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# *Smoky Mountain Invitational* **OFFICIAL MEET INFORMATION 2023**

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**Saturday & Sunday, July 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>**

[www.smi.swimtopia.com](http://www.smi.swimtopia.com)

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## **HIGHLIGHTS**

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*Maryville-Alcoa Flying Dolphins began as the John Sevier Flying Dolphins in 1973. The following summer, the Dolphins invited teams to join them for the very first Smoky Mountain Invitational Swim Meet. There were nine teams in attendance in 1974. Since then, SMI has become an annual event enjoyed by as many as thirty-one GKISA teams at a time.*

*Other than the GKISA City Finals, we are the only Tennessee summer facility using electronic timing equipment. Therefore, swimmers in need of official times for later summer swim events may benefit from this meet.*

*We are the only swim meet in Tennessee with available public Spectator Swim time. Ticket purchases for recreational swimming during the meet are available poolside.*

### **NEW THIS YEAR**

We've gone DIGITAL! No more paper forms!  
Gender Specification. See Official Meet Rules.

### **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

BOTH DAYS – Spectator Swim, Breakfast, Medals Ceremony.

SATURDAY – Senior Slide, Coach Tent Decoration Contest, Jacob Thomas Memorial Scholarship awarded.

SUNDAY – Coach Costume Contest, Coaches Relay, League Winner Banners Awarded.

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## **DETAILS**

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### **POOL**

*Springbrook Pool* is an outdoor recreational pool that includes six competition lanes that are 25 yards long with touchpad timing boards on each end.

Pool address is: **636 Vose Road, Alcoa, TN 37701.**

### **PARKING**

Parking areas are clearly designated in the Directions page of the SMI Website. Beware: vehicles parked on streets or blocking driveways anywhere in the neighborhood WILL be towed. You may drop off your supplies at the pool entrance, park your vehicle, and then return to take your things into the pool area. Do not leave your vehicle unattended in the drop off area. For more information, please see the website.

### **CONCESSIONS**

A vendor will serve breakfast options at the main gate before 9am. Concessions will be available at the pool site from Blount County Parks and Recreation from mid-morning on. See website for details.

### **VENDORS**

Various vendors and clubs will be on site throughout the weekend. See website for details.

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## TEAM INFORMATION

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### **TENT SETUP**

All teams in attendance are required to rent a tent through SMI from a local provider. (*If your team desires to use your own tent, you must request approval from the SMI Meet Director.*) Select tent size and location using the Team Registration on the Deadlines page. Last year's map is available for reference. After registration is closed, a current team location map will be posted.

### **ELECTRICITY**

No electrical cords, plug-in fans, charging devices, etc. are permitted on the grounds. Electricity in the facility is very limited and we do not want to take a chance of losing power to the timing equipment or scoring computers.

### **RESTROOMS**

There is one restroom facility at Springbrook Pool. However, as per the last two years, quality porta-johns are available in other convenient locations (see website map).

### **WORKERS**

ALL MEET PERSONNEL (volunteer workers, judges, coaches) must attend their required meeting each day in the Clerk of Course Tent prior to the start of the meet.

Each team present is required to provide the appropriate number of workers to run the meet. The number of required workers per team is in direct correlation to the number of swimmers each team has entered in the meet.

- ✧ **Trained/Certified Workers** from each team are to complete a form online beginning June 19<sup>th</sup>. Form closes when entries are due: **Midnight, Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**
- ✧ **All other workers** will be assigned by the SMI Team Workers Chair and posted online the Monday before the meet (see the Team Worker Schedule). Team Representatives are responsible for filling these jobs. Penalties for not fulfilling a team worker position will be: 50-point deduction to the team score per position left unfilled and 25-point deduction for late arrival to a position at a shift change.

### **WARMUP SCHEDULE**

Warmup lane assignments will be based on Team Entry data. Schedule will be posted online prior to the meet.

### **MEET TIME LIMIT**

Regarding inclement weather delays: each day, the last event must be started prior to 8:30 p.m. If the last full event is not yet started, that day's meet will end on the final heat of the prior event. Point totals will reflect the adjusted final event.

