



# A Letter to the Swim Parents

## From Coach Kyle

### Summer 2008

First of all I would like to thank you for giving your child/children the opportunity to participate in competitive swimming. This is a very disciplined sport that can be very demanding on the swimmers, parents, and families. Committing to it means giving up lots of week nights and sometimes weekends. I applaud all of you for making that commitment. A few of you have asked what my expectations are of the swimmers. Also, some have inquired about the qualifications to advance from Team to Team. Here is a brief explanation.

## **Bronze**

### **Attendance:**

- ☆ 3 Practices a week
- ☆ Participate in all Dual Meets
- ☆ Participate in all Local Invitational's

(Do not need to attend Crawfordsville or Circle City)

### **Equipment:**

#### **Swimsuits:**

- ☆ Boys: Preferably non-parachute/baggy shorts
- ☆ Girls: One piece recommended
- ☆ Goggles: Required for all swimmers, preferably with an adjustable nose piece
- ☆ Swim Caps: Required for hair longer than shoulder length

### **Expectations:**

By the end of the season, I want all Bronze swimmers not only be able to demonstrate all four strokes, but have a basic foundation and understanding of them. I would also like them to have an understanding of competitive swimming and the Meet/Invite flow and process.

### **Qualifications to Move up to Silver Team:**

1. Demonstrate all four strokes legally
2. Complete a 50 of all four strokes in a competitive Meet or Invite
3. Show a level of maturity and responsibility that corresponds with the challenge of moving up a level
4. Begins to understand the use of the Pace Clock and "Go" Times

## **Silver**

### **Attendance:**

- ☆ 3-4 Practices a week
- ☆ Participate in ALL Dual Meets
- ☆ Participate in ALL Local and Non-Local Invites

(Even if you go down for one day of the Non-Local Invite)

### **Equipment:**

- ☆ Same as Bronze

### **Expectations:**

I would like the Silver swimmers to begin to challenge themselves and each other to become better swimmers and individuals. I expect them to begin to take leadership roles in the pool and on the deck. The Silver Team is the "Transitional Team". These swimmers are no longer beginners but they sometimes do not have the seasoned experience of competition. Attending all the Local and Non-Local Invites will help develop their competitiveness and give them experiences that can help shape them into outstanding people.

### **Qualifications to Move up to Gold:**

1. Legally complete a 100 in all four strokes
2. Compete in both Dual Meets and Invitational's
3. Demonstrate the understanding of "Go" Times and the use of a Pace Clock
4. Demonstrate a Leadership Role on the Silver Team
5. Attend recommended amount of practices
6. Exhibit a level of maturity and responsibility that comes with the challenge of moving up to the Gold Team

## Gold

### **Attendance:**

- ☆ 4-5 Practices a week
- ☆ Participate in All Dual Meets
- ☆ Participate in ALL Invites Local and Non-Local
- ☆ Attend all Team Functions

### **Equipment:**

- ☆ Same as Bronze and Silver Teams

### **Expectations:**

As young men and women I expect the Gold Swimmers to take Leadership Roles during at all Team Events. I expect them to act in a responsible and mature manner when representing PPSC. I need them to remember they are the role models of the Team. What they do and say not only affects them but, may possibly, affect someone that looks up to them. I want them to compete and practice hard but remember to have fun when its time to have fun.

## **New To PPSC in 2008**

### **Invitational Entries**

Entries are due and must be paid for by the deadline date. **No Exceptions!** If you have concerns or questions about what events your swimmer should swim please feel free to contact me before/after practice or e-mail me at [coachkyle33@hotmail.com](mailto:coachkyle33@hotmail.com).

#### **If you would like me to pick your swimmers events for the Invite:**

1. Indicate what days you will be attending
2. Indicate how many events he/she will be swimming each day
3. Pay for the Invite!

### **Championship Season**

Championship Season begins June 11, 2008. Any swimmer not competing in the Conference or State Meets, their last day of practice will be July 2, 2008

**Reminder:** To be eligible to swim at Conference Championship Meet you must attend at least ONE Dual Meet. Eligibility for State is based on time recognition. These times will be posted on the PPSC information board at the pool.

### **Some General Info**

The coaches pick the events for the Dual Meets. I try to get swimmers in events that they haven't swam before or the ones I feel might that might surprise them with how good they can do when challenged with a new opportunity.

At Dual Meets I combine relays to be fun for everyone! I do not like to see the same four individuals swim in the same relay every time they swim.

At Invitationals, I will compile the four best swimmers signed up for the meet in that age group for Relay A. The next four swimmers will be picked for Relay B and so on.

Just a reminder we are here for the children! I will try to make this experience fun and exciting for them. But, I will also make it an experience where they will learn competitiveness, responsibility, maturity, cooperation, and how to be Teammates. If there are any comments, questions or concerns please e-mail me at [coachkyle33@hotmail.com](mailto:coachkyle33@hotmail.com).

Thank You,  
Coach Kyle Smith  
Head Coach PPSC