



Bluefish Swim Club

C & C Swimming, Inc.

P.O. Box 726 Attleboro, MA 02703

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Welcome! Now that you're a Bluefish, you may have some questions. Included in this packet are answers to some Frequently Asked Questions. We hope you find them helpful. Still have more questions? Our website, www.bluefishswimclub.com, our parents and our coaches will be happy to help with any information you may need.

You'll also find some helpful information in this packet about our Boosters organization as well as our current fundraising efforts. Take a moment to read through the information to see how you can get involved to further enrich the swimming experience of your child(ren).

Welcome to the team!



Booster Buzz....

As you know, The Bluefish Swim Club is a developmental program that strives to develop swimmers from entry level competitors into senior elite athletes. This requires a tremendous amount of time, work and dedication not only from our coaching staff, but from our children as well.

Due to the dedication and commitment our children have made to the sport of swimming, it is critical that a support network be in place to foster the continued success of the Bluefish Swim Club program and to allow our athletes the best possible opportunities throughout their swimming careers.

The Bluefish are fortunate enough to have such an organization in place to provide this support. The **Bluefish Boosters Club** was founded in 1999 as a non-profit parent run organization whose purpose is to promote the development and success of the Bluefish Swim Club. We are now recognized by the IRS as a 501 (c)(3) tax exempt organization. The Booster's Club has the opportunity to influence the swimming experience of our children, as well as foster team spirit that will involve every Bluefish family.

The Boosters Club needs your help. We need involvement from as many Bluefish families as possible. Booster Club meetings are held on a regular basis throughout the year and present an opportunity to foster communication between parents, swimmers and coaches. It is a vehicle that can be used to influence your child's swimming experience. We have some new challenges to work through. The diversity in swimmers ages, geographical locations and pool venues represent opportunities for us as a group to put new programs in place to further assist the coaches in reaching their goals for the team.

We have many committees that help the Bluefish continue to be successful. Some of them include: Fundraising, Social Activities, Corporate Sponsorships, Parent Education, Newsletter, Scholarship just to name a few. Please consider volunteering for any of the areas listed above. Showcase your talents!

Join us at our next Booster Club Meeting. Thanks for any help you can offer and welcome to the team!

Patty Murphy
President, Bluefish Boosters Club
Pattymurphy33@comcast.net

Bluefish FAQ – New Swimmer

Who are the Bluefish?

The Bluefish Swim Club is a developmental swim program that strives to develop swimmers from entry level competitors into senior elite athletes. The Bluefish Swim Club offers a:

- 1) Learn To Swim Programs (both group and private lessons) beginning at 12 months of age
- 2) Competitive Swim Team – open to those who have mastered the strokes of Freestyle, Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly and are ready to make a commitment to swimming as a sport
- 3) Masters level Swim Program - open to those 19 years of age or older who benefit from coached workouts, whether or not they choose to compete.

Where do we train?

The Bluefish have five main training facilities, with a sixth site during the spring/summer months. Program offerings vary by location.

Attleboro High School
108 Rathbun Willard Drive
Attleboro, MA 02703
Coach: Chuck Batchelor
abfswimscjb@yahoo.com
Course: SCY (25 yard pool)

Raynham Athletic Club
1250 Rte 44
Raynham, MA 02767
Coach: Christie Batchelor
abfswimsccl@yahoo.com
Course: SCY (25 yard pool)

Cumberland High School
2600 Mendon Road
Cumberland, RI 02864
Coach: Tami Johnson
Johnson.tami@gmail.com
Course: SCY (25 yard pool)

Westboro Area JCC
45 Oak Street
Westboro, MA 01581
Coach: Mike Ross
mike@soundinsight.com
Course: SCY (25 yard pool)

Wheaton College
Hass Athletic Center
Balfour Natatorium
26 East Main St.
Norton, MA 02766
Coaches: All
Course: SCM/SCY (25 yard or meter pool)

Seasonally:
Mickey Stevens Complex
975 Sandy Lane 02889
Warwick, RI
Coaches: All
Course: LCM (50 meter pool)

What is Short Course? What is Long Course?

The sport of swimming is divided into two seasons. Generally speaking, during the Short Course season, meets are typically held in a 25 yard pool (SCY). During the Long Course season, meets are typically held in a 50 meter pool (LCM). The short course season begins in September and runs through the beginning of March. Long Course begins when short course ends and runs through mid-August. Each season has its respective Championships that swimmers must qualify for in order to compete.

What are Regionals? What are Age Groups?