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## INVITATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

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### **REGISTRATION**

Team Registration opens **the first week of June**. Submit expected number of entries for each day of the meet, as well as the desired tent size and the number of coaches who will be in attendance.

### **DEADLINES**

There are strict deadlines for team registration, entries, fees, tent placements, worker forms, senior swim forms, etc. These deadlines are posted on the DEADLINES Page and linked to the SwimTopia Calendar for downloading to your personal schedule.

### **ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS**

*Any swimmer who disregards these qualifications will be disqualified from the meet.*

*Any petitions for exceptions to these requirements will be granted at the discretion of the SMI Board.*

#### ✧ **Competition entry is open to:**

- ♦ Any non-USA swimmer
- ♦ Any swimmer with a current USA number as of **August 1, 2022**, who has not been in any USA Swimming sanctioned meets since **August 1, 2022**.

This restriction also applies to any swimmer from any comparable swimming governing body from other countries or organizations around the world (“comparable governing body” will be determined by majority vote of the SMI Board).

#### ✧ **Exhibition entry is available to:**

- ♦ GKAISA swimmers needing a second league meet time to enter the GKAISA City Championship meet.
- ♦ Summer league swimmers who are personally invited by the SMI Board of Directors.
- ♦ Current USA swimmers needing entry times. Note – SMI is NOT a Sanctioned USA meet. All exhibition USA swimmers will be seeded in the first heat(s) of their event(s).

#### ✧ **Gender Qualifications**

\*SMI follows the Tennessee state middle school/high school ruling. Athletes must compete in compliance with the gender designation recorded on their birth certificate.

#### ✧ **Entry Limitations**

Each swimmer is limited to entering and competing in only four (4) events (whether competition or exhibition) in any of the following three combinations: 4 individuals; 3 individuals and 1 relay; or 2 individuals and 2 relays.

#### ✧ **Eligibility for age group events**

Swimmers must be entered in their respective age bracket for both the individual and relay events. The eligibility of a swimmer for a particular age group is determined by his/her age as of midnight, **May 31, 2023**. Current GKAISA rules pertaining to group eligibilities apply for the Smoky Mountain Invitational.

#### Exceptions:

- ♦ A swimmer moving up one age bracket for individual events must be designated EXHIBITION.
- ♦ Only ONE swimmer may move up ONE age group in relay swims. That is, a relay team may have only one swimmer who has moved up.
- ♦ A swimmer may petition for a waiver to the age requirement. (For example: a 19-year old swimmer who has just completed and graduated high that year.)

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## INVITATIONAL REQUIREMENTS continued

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### ✧ Special Needs Swimmers

The coach is responsible for notifying the Head Referee, *prior to the finalization of the seeding of the meet*, of any disability of a swimmer and of the requested modification. The swimmer/coach may provide a Personal Assistant or equipment (tappers, deck mats, etc.) if required. The Referee may, if needed, reassign lanes within the swimmer's heat. Notifying the Head Referee is done by filling out a Special Needs Swimmer Form on the "Team Coaches:" Page of the SMI website. This information will then be given to the Head Referee and all those needing to assist your swimmer.

### ✧ Entry Process

- ♦ Teams must submit an RSVP for approx. number of swimmers/day and team tent size on the SMI Website DEADLINE page by **Midnight on Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>**.
- ♦ Swimmer entries will be made through SwimTopia via your own team site. (Non-GKAISA participants will need to send in a Hy-Tek file.) Detailed instructions via the Coaches/Reps Page of the SMI Website.
- ♦ Submit times on the basis of 25, 50, 100 & 200-yard distances.
- ♦ Times must be submitted for EACH individual event entered by each swimmer. Relay times and relay swimmer names must also be entered.
- ♦ A time of NT will NOT be accepted.
- ♦ Entries are due by **Midnight on Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**.

### ✧ Entry Fees

The **entry fee is \$18 per swimmer** for both competitive and exhibition categories.

### ✧ Late Entry Policy

**No late entries** will be allowed. All entries will be finalized **June 30<sup>th</sup>** after proofing the entry documents.

