

# Davis Lake Dolphins Swim Team

## Frequently-Asked Questions:

### ***What can my child expect during practices? Do they get any individual instruction or is it just group oriented?***

If your child knows how to swim, practice is about improving strokes and building endurance. Most will be group-oriented, but coaches will often get in the water and help your child learn. For younger or less experienced swimmers, coaches will be in the water with your child giving instruction and encouraging their progress.

### ***What is the practice schedule?***

Practices normally begin the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May and are held in the evenings until school is out. Once CMS public school is out and the pool is open during the day, practice will be held in the morning

### ***Who are the coaches? How are they chosen?***

The coaches are typically neighborhood residents who grew up swimming for the Davis Lake Dolphins. They are often high school or college students back for the summer. They vary in the level of experience they have as coaches. They are learning about leadership in the same way your child is learning about swimming and participating as part of a swim team. For some, it is their first job. If you have a concern, you should speak to the meet director.

The leadership team receives applications, interviews and hires the coaches, including the head coach. Our head coach is typically someone who has been a coach for several years and has completed at least one year of college.

### ***My child is not swimming that well. Can I get more help for them?***

We give our swimmers the chance to have more individual coaching with our swim clinics. For \$10 per half hour session, you can have one of our coaches work on individual needs outside of the regular practice times. Please be patient with your child, you will be surprised at the progress they will make by the end of the season with or without swim clinics.

### ***What are Dolphin dollars? Why is my child coming home with green pieces of paper?***

Your child receives dolphin dollars when he or she attends practice. They can be used to “purchase” items from our Dolphin Store that will be “open” several times during the season. This is just another way to get the kids excited about the season and attending practice.

### ***Will I receive training for the volunteer jobs?***

Most jobs are on the job training! You would receive more in-depth training for key role positions like concessions leader, meet director, spirit coordinator or volunteer coordinator. If you are interested in any leadership type position, please reach out! Please see the job descriptions on Sign Up Genius for more detailed information.

### ***How and when will my child eat since the swim meets coincide with dinner time?***

We would suggest your swimmer eat a carbohydrate snack or meal like a baked potato for energy prior to arriving at the pool or before the first swim. You may either purchase items from the

concession stand or bring food from home (coolers are allowed – though no glass please). Fruit makes a great in between swim snack like orange slices, grapes or apples. They will have plenty of downtime between events (this is actually fun time in the bullpen for the younger swimmers)

Experienced swim parents suggest you pack a picnic dinner or purchase either pizza, chik-fila or other avail items sold at the concession stands. Our selection of food items available could depend on current sponsor relationships.

Each team has a concession stand that they run at their home meets. In the past, Skybrook has grilled hamburgers. Wellington has pizza and chik fil a but has had BBQ at times in the past. Cedarfield sells baked goods, pizza and sometimes BBQ.

Candy and drinks are also sold at all the meets. Parents suggest you have a strategy in place beforehand for whether your child is allowed to have candy or not.

### ***What fundraisers do we do? Why?***

The team will typically hold several fundraiser type events during the season usually involving our sponsors. We get the opportunity to host the School's Out Party at the clubhouse along with having a silent auction. We also have the opportunity to host the Back to School Bash. These events are very beneficial to our budget and sponsor relationships. We have local businesses sponsor our team and we may do events like spirit nights as a fundraising opportunity and thank you to them for their support. We take advantage of these opportunities to help keep costs down for each swimmer. We do have a budget each season for our projected income, expenses and reserves for capital purchases we might need to make in the future. You are welcome to view the budget documents. We normally make this available at the beginning of the season too. We have just applied for our 501c3 and hope to be hearing from the IRS soon. This designation will open even more opportunities for additional corporate sponsorship and gifts. Again our main goal is keeping our costs down for each family.

### ***Where are swim meets held?***

We swim against 3 other area neighborhoods. We will swim each team 2 times (one home meet and one away) and will have a Championship meet with all the teams at the end of the season.

**Cedarfield,  
Wellington  
Skybrook**

### ***The Championship Meet: Who goes to champs?***

Each swimmer has the opportunity to swim at Champs. The Sr Champs meet (for 11 & up) is typically held at HFFA and the Jr Champs (10 & under) at Skybrook on the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in July.

We will also have a banquet celebrating the season typically the Monday after Champs followed by a Swim Team only swim at the DL pool with the coaches 8:00 – 10 pm ish.

***You can also find very helpful information on the [www.DAVISLAKE.org](http://www.DAVISLAKE.org) website under the SWIMTEAM tab. Experienced parents are also another great resource – some have been around for a LONG time.***