

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What should my swimmer wear to practice?

A: Each swimmer should wear a competition swim suit, swim cap, and goggles.

Q: How will I know what events my child will swim in a meet?

A: The coaches determine all event entries for each swimmer. Meet entries and the warm-up schedules are usually posted on the team website prior to each swim meet. They will also be posted at the meet, usually located near our team's designated seating area.

Q: What should my child bring to a swim meet?

A: Swimmers are required to wear a FGST competitive swim suit, cap and goggles. In addition, it is helpful to have 2 towels and sweatshirt/sweatpants. Not all pools are equipped with picnic tables for seating, so having your own chair is helpful. Bring a sharpie pen to write your swimmer's event, heat, and lane numbers on their hands! Don't forget the sunscreen!

Q: How will my child know when it's his/her turn to swim his/her event?

A: The meet announcer will announce the events getting ready to be swum. Those swimmers will report to the "Clerk of Course" which will be the holding area for swimmers preparing to swim an event. There are usually 2-3 events prepared and waiting after the current event. They will be organized into event, heats, and lanes, and then escorted to the starting blocks to begin the race.

Q: What should my child be doing when he/she is not swimming?

A: The swimmers will sit together as a team. We encourage the swimmers to cheer for their teammates that are swimming. They should not be running around or wandering from the area during a meet.

Q: How should I notify the coaches if my child won't be attending a meet?

A: Please scratch via on-line on the fgst web site. If you can't access the web site, there is a notebook called the "scratch book" at practice. Sign your child's name on the page of the meet you're missing. Only scratch if you absolutely know you'll be missing the meet. It is not possible to add a swimmer after the meet line up has been finalized.

Q: Are food and beverages available at swim meets?

A: You are welcome to bring food and beverages (no glass) to any meet. However, each meet will have a concession stand where light dinner/breakfast, snacks, sweets, and beverages will be sold. Fountain Green is famous for the nice selection and reasonable prices.

Q: What are my (parent/guardian) responsibilities during the swim season?

A: Besides making sure your child attends practice, each family is expected to volunteer for a job during 4 out of the 7-8 dual swim meets. Everyone will need to volunteer for a job during the Harford Swim League Championship Meet at the end of the season. See the Volunteer Coordinator for more details. In addition, if you have a younger or inexperienced swimmer, it is helpful if you assist your child in getting to the "clerk of course" on time.

Q: What do I do if I need to change my volunteer responsibilities?

A: You are responsible for finding a replacement. It is critical that we have all volunteer positions filled in order to run the meet effectively.

Q: Once my child is finished swimming his/her events, can I leave the meet?

A: No. Meets are a team event. When you're not swimming, you are cheering. There will be relays at the end of each meet, so your child may be swimming more than their individual events. Also, our team is responsible for helping to clean up at the end of each meet.

Q: How do the swimmers receive their awards from each meet?

A: Within a few days after the meet, swimmers will receive appropriate place ribbons in his/her file folder mailbox bin. At the end of the season, there will be a team awards picnic to recognize all swimmers for participating on the team and age group special recognition awards. Awards are included in your registration fee.

Q: What happens if there is inclement weather on the day of a swim meet?

A: Check the web site for meet updates. If a Wednesday meet needs to be cancelled due to weather, it will be rescheduled to Thursday. Saturday meets are rescheduled to Monday.