### ✧ Entry Corrections

A Proofing Psych Sheet for each day will be posted after entries and payments are complete. Please review these documents for any clerical errors in the seed times, swim names, or event entries. Corrections can be made by emailing Scoring at [smi@flyingdolphins.org](mailto:smi@flyingdolphins.org). Corrections must be received before **Midnight, June 30<sup>th</sup>**. The meet will be seeded on **July 1<sup>st</sup>**. An official Psych Sheet will be posted online **July 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

## PAYMENT

- ♦ Full payment for all entry fees and tent rental is due by **Midnight, Tuesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>**.
- ♦ Online payment options will be available when registration opens.
- ♦ If your team needs to pay any portion by check or cash, you **must** contact the SMI Treasurer through the instructions given on the Payments Page.
- ♦ NOTE: Team entries will not be imported into the system until payment is confirmed.

## COACHES

See the Coach/Rep online page for specific coach information regarding: *Digital Heat Sheets, Complimentary Wristbands, Entry process, Coaches Relay, Coach Tent Decoration Contest, Senior Slide, etc.*

During the meet:

- ♦ Only ONE coach per team is to be on deck (per end, not per swimmer) during each race.
- ♦ On Saturday, only ONE coach per team is allowed in the COC area at any time.
- ♦ On Sunday, it is ideal for coaches (no limit) to assist in COC so young swimmers do not miss their races, especially during relay events.

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## OFFICIAL MEET RULES

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Except for the following stated rules for this meet and where GKAIISA rules apply, Official USA Short Course rules for swimming will govern all competition. Swimmers will be entered and will compete based on time only, subject to place ratification by the judging and timing point system within the heat.

### ✧ Finish Rules

All events will be timed finals with Automatic Touch Pad Timing Devices. Finished places as noted by the Finish Judge will be used by the Head Referee *only* in case of ties or discrepancy in the electronic times after watch times are assessed. The Score Board finishes are ***not*** official times or placement – official finish time and placement is determined at the Scoring Table by proper calculations of three separate timing data numbers per swimmer for all heats.

### ✧ False Starts

SMI will follow USA Swimming false start rules. Coaches, please remind your swimmers about this detail. If a swimmer false starts, they will be disqualified. **Falling into the pool if the clock has not been started by the Official Starter on the Referee Platform DOES NOT constitute a false start** and the swimmer may remount the blocks subject to discretion of the Referee.

### ✧ Smoky Starter Location

Due to the layout of Springbrook Pool, the Starter for SMI will not be within 10 feet of the start. The Starter and Head Referee observe the swimmers from a platform above the northwest end of the pool.

### ✧ Scratching

The Clerk of Course runs more efficiently when absent swimmers are scratched from an event prior to seating that event in the Clerk of Course. Please turn in Scratch Forms to the Scoring Table. The heat will be run with an empty lane where such a scratch occurs. NO SUBSTITUTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED! Heats will not be combined to speed up the meet. Exceptions will be by the sole discretion of the SMI Referee with input from Scoring and Clerk of Course.

### ✧ Mixed Freestyle Relays

The co-ed free relay will be composed of 2 male and 2 female swimmers of the same age group and team. There is no definite order in which they must swim. This is a freestyle relay.

### ✧ Special Relay Regulations

There is a set time for FINALIZATION of Relay team *names* which is presented at the coaches' meeting and posted on the Meet Schedule. These four swimmers MUST be the ones in the relay once Relay Sheets and Relay Cards are turned in. \*SMI allows freestyle relay participants to swim in any order – does not have to be the order submitted to Scoring. This also applies to medley relays if correct stroke order is legal. \*Coaches must inform Scoring if different order occurred during a race to keep correct times attached to individual's SwimTopia database. See **Detailed Relay Instructions** on the smi website 'Team Coaches' page.

### ✧ Points Awarded

- ♦ Point scoring in each of the age groups will be 16, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1 in individual events. These points are doubled for relay events.
- ♦ There will be no swim-offs. In the event of a tie, both swimmers (or relay teams) receive identical medals or ribbons. The next place will be skipped after a tie. Points granted by dividing the two scores in half.

