



Bexley Marlins Parent Information Packet
Summer 2021

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Bexley Marlins Program Description and Requirements

The Bexley Marlins Swim Team is a recreational competitive swim team operated through Bexley Parks & Recreation and a member of the Tri-County Aquatic League (TCAL). The upcoming season will operate June 7-July 23, 2021 and is open to swimmers ages 5-18. Coaches will work with swimmers to develop four competitive swim strokes (freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, and butterfly).

Covid-19 Impact to 2021 Season

There are changes to the 2021 season due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We will be limiting all practices to 4 swimmers per lane in order to promote social distance. To be able to accommodate as many swimmers as possible, we will have an A/B schedule this summer and parents will select their desired group at registration. The A group swimmers will swim on Mondays and Wednesdays. The B group swimmers will swim Tuesdays and Thursdays. We will alternate Friday practices between groups.

All swimmers will be required to wear masks when they are not in the water. Parents will need to remain on the upper deck of the pool during practices and practice social distancing.

We will not be participating in our league meets this summer and will focus on Intrasquad meets. We are currently developing protocols for swim meets and are leveraging the knowledge from other teams and our community to ensure a safe meet environment. We will be scaling down the number of timers and officials at each meet in order to reduce crowding on the deck.

We will release additional details as it relates to swim meets as we receive updated guidance from local and state public health departments. We are working closely with the Bexley Parks & Recreation department and will be following their pool protocols.

Program Requirements

The Bexley Marlins team is open to any swimmer that meets program requirements; competitive swimming experience is not required.

Swimmer safety is the top priority of the Bexley Marlins Swim Team. Coaches will observe and evaluate swimmers during the first week of practice. To ensure a safe environment for all, swimmers must be able to meet the following minimum requirements:

- Swimmers must be able to enter the water on their own and without a parent on deck
- Swimmers need to be comfortable swimming in deep water
- Swimmers must be able to continuously swim a minimum distance of freestyle without stopping or treading water
 - Ages 5-10: 25 yards
 - Ages 11-14: 50 yards
 - Ages 15-18: 100 yards

If the coaching staff feel that a swimmer does not meet these minimum requirements and is not yet ready for competitive swimming, the swimmer will be referred for additional swimming lessons and parents will receive a pro-rated return of the program registration fee. We encourage

all parents to objectively consider the swimming ability of their child and the program requirements before registering him/her for the team.

Team Divisions & Age Groups:

The Bexley Marlins Swim Team will be divided into two team divisions, Varsity and Junior Varsity. Swimmers will compete within their age groups at meets, but the team divisions will practice separately and have different levels of expectations for practice intensity and attendance.

Junior Varsity:

- Age groups included in this age group:
 - 5&6
 - 7&8
 - 9&10**
- This division will focus on stroke technique and development of appropriate aerobic endurance

Varsity:

- Age groups included in this age group:
 - 11&12
 - 13&14
 - 15-18
- Swimmers in the Varsity division will work on refinement of competitive stroke technique and advancement of aerobic and anaerobic endurance

**Experienced swimmers in the 9-10 age group (e.g., club swimmers) may request an evaluation from the Head Coach if they would like to practice with the Varsity division. The Head Coach will have sole discretion on the assignment of swimmers to the Varsity division and it will be based on a space available basis.

Practice Schedule By Division

Swimmers should arrive at the pool 15 minutes before practice start time to stretch and get ready. Swimmers are expected to enter the water at the scheduled practice start time.

Junior Varsity

- Practices will take place Monday-Friday 8-9am

Varsity

- Practices will take place Monday-Friday 7-8am

Swim Meets

Due to the Covid pandemic, we will be doing 3 Intrasquad meets this summer and the Jenny Nichol meet (pending confirmation). TCAL is not hosting championships this summer.

Any changes or updates to a meet (e.g., inclement weather) will be communicated through the Remind app. More information about Remind and how to be added to the Bexley Marlins team

can be found in the Team Communications section of the BexleyMarlins.com.

Swim meet registration and event assignments

Parents will receive an email to a link to a Google survey approximately 10 days prior to a meet so they can indicate if their swimmer will attend the meet. Parents with multiple children on the team will need to complete a survey for each.

Coaches will determine event assignments and will strive to give each swimmer a chance to participate in multiple events over the course of the season.

TCAL Championship Meet

Due to the Covid-19 situation, TCAL is unable to host a championship meet this summer.

Bexley Marlins Code of Conduct

The Bexley Marlins Swim Team will help swimmers to enhance technical skills, competitive ability, and personal enjoyment of the sport of swimming. Coaches, parents, and swimmers all carry responsibility to ensure that the season is a success and the team is a positive environment for all participants.