When a coach refers to either a Regional or Age Group “cut”, they are talking about a time standard that has been set by New England Swimming for a particular event. Qualifying for end of season championship events depends of whether or not your swimmer has achieved this time standard. New England Regional Championship meets are held in February and signify the closing of the Short Course season. Teams are assigned to one of 5 venues in New England where they compete. Your child would compete in whichever events he/she has achieved the appropriate “cut” for. Age Group Championships represent the next level of championship meet and hold swimmers to a faster “cut” time than that of a regional championship meet. New England swimming selects one venue to host this championship meet. Age Group Championships are held in February, at the end of the short course season and in July, at the end of the long course season. Swimmers who qualify for these meets also have the ability to qualify for further championship meets as they age up and progress as a swimmer.

Who can I call for additional information or with questions?

You should always feel free to speak to your child’s coach. You might also find it helpful to speak with any Bluefish parent about any questions you may have. Pool Liaisons (current parents of Bluefish swimmers) have been established at each of our training facilities to help you transition to our team successfully. Your pool liaison can help get you the information you need or direct you to someone who might be of more help. Pool Liaisons for each of our facilities are listed below:

Attleboro High School
Joanie Beisel
beisel@cox.net

Raynham Athletic Club/Wheaton
Michele Houghton
mhoughton1203@msn.com
Susan Cordery
spcordery@aol.com

Cumberland High School
Mary Devers
mwdevers@mac.com

Westboro Area JCC
Dianne Durand
diannedurand@charter.net

Who are the Boosters?

The Bluefish Swim Club Boosters is a non-profit, 501 (c)(3), parent run organization whose purpose is to promote the development and success of the Bluefish Swim Club. Due to the dedication and commitment our children have made to the sport of swimming, it is critical that a support network be in place to foster the continued success of the Bluefish Swim Club program and to allow our athletes the best possible opportunities throughout their swimming careers.

The Bluefish are fortunate enough to have such an organization in place to provide this support. The Booster’s Club has the opportunity to influence the swimming experience of our children, as well as foster team spirit that will involve every Bluefish family. The Boosters act as the fundraising arm for the Bluefish in addition to supporting team activities and fostering communication between parents and the coaching staff. You’ll find information about our current fundraising initiatives enclosed.

As a member of the Bluefish, you are automatically a member of the Boosters. There are committees that have been established that can use your talents! Booster meetings are held monthly and all parents are invited to attend. Please join our next meeting to learn more about us and to see how you can help.

Email messages will be sent out to let you know when a meeting will be held.

Do we run meets? Why?

The Bluefish host approximately 4 meets during the year. We run meets to help off-set the cost of running a team and to help keep our fees as low as possible. Pool time cost is significant. Each meet we run generates income from admission, program sales and swimmer entry fees. Once meet expenses are paid, we are able to use this money to help with the expenses in running the team. If we didn't run meets, we would be paying for these costs in the form of increased membership fees.

Parent volunteers are essential to the Bluefish being able to run a successful meet. Running organized and profitable meets are critical to the fundraising efforts for the Bluefish. Parents are required to volunteer/work all days of the swim meet. You will have the opportunity to select a job by using our volunteer management software, SuperMeets. You will be expected to stay the length of the session in which your child is swimming. If you do not fulfill your work obligation you will be billed a \$100 fine, unless you make other arrangements to volunteer in some other capacity prior to the meet. In the event you cannot fulfill your work obligation, please contact Christie Batchelor prior to the meet to discuss an alternate volunteer assignment. Please see our complete volunteer policy in your registration packet.

I've never been to a meet before.....what should I bring?

Swim meets are a great way to showcase both our swimmer's and coaches hard work throughout the year. They're also a lot of fun! Being well prepared for each meet will make the event a positive experience. The following is a list of items that our coaches and experienced swim parents suggest you bring/pack.

EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHES:

- Swim bag
- Goggles (back up goggles)
- Cap (back up cap)
- Team racing swims suit (backup swim suit)
- Sandals, water shoes or Crocs
- Towels (be sure to pack more than one)
- Plastic bag for all wet stuff
- Bluefish jacket and pants
- Sweatpants/sweatshirt/t-shirt to wear during the meet
- Clothes and shoes/sneakers to wear at the end of the meet
- Head towel/hat
- Soap/Shampoo

FOOD/DRINK

- Good Ideas: power bars, carrots, hard boiled eggs, peanut butter crackers, fruit, dry cereal (Shredded Wheat, Cheerios), bagel, turkey
- Water bottle with extra water
- Gatorade/sports drink

EXTRAS/MISCELLANEOUS

- Books to read
- IPOD
- Camera
- Video Camera
- Fold up chair
- Race schedule
- Pen to mark your hand with race numbers

Am I required to purchase team equipment/apparel? How do I do this?

