

Granite Marlins Swim Team 2024



Registration Link



About Us:

The Granite Marlins offers a summer league swim team for swimmers 18 and under. Granite competes in the Richmond Metro Aquatic League (RMAL). The history of the Marlins swim team is to teach proper swim technique, build a sense of being a member of a team, and most importantly, have fun.

Coaching Staff:

Head Coach:

Matt Porter
mporter1@verizon.net

Assistant Coaches:

Becca Thompson (volunteer coach)
Ellie Porter
Sydney Ingram

Junior Assistant Coaches:

Preston Huyard
Joia Weinstein

Parent Representative:

Kellie Huyard
khuyard@verizon.net

Registration for 2024

Registration for the 2024 Season is now open: [Here is the link to register](#). Please make sure all information is correct when registering your child for the 2024 season. The cost to register is \$125 per swimmer (discounts will be offered for 3 or more children on the team). Swimmers who are 17-18 years of age will have a \$60 registration fee. New swimmers will receive a t-shirt and all swimmers will receive a swim cap and treats during the season and an end of season award/certificate.

Suit Fitting and Meet the Coaches (Ice Cream Social):

Tuesday, May 14th: 4:15pm-6:00pm-Virginia Swim Shop will conduct suit fittings for ALL ages and have swim items for sale at Granite. Coaches and parent representatives will be available to answer questions as well. All swimmers are encouraged to visit the pool between 4:15-6:00 for suit fitting/purchase, meet the coaches and eat some ice cream.

Important Information:

- All individuals wishing to participate on the team this year are expected to be able to swim the length of the pool with minimal assistance.
- Once morning practice begins, swimmers are encouraged to attend practice at least once per day. Swimmers may practice in the morning and evening (if space allows).
- We will need parents to volunteer to serve in many roles this year (clerk of course, computer operator, timers, and strokes and turns). No experience necessary, but we can't host a meet without your help. Check the [RMAL](#) website for registration schedule. We will also send email reminders.

Volunteers (We NEED You):

We have been lucky to have a group of parents who have volunteered for key positions for several years. However, many of these parents have swimmers who have/are graduating. We need a new wave of parent volunteers in order to have a successful season. There are several parents who have swimming experience and can easily use that knowledge to help at swim meets. The key positions that may need some training include: computer operator, starter, referee, strokes and turns official, head timer, and clerk of course supervisor.

We will need volunteers to attend RMAL trainings for some of the jobs that require a little guidance.

- Approximately 60+ volunteers are needed for a home meet
- Families are asked to volunteer for 3 halves during the season
- Commitment can be done by parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings (minimum of 12 yo), family friends...anyone that can fulfill the duties of the position
- Up to the individuals to coordinate
- If we do not have enough volunteers, families will be assigned (worse case scenario)

Practice Schedule 2024:

Age Groups - Age as of May 31st, 2024					
6 & under	7-8	9-10	11-12	13-14	15-18

May 14th- 4:15-6:00 - Meet the Coaches/Parent Rep 🌞 Ice Cream Social 🌞 Virginia Swim Shop for Suit Fitting

May 20th through May 23rd – Monday through Thursday

4:15 to 5:00 pm. 11 and over

5:00 to 5:45 pm 10 and under

Mini-mites (6 and under) will start practice on May 28th.

May 28th through June 5th – Afternoons Only (Monday-Friday)

4:15 to 5:00 pm 13 and over

5:00 to 5:30 pm 6 and under

5:30 to 6:15 pm. 7-8 year old

6:15 to 7:00 pm 9-12 year old

Morning Practice June 6th - July 8th (Monday-Friday)	Afternoon Practice June 6th - July 9th (Monday - Thursday)
8:30 to 9:30 am - 13 & over	4:45 to 5:30 pm- 13 & over
9:30 to 10:15 am - 9-12 yr old	5:30 to 6:00 pm- 6 & under
10:15 to 11:00 am - 7/8 yr old	6:00 to 6:45 pm- 7/8 yr old
10:15 to 10:45 am. - 6 & under	6:45 to 7:30 pm- 9-12 yr old

Championship Practice: July 10th - July 15th

For those swimming in Championships only

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. **and/or** 5:30 - 6:15 pm 10 and under

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. **and/or** 6:15 - 7:00 pm 11 and over

There will be no practice on the following dates: May 27th, 31st, and July 4th	Fun Day Practices (10-11am for all ages) June 12th, 19th, 26th, July 9th ** SWIM TEAM MEMBERS ONLY**
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Practice Attire: Swimmers should wear a proper swim suit (one piece) and should have well fitting goggles and caps (for swimmers with longer hair). Swimmers should bring a water bottle to practice (please make sure the water bottle is labeled with the swimmer's name).

Meet Schedule

Week 1- June 4th Granite at Willow Oaks (6:00 pm)	Week 2 Tuesday, June 11th Surreywood at Granite(6:00 pm)	Week 3 Tuesday, June 18th Charter Colony at Granite (6:00 pm)
Week 4 Tuesday, June 25th Granite at ACAC (6:00 pm)	Week 5 Tuesday, July 2nd Brandermill at Granite (6:00 pm)	Week 6 Monday, July 8th Granite at Bon Air (6:00pm)
Championships - Tuesday July 16th SwimRVA Times to be determined.		