Coach and Board Responsibilities:

- Be positive role models and be an example of good sportsmanship at all times
- Teach rules and proper technique to the sport of swimming
- Provide clear and timely communication
- Give all swimmers a chance to participate in relays and individual events
- Foster a positive and supportive team environment

Swimmer Responsibilities:

- Show kindness and respect to coaches, officials, fellow swimmers, and yourself
- Arrive on time to all scheduled practices and be ready to enter the water at the scheduled start time
- Take practices and meets seriously and give coaches your full attention
- Have a positive attitude and encourage yourself and teammates
- Demonstrate the values of good sportsmanship, to those from our team and to those from other teams

Parent Responsibilities:

- Ensure swimmers arrive on time to all practices and meets
- Be respectful to all coaches, officials, and swimmers
- Be a positive role model of sportsmanship to all swimmers and encourage swimmers to be kind to themselves and to others
- Allow the coaches to work during practices by observing from the upper deck
- In the event of a concern or an issue, approach coaches in a private manner and in a polite and respectful way

- Support meet operations by allowing coaches and officials to work without distractions or interruptions
- Sign up for volunteer positions at meets

2021 Key Dates

Thursday, May 6 – Parent Meeting

Virtual Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89051673245>

Monday, May 17-Swim Team Registration Opens

Monday, June 7 – Swim Practice Begins

7-8am for Varsity

8-9am for JV

Wednesday, June 16 – Intrasquad Meet

Warmups: 5:00pm

Meet beings: 6:00pm

Wednesday, June 23 – Intrasquad Meet

Warmups: 5:00pm

Meet beings: 6:00pm

Sunday, July 4-Bexley Parade

Arrival time and location TBA

Wednesday, July 7 – Intrasquad Meet

Warmups: 5:00pm

Meet beings: 6:00pm

Friday, July 23 - Last Day of Swim Practice

Team Communication

Communication is an essential component to our team. We will do everything we can to provide all relevant information in a clear and timely manner to all parents.

Email Communication

Weekly emails will be sent from the bexleymarlinsswimteam@gmail.com email address. During registration, please include all email addresses that you would like to receive updates, including meet registration emails.

Meet Registrations

Approximately ten days before a meet, parents will receive an email with a Google survey link. This survey has been simplified and will allow parents to indicate whether a swimmer will attend the meet.

- Surveys must be completed within 72 hours of the meet to allow coaches adequate time to make meet assignments
- Parents of multiple swimmers will be asked to complete one survey for each child

Weather or Emergency Communications

We will use the Remind app for all weather related and emergency communications. This will include notifications about practice cancellations or meet delays/cancellations. The Remind app will send push notifications via an app or text messages when there are updates for the team.

There are two ways to set up Remind:

- Go to <https://remind.com/join/bexmarlins> and follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You will be prompted to download the mobile app.
- Text the message @bexmarlins to the number 81010 to set up text only notifications

Swimmers, parents, or other relevant parties (e.g., babysitters) can sign up with Remind for text notifications.

Social Media

Facebook: Bexley Marlins Swimming (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/253243638949886/>)

Instagram: @bexleymarlins

Website: www.bexleymarlins.com

Parent Volunteer Expectations & Opportunities

Swim meets require lots of coordination and they would not be possible without the help of our parent volunteers. We are asking each swim team family to volunteer at each meet.

Parents will have the opportunity to select which volunteer role(s) they would be interested in. We will use that information to coordinate. A Sign Up Genius will be emailed to parents at least a week before each meet. To run the meets smoothly and efficiently, we need to be able to fill all volunteer shifts.

Volunteer positions available:

Timers

- We need to provide timers for each meet; home meets have at least 2 Marlins timers per lane and away meets have one Marlins timer per lane
- Shifts are for the first or second half of the meet

Bullpen

- The Bullpen helps the young age groups to line up and get to the blocks for each event to give a consistent flow and to the meets
- Bullpen volunteers will line up swimmers in order, locate missing swimmers, manage crowd control in the bullpen and handle questions or concerns that young swimmers might have

Ribbons and awards

- Attach printed labels to the ribbons and file them in each swimmer's folder

Announcer

- Announce event prior to each race
- Communication with runners and the bullpen to be sure everyone is working at the same speed.

Officials¹

- Each meet needs at least 3 officials to run efficiently

Computer Entry¹

- Inputs the times for each swimmer from the cards brought to them by the card runner

For more details, go to <http://www.bexleymarlins.com/volunteers/>.

Questions? Contact bexleymarlinsswimteam@gmail.com.

- 1) Volunteers interested in becoming an official or being trained to manage the computer during meets should email bexleymarlinsswimteam@gmail.com to coordinate

Team Suits and Spirit Wear

Team Suits

All swimmers will receive a swim cap and a team shirt.

Team suits are not required for this season. We do recommend that all swimmers wear suits that are appropriate for competitive swimming.

Practice suits and other supplies (e.g., goggles, silicone caps) are also available to purchase online through Swimville USA or by visiting their store:

Swimville USA
837 Bethel Road, Columbus 43214
(614)591-7946