

STARS BLUE Parents,

Our first meet is finally here!! We are so excited to see our swimmers in the water and look forward to a fun day on Saturday. Yes, this email is long, but it contains very important information regarding the do's and don'ts and in's and out's for Saturday's meet against Forest North Stingrays at the Milburn Pool in Cedar Park, so please read it carefully, *especially if this is your first year on swim team*. For those returning families, a little refresher will not hurt. Contact me with any questions or concerns. **Please report your absences as we always assume your swimmer is swimming unless we hear otherwise!**

Meet Location:

Elizabeth Milburn Pool: 1901 Sunchase Blvd, Cedar Park, TX 78613

Conversion factor 0.914

Set-Up Time: 5:25 am (tent transport and set-up crews)

Tent Parent check-in time: 6:00 am (take an accurate attendance 1st)

Swimmer check-in time: 6:10 am

Volunteer check-in time: 6:15 - 6:30 am (please check in with the Volunteer Coordinators (Dee, Viviana or Nathalie) **after** you've checked your child in at their tent) If you (or a proxy) do not check in with the VCs they will assume you are not here and then they will have to find a replacement for your job (and they will already be a little on edge before their daily fix of Starbucks).

Warm-ups: 6:35 to 7:00 am

Timers: 6:45am - Meet under the big clock at the pool entrance (near the restrooms) for a brief meeting.

Stroke Judges: 6:45am - meet by water slide for a meeting.

*****These meetings will not be announced due to city noise ordinance*****

First shift workers to posts: 7:00 am

Events 1,2,&3 to ready bench: 7:05 am

Meet Start Time: 7:15 am

Please do NOT be late for check-in! It is very important that we have all Tent Parents in place for swimmer arrival. If your swimmer is late, you risk having them scratched from relays which, in turn, affects other swimmers. Please be on time!

BASIC MEET INFO:

PARKING - CP has ample parking in their adjacent lot at Elizabeth Milburn Park Pool or north of the pool entrance on Sunchase Blvd. according to signage. There is a marked parking lane on both sides of the street about 20 feet from the pool entrance. Do not park on the grass or sidewalks. **Do not park at Family Dentistry or Acrotex business lots as they will tow!** The police often patrol the lot to look for illegally parked cars (parked in fire lanes, on grassy areas, etc.) Please see attached map for details for parking.

TENT AREA - Our tents will be set up on the left side of the pavilion, outside the fence in the grassy area between the home team tents and the park's playscape - along the sidewalk leading to the swimmer's ready bench entrance. There is a gate on the left side of the pool entrance that will be open for our team. **The playground is off limits.**

Important Info:

- **Label Everything** - team shirt, towels, bags, coolers, etc.
- **Pack the night before** - you're going to be getting up really early and the last thing you'll want to have to do is pack!
- Remember to treat our host team and each other with respect and courtesy. Talk to your kids about showing **good sportsmanship!** Congratulate and encourage your teammates!
- Please **clean up after yourself** and ask your swimmer to do the same.

What to bring

- **Your child** in their **Stars team suit and shirt**. Make sure you wait until *after they've been body marked* to apply sunscreen!
- **Goggles & Team Cap**. These are the number one and two items that are forgotten and can cause a lot of stress, especially for a new swimmer. Please label them! If you forget your cap, our wonderful apparel team will be on hand for you to purchase a replacement. **Audrey Penrose 512-673-3665 or Kendall Woltenberg 512-203-7769.**
- **Towels**. Bring two - one for your swimmer to sit on in the tent and one to dry off with. Again, label with your child's name.
- **Chairs**. You will need your own chair to sit on outside the pavilion.
- **Toys/Games**. There is a lot of down time between events so please pack your swimmer a device, toy or book. Many swimmers will bring their handheld gaming devices or phone. Please do not bring balls, Frisbees or other "active" toys as we really need the kids to stay in the tents.
- **Snacks**. While we definitely encourage everyone to visit the opposing team's concession stand, we also recommend packing healthy snacks for your swimmer to munch on. Fruit, granola bars, pretzels, and non-soda drinks are perfect. Please remember that we have many swimmers with nut allergies so please let your child's Tent Parent know if your child has peanut butter or other nuts in their snack bag.
- **Bag**. Please pack your swimmer's snacks, games/toys, clothes, towels, etc. in their own bag that you will leave with them in the tent. Swimmers will need to stay in their tents and will not be able to run around trying to find Mom and Dad in order to get a snack or their towel. The Tent Parents are responsible for getting your swimmer to their race on time and wandering children makes that job extremely difficult. If your

child wants to go to the concession stand, you will need to take them after you let the Tent Parent know. Tent Parents will take the swimmers to the restroom in groups.

