

## Welcome to the Dearborn Dolphins!

It is the mission of the Dearborn Dolphins (DRD) competitive swimming program to help develop goal-oriented, ambitious, and dedicated student-athletes. Our objective is to provide a foundation for success that will stay with the individual for his/her entire life. We encourage our swimmers to set high standards and expectations for themselves - to face challenges head on and learn to overcome adversity. This requires not only the physical ability, but also the mindset that, "Anything you can conceive of and believe in, you can ACHIEVE!" Through sport, an athlete may gain an understanding of the value of hard work, self-confidence, respect, team camaraderie, and sportsmanship. One may even find lasting friendships in the fiercest of rivals. These are the principles we believe in.

To join, you need to ask a coach (or Board Member) for and fill out the entire Registration packet -- ALL PAGES -- and turn it in with your check. Since our Spring session is only four weeks long, we are offering a one week trial period (instead of our normal two week trial). If you decide DRD is not for your swimmer, we will refund your money as long as you notify our Treasurer by **April 14, 2008**.

We provide several means of communication to keep you informed -- our website has a wealth of information regarding our team; we have a hotline that provides up-to-the-minute information regarding practice changes; and we have provided a phone list with all Board members' names, numbers and email addresses. Your swimmer's group liaison can provide answers to your questions as well as any other member listed.

Our hope is that you will use the team's website [www.swimdrd.org](http://www.swimdrd.org) regularly to keep better informed of what's going on with the club. Information regarding practice changes, meet entry availability and due dates, meet updates, and other notices will be posted on the website and updated daily.

Our Hotline number is **313-943-3304**. Remember to check it often for any updates.

We offer four ability levels as explained on the Training Levels paper provided in this packet. Practice is held at Edsel Ford High School for Seniors and Intermediates and at OL Smith Middle School for Novices and Juniors. Check the website or hotline for confirmation.

Our bottom line is swimming fast, racing and training "smart," recognizing the lessons learned, and enjoying the experiences we share each day.

**Thank you!**

The Dearborn Dolphins Swim Team

Fees -- Below is a table with our Training Fees listed. Each swimmer must also become a member of USS-Michigan at a cost of \$52.00 (or if joining after 4/1/08, \$32.00 for a special half season rate). If you are interested in joining, please ask one of the board members for the Registration packet. The Registration packet contains all of the paperwork that must be filled out and turned in with a check on the day your swimmer starts with DRD.

**Training Fees (which are subject to change):**

Sessions	Novice	Intermediate	Junior	Senior
FALL (starts in September) <b>Due date: 9/12/07 &amp; 10/20/07 if making 2 half pymts</b>	\$195	\$225	\$270	\$300
WINTER (starts in December) <b>Due date: 12/03/07 &amp; 1/03/08 if making 2 half pymts</b>	\$260	\$300	\$360	\$400
SPRING (starts in April) <b>Due date: 4/7/08</b>	\$65	\$75	\$90	\$100
SUMMER (starts in May) <b>Due Date: 5/5/08 &amp; 6/9/08 if making 2 half pymts</b>	\$195	\$225	\$270	\$300

**Swim Meets**

All practice and no meets? No way! Here at DRD, we offer each swimmer two different types of meets so they can check their progress.

League Meets -- each fall, DRD swims against several area swim teams in League Meets. The meets are scheduled on a weeknight, starting at either 6:30 or 7pm. There is typically no practice on those nights. There is no cost to swim in these meets -- you just need to make sure you sign up on the signup sheets posted at each pool one week before the meet. The meet schedule will be posted on our website, [www.swimdrd.org](http://www.swimdrd.org). League Meets are low pressure, high fun meets. There is a championship meet held at the end of November or beginning of December that all the clubs participate in.

USS Meets -- most weekends, from October to July, different USS swim clubs in Michigan host swim meets. Your swimmer may participate in as many or as few of these meets as you like. These cost \$4.00 per event, plus a \$4.00 DRD charge. The coaches are responsible for entering the swimmers in events, all you do is send an email to [meetsignup@swimdrd.org](mailto:meetsignup@swimdrd.org) letting the coach know that your swimmer would like to swim in a meet. There are examples posted on the website under the Meets link. These meets are more competitive than League meets, but can be just as much fun.

DRD hosts two USS Meets each year -- the Spooky Splash in October and the Freeze or Fry in June. These meets provide approximately 30% of our yearly income and we **require all families to work these meets**. These two meets are great places to make friends with other DRD families. This year, our Freeze or Fry Meet is June 20-22, 2008. **Each DRD family must work three sessions at this meet**. Information on this can be found online at our website.