



Bexley Marlins Parent Information Packet
Summer 2022

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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 May 31-July 30, 2022 and is open to swimmers ages 5-18. Coaches will work with swimmers to develop four competitive swim strokes (freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, and butterfly).

Program Requirements

The Bexley Marlins team is open to any swimmer that meets program requirements (see below); 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:

- o 11&12
- o 13&14
- o 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. The morning practice schedule will begin on Monday, June 6th.

Junior Varsity

- Practices will take place Monday-Friday 8-9am
- Swimmers should be on deck by 7:50

Varsity

- Practices will take place Monday-Friday 7-8am
- Swimmers should be on deck by 6:50

We will have evening practices May 31-June 2. Junior Varsity will practice 6:30-7:30pm and Varsity will practice 7:30-8:30pm. Swimmers should still be on deck at least 10 minutes before the start of practice and be ready to enter the water at start time.

Swim Meets

There will be eight swim meets during the regular season. Swimmers are encouraged to attend all meets in order to see progress and growth throughout the season. Six of these meets are within the TCAL league and will count towards the TCAL champs requirement (more information below). The dual meet against Hilliard and the Jenny Nichol meet do not count towards the champs requirement.

Coaches will determine event assignments for each meet and will strive to give each swimmer a chance to participate in multiple events over the course of the season. Swimmers should be on deck at least 15 minutes before warm-up start time.

Week day meet schedule:

- Home team warm-ups: 4:30pm
- Away team warm-ups: 5:00pm
- Meet start time: 5:30

Weekend meet schedule:

- Home team warmups: 7:00am
- Away team warm-ups: 7:30am
- Meet start time: 8:00am

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.

We cannot guarantee swimmer entry to a meet if the sign-up window is closed.

An entry file will be sent out to parents via email the day before the meet and will list all swimmers entered in the meet and the assigned events. Late entries or changes to the event file cannot be guaranteed.

TCAL Championship Meet

The league championship meet is the final meet of the season. Qualified swimmers may swim up to two individual events and two relays. Swimmers must swim in at least three league meets during the regular TCAL season to qualify for the Championship meet. If a meet is cancelled due to inclement weather, the meet will still count towards the Championship requirements so long as both coaches agree to the cancellation and an alternative date is unavailable.

Swimmers must have TCAL sanctioned times for Championship events, meaning that swimmers can only be entered into a Championship event that they have a legal time from a 2022 TCAL meet. Championship relays will be formed by taking the top 2022 times from individual events.

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

Monday, April 18 – Virtual parent meeting

Monday, April 25-Swim team registration opens for Bexley residents

Monday, May 9- Swim team registration opens for non-Bexley residents

Monday, May 23- Registration closes

Tuesday, May 31st- Evening Swim Practices (May 31-June 2)

6:30-7:30 for JV

7:30-8:30 for Varsity

Monday, June 6 – Morning Swim Practice Schedule Begins

7-8am for Varsity

8-9am for JV

Wednesday, June 8- Away meet: Moundbuilders

Wednesday, June 15- Home meet: Pataskala

Saturday, June 25- Away meet: Granville

Tuesday, June 28- Away meet: Hilliard*

Wednesday, June 29- Home meet: Groveport

Wednesday, July 6- Home meet-Pickerington

Saturday, July 9- Jenny Nichol meet*

Saturday, July 16- Away meet: Canal Winchester

TCAL Champs: TBD

*Indicates that meet does not count towards TCAL championship requirements

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

Invitations for TeamSnap will be sent to all parent email addresses after registration completes.

Social Media

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

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

All swimmers will receive a latex swim cap and a team shirt as part of their registration.

Team suits will be royal blue and examples are linked below. We will not have Marlins branded suits this year due to supply chain constraints.

- Girls: [TYR Royal Blue Swim Suit](#)
 - Girls' suits should be one piece and with a racerback, v-back, or open back style
 - Suits with ties (i.e., JOLYN) are not recommended for competition but may be worn at practice
- Boys: [TYR Jammers Swim Suit](#)
 - Boys's suits can be jammer or brief style
 - Trunks are not recommended

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

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