

Parkland Whale Parents—Hello!

Things to Know for the 2024 Season

- **Officials Certification and Meet Roles:** Swim teams are an amazing experience for kids, but like everything else, they require a major commitment from parents. This summer, I will assign roles as other league teams do. If your child is swimming in a meet, please plan for one parent/guardian to work at least half of the meet. Anyone can be a timer. However, we need trained officials—and believe me, we're all out of our element here. **If you were an S&T Judge or a Starter last year, you remain certified and will probably need to work at least two meets in this capacity.** For a refresher, please sign up on the [MCSL website](#).
 - Stroke and Turn [Recertifying 5/29, 6/2, 6/10, and 6/12; First-time, 6/2, 6/6, 6/9, and 6/12].
 - Starters [May 22, June 4, June 9]
- **First Practices:** Parent meeting, Tuesday June 4 @ 6 p.m., followed by **Meet the Coaches**, Tuesday June 4 @ 6:30 p.m. **First practice**, Wednesday, June 5. All swimmers planning to compete this summer should be there at 5:30 p.m. **Pre-team kids** will start the following week, **June 10**.
- **Gear:** Swimmers can purchase a Parkland Whales swim cap in the [Team Store](#) on Swimtopia. We wear black swimsuits with the official team logo. You can purchase a suit at [Capital Sport and Swim](#) in Kensington, or if you already have one, take it there and they can apply the logo for a small fee (something like \$5—don't quote me).
- **Season:**
Pre-team practices Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 5:30-6:00 p.m. **Swim-team practices every weeknight, M-F.** Those with less skill/stamina will swim from 5:30-6:15 p.m.; stronger swimmers who've competed will practice from 6-7 p.m. These determinations will be made/communicated by June 2. If you haven't already, register on [Swimtopia](#) and download the app for info and timely communications.

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| Meet 1: June 16, 7:45 a.m. | Kemp Mill/Parkland @ Poplar Run |
| Meet 2: June 26 at 4:45 p.m. | Middlebridge/Parkland @ Kemp Mill |
| Meet 3: June 30 at 7:45 a.m. | Tanglewood/Parkland @ Kemp Mill |
| Meet 4: July 7 at 7:45 a.m. | Twinbrook/Parkland @ Kemp Mill July 7th |
| Meet 5: July 14 at 7:45 a.m. | Upper County/Parkland @ Kemp Mill July 14th |
| Divisionals, July 21 @ 7:45 a.m. | Divisional Meet @ Kemp Mill |

- Additional needs:** Many things will come up, but we urgently need a small committee to organize cheers, purchase/deliver snacks, etc. We have a small slush fund—big thanks to Nicole M. for fundraising efforts last season—but we'll need to continue and expand these efforts.