



Marshfield Area YMCA Sharks Swim Team

USA Swimming Information

USA Swimming, a branch of the United States Olympic Committee and the governing body for the sport in the United States, offers a multitude of local and championship swim meet throughout the nation hosted by its member teams. At the present time, the Marshfield Area YMCA Sharks Swim Team is not a USA Swimming member team. However, the resources and opportunities offered by USA Swimming are still available to YMCA Swim Team Members. The following guide explains how.

USA Swimming Membership

To gain access to the full range of resources offered by USA Swimming, including the opportunity to swim in USA-S meets, swimmers must become USA Swimming members. The membership process involves sending an athlete registration form along with an annual fee. Because the Marshfield Area YMCA Swim Team is not a USA Swimming, swimmers will need to register as "Unattached." This simply means that they are not representing a given team.

USA Swimming Meets

There are many USA Sanctioned or Approved meets held throughout the State each season. Swimmers will have the opportunity to register themselves for these meets, or can elect to have Coach Aaron electronically enter them. For each meet, the swimmers will be entering as Unattached. All swimmers must have a USA-S registered coach responsible for them during meet warm-ups. This means that swimmers must arrange for a coach from another team to represent them in advance. Coach Aaron can assist in this process.

Athlete Registration

In order to register with USA Swimming, athletes must completely fill out a registration form and provide a check written out to "Wisconsin Swimming, Inc." for \$52.00. Coach Aaron will collect the registration forms and checks and electronically register each of the swimmers. He will then mail the forms and checks together to the State registration chairperson. Once the athlete registrations have been processed, swimmers will receive their USA-S membership cards by mail, and will begin to receive the quarterly "Splash!" magazine.

Aaron will provide the registration forms at the fall parents' meetings as well as on the swim team website. Registration forms and checks will be due on Friday, November 21.



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Meets

Because swimmers will be competing as Unattached at USA-S meets, the YMCA can not list these meets on the team's meet schedule, and Coach Aaron's expenses will not be covered at such meets. If parents want Coach Aaron to be the representative coach for their child(ren) in attendance, it must be arranged beforehand with an agreement to determine who will incur what expenses. If it is decided that Coach Aaron can not attend the meet, arrangements will be made to have another coach at the meet represent our swimmers.

Meet Entry Procedure (if Aaron is to electronically enter swimmers)

1. Parents ensure that there is room in the meet.
2. Parents request that Aaron prepare entries 2 weeks before entry deadline.
3. Parents fill out necessary meet entry forms, and send forms & payment to host team at least 1 week before entry deadline, or when host team specifies.
4. Once the entries are confirmed by host team, parents and/or Coach Aaron solicit a coach representative from a team attending the meet.