

2010 Parent Letter for Breton Bay Lesson & Swim Team Program

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Breton Bay Sea Devils team and lessons program! We look forward to working with your children throughout the 2010 lessons & swim team season. Swim team practice and lessons start June 21st and end July 30th. The pool committee has worked to present a well-qualified roster of coaches with a strong support system of parent volunteers to help run the meets, and instructors have been hired for the lessons program.

We encourage all swimmers to be a part of the Breton Bay swim program, either through lessons or swim team which will be offered simultaneously. For the safety of all swimmers during swim team practices and meets, those who cannot yet swim the length of the pool are strongly encouraged to enroll in the swim lesson program. If your child is very close to being able to swim the length of the pool at the start of the season, they are welcome to join the swim team, and they will be entered in meets when they can swim the length of the pool unaided.

The swim team coaching staff will conduct practices on M, W, F. Stroke & Turn clinics will be held at no additional charge on T, Th for all swim team members who desire additional stroke instruction. The swim lesson instructors will provide lessons for all six weeks of swim team season in the shallow end on M, W, F mornings during swim team practices.

Stroke & Turn Judge Training: Clinics will be held several times in June to train parent volunteers to be Stroke & Turn judges for the summer swim team season. Each team must have two Stroke & Turn judges on duty for each meet. Judges do not have to be swim stroke experts to be trained as judges, but they do have to be certified each year to remain qualified. Please consider volunteering to learn the necessary skills to perform this important role! If you are interested in being a starter or Stroke and Turn Judge, please contact Wes Brubacher for times and locations for training.

Costs: The cost for either the swim team or the lessons program for the 2010 season will be \$55 per child and \$45 for additional children from the same family. Swimmers moving from the lesson program to the swim team during the season are covered by the \$55 fee already paid. We will also collect \$20 to offset team costs (computers, supplies, timing system, lane lines, etc). Families only participating in the lessons program will not pay the \$20 per family fee for the swim meets. Swimmers who move from the lessons program to the swim team mid-season will need to pay the \$20 fee.

Meets: The league offers home and away meets on Tuesday and Thursday evenings plus 3 League meets: the Coaches' Age Group (designed for beginning to moderate level swimmers), the Relay Carnival (a small meet for approximately 50 swimmers from our team), and the end-of-season **Invitational at St. Mary's College** (for swimmers who have competed twice during the regular season in specific strokes without being DQ'd). **Volunteers:** It takes 48 - 50 volunteers to run a home meet and 32 for us to participate in an away meet. **Breton Bay therefore requires that each family with a child swimming in a meet have a parent or other-designated volunteer work for one half of the meet.** This is the only fair way to ensure we have adequate staffing to run the meets. If you cannot meet this volunteer requirement due to family circumstances, please work with the volunteer coordinator (whose name will be posted in the volunteer book and will be posted on the web site), and he or she will try to help you find a substitute worker so your child can participate in the meet.

Parents must sign the meet book to register swimmers to participate in each meet. Swimmers will be entered for the meet only if a parent has signed for a volunteer slot to work for one half of the meet for which the parent is registering the child to swim. This applies to both home and away meets.

Swim Suits Team suits are available from our vendor, Metro SwimShop. Swimmers do not have to wear the team suit to participate in swim meets, but they cannot wear swim suits that have other organizations' team names (such as CBAC, GMAC or LHS) on them. Swimmers can use their Breton Bay team suits from previous years. Families who want to purchase the team suit but who cannot attend the sign-ups on May 15th can contact Metro Swimshop directly in their Glen Burnie, MD location at **443-891-0800** to purchase the suit chosen by Breton Bay and to have it shipped directly to their home.

Communications: The swim team practice, meet schedule, directions to away meets and other useful information is posted on our website at www.bretonbayswim.com We have a suggestion box at the pool and on the website. We welcome your input throughout the season on how we can improve any aspect of the lesson program and swim team. We have worked throughout the fall, winter and spring to prepare for a successful season for all of the swimmers. We look forward to working with you.

Wes Brubacher

BB Pool Committee Chair

brubachercw@hotmail.com