Meet Information:

All meets start at 6:00 pm. Warm ups for home meets begin at 4:45 pm and 5:15 pm for away meets.

Items to bring to a meet: swimsuit, goggles, swim cap, a towel, sweatshirts/sweatpants (cools off at night), sharpie, entertainment items (books, cards)

It is a good idea to pack a cooler (especially for away meets) with sandwiches, crackers, fruit, water, sports drinks, but make sure you bring money for the Famous Granite Grill for home meets.

Meet organization: Swimmers will swim in events based on the swimmer's age and gender. The order of events: 8 and under relays, individual medley, freestyle, backstroke, butterfly, breaststroke and 9 and over relays.

Meet Theme: We will announce a theme for each home meet this year prior to the meet. We also are planning some special "olympic" events for fun day practices this year.

FAQ's

How does the team share information to families about meets and other events?

We will email most information to families. Be on the lookout for Email messages with the address of no-reply@active.com. You may need to check your SPAM folder if you are not receiving messages. Also, please make sure you have any additional email addresses listed in the "secondary contact information" when you register.

We also will send text messages for meet/practice cancellations or changes. Once again, make sure you have the correct CELL phone number listed when registering (verify secondary contact information as well).

What happens when bad weather hits?

We usually do not have to cancel morning practices, but since we are starting morning practice much earlier than normal, we will monitor air temperatures and adjust if necessary. If the pool is closed for weather conditions, we may have to adjust or cancel practice. We will try to alert parents as soon as possible.

Meets can be rescheduled or canceled due to inclement weather. If bad weather hits before the start of the meet and it does not look like it will pass for quite some time, the meet may be postponed to the next available evening. If bad weather hits during the middle of the meet, the meet may be postponed or be called. Once again, we will communicate as soon as possible.

What happens at "Fun Day"?

The coaches will organize games and activities for swim team members. At the end of practice, ribbons will be distributed and a treat provided (donuts, most of the time). Due to limited space and practice opportunities in the evening, we will only provide ribbons and treats for evening practices (we may do some fun relays).

Do swimmers have to participate in meets?

Yes. The expectation is that when a child is ready to swim, they participate in every meet. If a swimmer is not able to compete in a meet (vacation, camp, work, etc.), please let the coaches know immediately. It is very difficult to make changes to entries after our entries are due (24 hours before the start of the meet).

Do parents have to attend practices?

No, but coaches will not be able to supervise swimmers before or after their scheduled practice times. If parents do attend practices, please allow the coaches space to instruct the swimmers at practice. If you have any questions for the coaches, please reserve those until after practice. If it cannot wait, please speak to Coach Matt at practice.

How do I sign up my child for a meet? When can I leave the meet?

We will send an email out letting you know when families can announce their intentions to participate in a meet. When selecting “attend or decline” on the invitation, you will also be able to “request” the events your child would like to swim. However, the coaches will have the final say (sometimes we place swimmers in events for competitive reasons or because the coaches believe a swimmer is ready to swim an event). Please remember an individual medley requires the swimmer to swim each stroke for a length of the pool. This event is usually reserved for swimmers 9 and over. This event is different from the medley relay which has 4 swimmers swimming one of the four strokes. The coaches will create relays, so there is no need to sign up for a relay event.

Once your child has swum their events, they are free to leave the meet. However, if they are not scheduled to swim in a relay, they should check with the coaches to make sure they are needed for a relay. If they are scheduled to be in a relay, they are expected to swim the event.

How do I Volunteer Online for Meets and Special Events

1. Log In to the Active Swim Portal
2. On the right side of the page under the box with your Account profile information, and under the heading “Payment Notifications” the current meet we need volunteers for will be listed in blue.
3. Click on the blue link for the current meet. This will take you to the volunteer page
4. Click on the job that you would like to volunteer for – you will have to go through the process of entering your name, DOB, address, email, phone number (not hard, but for some reason the Active site requires that info – it’s not a Granite thing).
5. Sign up for one or more jobs (1 st , 2 nd or both halves) and hit Submit button
6. You will need to do this for each of the 6 regular season meets and some for Champs in July.
7. Show up on time to the meet and report to the deck when volunteers are called for meetings prior to the start of the meet (timers, strokes and turns).
8. If you cannot fulfill the job you signed up for (life happens), it is **YOUR** responsibility to find a replacement and let the parent rep know in advance.

Job Descriptions:

Strokes and turns, referee, starter, computer operator do require RMAL training. Please monitor the RMAL website for training schedule. We have several parents who are “retiring” this year and have been performing some of these jobs for over a decade. We desperately need new volunteers to be trained.

Timers/Head Timer – no experience needed, best seat in the house right at the pools edge

Strokes and Turns – must attend one training session and watch videos on proper stroke technique

Mite Parent – no experience needed; you will help wrangle the young kids for their events. Great job for parents of little ones who want to be near the action

Clerk of Course helpers – no experience needed, assist the head Clerk of Course organize swimmers in heats/lanes

Runner – no experience needed, collects timer sheets and DQ slips after each heat and delivers to computer table and referee

Heat Winner – no experience needed, hands out the “treat” to the winner of each heat for younger swimmers

Grill Workers – no experience needed, home meets only. Help grill (burgers and hot dogs), work the booth to sell home baked goods as our teams fundraiser