

STARS **BLUE** Parents,

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far, away (from downtown Austin)...

Star Wars

It is still a period of civil unrest in Steiner Ranch. The **BLUE** team has been swimming for 6 years and has reached the top of Division IV and III and is patiently waiting for their swimmers to get older. But distractions like cheerleading, dance, soccer, and football claim swimmer after swimmer. But a core of families have stuck it out, welcoming new families every year, and have new hope as they are led by Coach Jeff and his crew of young and young-at-heart assistant coaches. They desire to one day reach the top of Division II but every year must swim against their neighbors on the **Red** team. The **Red** team hopes every year that they can squelch the rebellion with their superior numbers. They remember the past when there was only one team in the neighborhood and secretly desire our **cool** color to add to their uniforms and swag. But they have underestimated the heart of the **BLUE** team and their desire to stay independent. Oblivious to everyone is that no one outside of the neighborhood really cares...

Our annual meet with the Red team is tomorrow and this year looks to be a lot of fun! Because this meet is during the week, our timeline shifts to the afternoon/evening, so please pay close attention to the schedule.

Meet Location:

BELLA MAR Pool & Pavilion

Parking Crew arrival: 2:50 pm

Tent and Meet Set-Up Crew arrival: 3:00pm

Tent Parent check-in time: 3:30 pm

Swimmer check-in time: 3:40 pm (please check your child in at their tent with the Tent Parent on duty)

Volunteer check-in time: 3:45pm (please check in with the Volunteer Coordinators after you've checked your child in at their tent)

Warm-ups: 3:50 - 4:40 pm

Pre-Meet Meetings: 4:40 pm

Meet Start Time: 5:00 pm

As always, please do NOT be late for check-in! Please be on time!

Important Info:

The **STAR WARS** meet is always a fun way for our two teams to come together in competition and have a little fun, too! But please, leave the light sabers at home! Feel free to invite your friends and neighbors,

too; this is a great chance for us all to show our community what an incredible organization the Stars is and how many kids benefit from our program!

****PARKING** - We will be running the shuttle tomorrow. Let's see if we can beat our record of 13 cars using the shuttle!** Parking will be tight in and around Bella Mar. I strongly suggest that you CARPOOL, WALK, RIDE your BIKE, or have a friend/neighbor drop you off, **or use the shuttle**. The parking lot at Bella Mar will be reserved for board members and a few meet officials. Beware, the sheriff handed out tickets last week. If you **MUST** drive, please adhere to our parking guidelines:

DO NOT, under any circumstances, park in front of a residence anywhere in the Bella Mar neighborhood.

DO NOT park where there are cones or signs that say "NO PARKING". This meet will take place during after-work hours when people will be checking their mailboxes and trying to get home. You cannot park within the traffic circle, in front of fire hydrants, mailbox kiosks, or curbs marked in red/yellow. I've attached our parking map which highlights the areas in which you can and cannot park.

TENT AREA – We will be the "home" team this year, so our tents will be set up immediately inside the pool gates (same area as our last home meet). As you know, this area tends to get very crowded, so please be mindful of walking paths from the tents to the ready benches when setting up your chairs. If you are blocking a walkway, you will need to move to an area that does not obstruct the path. Our splash pool and baby pool will be **COMPLETELY OFF LIMITS** during the meet.

Once again, your swimmer **MUST REMAIN IN THEIR TENT AT ALL TIMES** unless you notify the Tent Parent. If your swimmer is not in the tent when their event is called and lined up, they may be scratched from their event!

THE MEET – The meet entries and heat sheets will be posted to the website soon. ****You will notice that we are NOT swimming Medley Relays. We will start the meet with the FREE RELAYS for ALL age groups and proceed with individual events.** This means that your swimmer may leave after he/she swims their last individual event. The heat sheets may still show the relays occurring at the end of the meet, but we will be swimming those first.

CLEAN-UP - Please remember to clean up after yourselves when you leave the pool. If you see trash lying around, please pick it up and throw it out. Our clean up team works very hard after each meet to ensure we leave the pool area just like we found it and you can help these efforts by cleaning up after yourself and your swimmer.

WHAT TO BRING –Please consider bringing the following items to make your meet experience more comfortable:

-BUG SPRAY

-Flashlights or headlamps

-You may bring your own beverages into the pool area, but **NO GLASS** containers. Please adhere to the 2 drink maximum.

-Be sure to wear your **BLUE** Stars gear (or at least wear **BLUE!**) to show your spirit!!

And lastly, please talk to your swimmer about showing good sportsmanship to our friends on the Red team! Let's have some fun!!

Our fearless Meet Director is Brad Stanton 512.694.4437. You may contact him or me with any questions or concerns. Please also reach out if you have a sick swimmer or are otherwise unable to make it on Wednesday.

See you at the pool! **GO STARS!!**

Albert Wong

512.567.9393

Stars **BLUE** Team Coordinator