- **Siblings & Family/Friends.** The more the merrier! However, siblings will be expected to stay with their parents and will NOT be allowed to sit in the tents with the swimmers. Extra children can be very overwhelming for the Tent Parents, so please keep your little ones with you.
- **Heat Sheets.** The meet entries will be posted on our website and you will be able to print the Heat Sheet for the meet. **As we may have several last minute cancellations, the relay information may not be totally accurate.** Please tell us if your swimmer will be absent as we always assume that your swimmer is going to swim unless we hear otherwise.
- **Tracking Meet events:** We will be using Swimtopia to track the meet events. Tent parents and swimmers' parents can download the Swimtopia App. Here is a link to information on the mobile Swimtopia App - [SwimTopia Mobile Keeps You Up to Date On Meet Days and In-Season](#) The free version is all that is necessary to track meet events. The Subscriber Code for the meet is S8MX8X4.
- **Our warm-up is scheduled for 6:35 am.** This does not mean you can arrive at 6:35! We will begin scratching swimmers from events shortly after check-in time, so please arrive at 6:10! Forest North will warm-up first and then we will warm-up. Coaches and Tent Parents will escort the swimmers to the pool - please stay back and allow your swimmer to walk to the deck with their age group.

Volunteer Assignment Meetings:

Please listen to the announcer for pre-meet meetings for certain volunteer shifts. All of the “on deck” positions will have a pre-meet meeting to discuss the responsibilities for that position. All 1st and 2nd half Judges will meet at 6:45 by the stairs by the water slide and Timers will meet under the clock at 6:45.

THE MEET!

- The meet is scheduled to start at 7:15
- Due to city code, there is a limit on the number of people inside the fence. So once you have watched your child swim, exit the pool area to allow for parents of swimmers in the next race.
- We will have a “half-time/shift change” after event #46 during which we will have Parent-Coaches relays, time permitting. If you’re interested in swimming in one of these relays, please let me know.
- There will be a Heat Ribbon given to the winner of each heat. The heat ribbon is given to swimmer/relay who touches the wall first regardless of any other factors such as disqualification or overall time. It is rewarded purely on who touches the wall first - plain and simple!
- Overall Ribbons are awarded to the top ten swimmers with the fastest time across an entire event. Those ribbons will be placed in your family folder and can be picked up at Wednesday’s practice. The same is true for the top three finishers in relay events. 5/6 and 7/8 swimmers will receive a Participation Ribbon for every meet and any swimmer who improves his/her time in a given event will receive a Time Improvement ribbon.

- Most of the 5/6's will be finished with their events at shift change after event #46. They are free to leave the meet once they are done swimming. Please be sure to check them out with their Tent Parent before leaving with them!! If you are staying at the meet for an older child, please keep your 5/6 swimmer with you as the Tent Parents are relieved of duty after the last 5/6 event.
- Concessions: There will be a variety of items including breakfast tacos, donuts, hot dogs, pizza, pulled pork, nachos, tacos, and drinks. Credit/debit cards are accepted at the concession stand.
- In the event that there are any controversies at the meet or you need to report an infraction by a judge, timer or other official, DO NOT approach that individual yourself. All issues need to be brought to the attention of the Meet Director, which will be **Albert Wong (512-567-9393 or ajwong1988@gmail.com)**. **Contact him or me with any last minute cancellations.**

Other Important Info:

- Flyover starts for age group 11-12 and up.
- No personal gear (tents, camp chairs, coolers, etc.) is to be set-up inside the fenced pool area. The grassy space surrounding the pool has ample room for families to set-up camp. Parents with strollers- please do not block the walking path on the pool deck...it gets crowded!
- Due to City Code, Home Team must keep careful count of the number of spectators inside the pool fence. Once we have reached capacity the life guards will not allow any more people inside. We ask that all parents watch their swimmers race and then leave the pool area to make space for the parents of swimmers in the next race.
- Please ask your swimmers to exit one of the marked swimmer exits rather than the main gate after their races. This will help the city keep accurate attendance counts. This route is marked with barricades, but swimmers will sometimes get confused and try to back track and go under the barriers. And in the same way, parents and spectators must enter and exit through the 2 main entrances. The one through the pool pavilion and then to the right of the concession stand.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

GO BLUE!

Lindsey Baek

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Stars BLUE Team Coordinator