Bluefish are a Speedo Team. All Bluefish swimmers must wear/use Speedo swim suits, caps, warm ups and bags at swim meets. Every Bluefish swimmer is required to purchase team equipment (for specific requirements, see Team Uniform Policy – included in the annual Registration Package) through the Bluefish per our contract with Speedo. Bluefish have their own “Team Store” where you can order directly from All-American Aquatics

(www.all-americanaquatics.com). See flyer our website for more information.

What are my Financial Obligations?

A) Membership Fee

Membership Fees are based on group placement as determined by the Coaching staff. There are two swimming seasons in each fiscal year: Short Course (September – March) and Long Course (April – August). Membership fees are determined on an annual basis and subject to change – please refer to the annual Registration Package for specifics.

B) Joining Fee

There is a joining fee for each competitive program level. The fee for an individual swimmer is \$200 and the fee for a family (any number of swimmers) is \$300. This fee is waived for swimmers joining from the Bluefish Swim School.

C) Registration Fee

A \$75 registration fee is charged every year to each swimmer (families with three or more USA swimmers will be charged a maximum of \$185). Part of this fee will be applied to each swimmers yearly United States Swimming Membership fee.

D) Swim meet entry fee

Meet entry fees are not included in membership fees. An advance deposit (escrow) for each swimmer, payable at the time of registration, will be credited to your account. Any additional meet fees will be billed accordingly during the year. Typical meet entry fees range from \$4 - \$5 per event. For a typical two day, ten event meet, the fee is approximately \$45 - \$55.

E) Coaching Fee

There will be a \$10 coaching fee per swimmer, per meet. This fee will be billed directly to your account. This fee helps defray the cost of food, hotel and transportation for club coaching.

Miscellaneous expense associated with Team Travel

Many Bluefish swimmers participate in selected meets where team travel is necessary. Swimmers participating in these meets will travel as a team, stay in a hotel and eat as a team. The price of the trip will include transportation and accommodation. The swimmer will responsible for his/her own food expenses. The cost of the trip must be paid in full prior to the trip.

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Where can we find the Bluefish Swim Club on the web?

Please visit www.bluefishswimclub.com often. This should become a site you check regularly for information, updates and important news about the team.

Members only login information:

Login ID: Bluefish

Password: weareback

Fundraising Programs for the BLUEFISH SWIM CLUB!

The Bluefish Swim Club has 3 fundraising programs in place and we need your help. Money raised through these programs will help supply the necessary equipment and staff our program needs as well as supplement swimmer travel expenses. Here's how you can help:



Group ID # is: 500020946

Go to: www.shaws.com/communityrewards

1. Click on: Shoppers [login or register with your Rewards card first](#)
2. Enter your Shaw's Rewards Card number (found on back of card)



and then Click **LOGIN**

3. Enter the Bluefish Swim Club Community Rewards ID#: **49001019952**
4. Shop on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday and the Bluefish win!

1. Log on to www.escrip.com
2. Click "Sign Up"
3. Under Group Name, type in [Bluefish Swim Club](#) and click **SEARCH**
4. Click on [Bluefish Swim Club Boosters](#)
Click **NEXT**
5. Provide required information
Click **NEXT**
6. SKIP THIS SECTION
Click **NEXT**
6. Register credit and debit cards
7. SKIP THIS SECTION
Click **NEXT**
8. Confirm your registration and review
Click **NEXT**
9. Create a personal password to access "my eScrip" in the future and track your purchases and account activity

NOW THAT I'M REGISTERED, WHAT NEXT?

1. Check out eScrip Dining Rewards
This allows the Bluefish to earn money when you dine out at a participating restaurant - 2.5% of your bill (including tax and tip) goes to the Bluefish when you pay with a registered credit/debit card
2. Shop the eScrip Online Mall
There are over 800 retailers that participate in the program.

Earn money for the Bluefish every time you search the Internet!

GoodSearch.com is a Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half of its advertising revenue, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

1. Go to www.goodsearch.com
2. Enter "Bluefish Swim Club" as your favorite charity
3. Download the GoodSearch toolbar to your desktop
4. Use it every time you search the internet!

LIKE TO SHOP ONLINE?

GoodSearch offers online shopping through GoodShop. When you shop online at your favorite stores, the Bluefish can receive a donation of up to 37 percent of each purchase! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, eBay, Macy's, Barnes & Noble, Old Navy, and Toys R Us have teamed up with GoodShop. Every time you place an order through the GoodShop store, you'll be supporting the Bluefish!