay event. If a substitute is found for the relay the entry fees for that swimmer will be charged against the account of the swimmer who was originally scheduled to swim that relay.

MEET ENTRY CRITERIA: It is the policy of Farmingdale Aquatics that all swimmers in good standing & meeting meet entry criteria **will be entered in all meets both regular and championship that they qualify for unless otherwise notified in writing a minimum of four weeks prior to the start date of the meet.** To remain in good standing swimmers need to have all fees and monies owed paid in full. (See the fee payment schedule.) Meet entries for regular season meets will be based on the swimmers attendance at scheduled practices. Members of the Age Group Division are expected to

attend, on average, a minimum of three practices a week. Members of the Senior Division are expected to attend, on average, four practices per week. (See the team policy concerning membership on outside teams.)

Meet entries of all championship meets will be based on the above plus the ability of the swimmer to meet the minimum time requirements published for that meet.

- If a swimmer is a no call or no show at any swim meet, that swimmer will not be entered in any future meets unless the team is notified in writing that the swimmer will be in attendance.
- If the team is notified less than three days prior to a meet two meets in a row that a swimmer will not be in attendance, except in the case of illness, that swimmer will not be entered in any future meets until the team is notified in writing of their ability to attend future meets.
- If a swimmer fails to maintain the required number of practices after they have entered in a meet, they will in most cases be dropped from the meet.

*****In all of the above cases any meet fees that have already been paid are forfeit.*****

Participation in Varsity & Jr. Varsity Swimming: There is no policy forbidding any member of Farmingdale Aquatics from participating on any school varsity or Jr. Varsity swim team. However, there is a USA Swimming, Metro and therefore a Farmingdale Aquatics requirement that a swimmer be only registered with one USA registered team at a time.

If a swimmer chooses to participate on their school team, Farmingdale Aquatics still requires that they maintain a minimum attendance at our practices per week in order for them to be eligible for inclusion in our meets. This is on average fifty percent of the scheduled practices per week for the respective squads. One Varsity or Jr. Varsity meet per week may be used to meet this requirement. We therefore require that your child provide a copy of their meet schedule to their coach.

If your child chooses not to attend our practices during their participation on their school's Swim team, there are consequences to that decision that are beyond our control. These include, but are not limited to their ability to participate in both regular season and championship meets. (See the team policy on Meet Entry Criteria.)

For a swimmer to be eligible to participate in any championship meet, they must have provable times that meet the meet time standards. Provable times must have been obtained at a USA sanctioned meet with computer controlled touch pads and have been verified and entered into the swim data base at national. There is also a qualifying time period for these meets with a minimum amount of USA sanctioned meets required during that same time period. Be aware that there are times when entries for meets need to be submitted as early as 8 weeks before the scheduled event.

On behalf of the Farmingdale Aquatics, we welcome all our new swimmers & welcome back all the returnees. Your support & involvement is greatly appreciated. We look forward to a prosperous year.

Sincerely,
Board of Directors & Coaches
Farmingdale Aquatics

Code of Conduct: The following rules constitute the Farmingdale Aquatics team code of conduct applicable to all club members and their parents. Any reference to "you" shall include each FA member and his or her parents. All members of the FA are members of USA Swimming. Therefore, the USA Swimming Code of Conduct set forth in Section 304.3 of Article 304 in the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations constitutes Rule 1 of the FA code of conduct. Any violation of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct shall be a violation of the FA code of conduct. To the extent any rule below conflicts with any provision of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct, the provision of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct shall prevail.

2. You should conduct yourself appropriately at all times, including: display good sportsmanship, being safety conscious on deck and in the pool, respecting the facilities we use and the property of others.
3. Parents who are not performing an official USS or Club function are not allowed on deck at any meet or practice.
4. You should treat coaches, club officials, administrators and other swimmers with courtesy and respect: foul or offensive language should never be used; negative or derogatory comments should be avoided.
5. When registering a complaint, you should wait 24 hours from the incident before bringing it to the attention of the coach, club official, or administrator. The purpose of this "24 hour rule" is to provide a cooling off period for all concerned.

Violations of the rules will result in disciplinary action. Such discipline may include, but not be limited to:

First Violation: Written warning from coaches requiring signatures from swimmers and parents.

Second Violation: One-week suspension from the team.

Third Violation: Swimmer's case will be presented to the FA Board with recommendation of immediate dismissal from the team with no refund of fees.

While attending an FA function or competition, unlawful possession or use of alcohol, drugs or other contraband may constitute grounds for immediate dismissal from club membership.

WAIVER (photos * video * artwork* profiles * stories)

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