*Example: Swimmers A & B have identical times for third place. Swimmers A & B are both awarded a bronze medal and the next swimmer, C, receives a fifth-place ribbon. A's team receives 11.5 points as does swimmer B's team. Swimmer C's team receives the 10 points for 5th place.*

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## OFFICIAL MEET RULES continued

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### ✦ Results

- ♦ Challenges to the printed and posted results will be accepted NO LATER THAN 30 minutes after the posting has been announced on the Public Address System.
- ♦ Challenges of the last event must be made NO LATER THAN 15 minutes after the posting of the results has been announced. All Challenges are to be made to the Scoring Table and will be addressed by the Scoring chairperson and the Head Referee.
- ♦ Official results will be posted on the website at the conclusion of each day. Individual Team Results will be uploaded to SwimTopia team accounts once the Smoky Mountain Invitational has been finalized. (We allow a 6-hour window after posting results Sunday on our website for corrections of 'clerical' type errors before finalizing the meet electronically through SwimTopia.) Expect this finalization on Monday following the meet.

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## AWARDS

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### INDIVIDUAL & RELAYS

- ♦ Medals will be given to swimmers on podium at the close of each day.
- ♦ Medals are awarded for the first three place finishes.
- ♦ Ribbons are awarded for 4th -12th place.

### TEAM

- ♦ First place team banners are awarded to each of the GKAIISA league divisions.

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## OFFICIALS

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**SMI HEAD REFEREE** – Saturday: Tom Schumann Sunday: Nick Hall

**SMI MEET DIRECTORS** – Joe Preston and Stewart Schmidt

If you have any questions prior to the meet, please feel free to contact one of this year's Meet Directors. Contact Information can be found on our website's SMI Board page.

### **TITLED SMI BOARD MEMBERS**

SMI Treasurer – Kate Phipps  
SMI Scoring – Alisa Riser  
SMI Communications – Amy Correa  
SMI Equipment – Gary Grinder  
SMI Clerk of Course – TBA  
SMI Team Workers – Chris Riser  
SMI Officials Coordinator - TBA  
Spectator Swim Coordinator – Bill & Jessica Offermann  
MAFD President – Morgan Everett

***All SMI Board Members are wearing Bright Orange SMI shirts. If you have questions during the meet, please find an SMI Board Member. They are happy to help you.***

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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### **TEAM REPRESENTATIVES**

Team Reps must check in at the Information Tent before 8:00am each day for their team packet. They can then distribute worker lanyards and complimentary spectator swim wristbands to their team workers. See the Team Representative's Page online for more details.

### **HEAT SHEETS**

The Daily Schedule and Event Timeline are available on the SMI Website. Specific swimmer event, heat, and lane information is found in the daily SMI Heat Sheet.

### **SMOKY SIGNALS**

For a small fee, a personal message will be read aloud by the announcer during the meet. Word count is limited. Smoky Signals may be purchased at the Information Tent.

### **JAKE THOMAS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Since 2008, a special memorial scholarship has been awarded by the owners of Swim & Tri each year at SMI on Saturday. Applications for this are due Friday, one week prior to SMI. More information can be found on the SMI Website. Senior swimmers – this a great opportunity for some college funds.

### **SENIOR SLIDE**

Each year, SMI recognizes GKAlSA swimmers who are graduating from the program and will not return to Smoky Mountain Invitational next year. Coaches/Reps must provide these names online by the deadline.

### **COACHES RELAY**

The **Eighth Annual Coaches Relay** will be held Sunday after the final heat of event 86. To participate, coaches must enter Event #101 using the Coaches Relay Entry Form. Link on Website.

**LOST & FOUND** is at the **Information Tent**.

**THE FIRST AID STATION** is located at the **Lifeguard Office** in the southwest area of the pool building.

**A FULL FACILITY MAP** is located on the **SMI website**.

### **ADMISSION IS FREE FOR SPECTATORS**

The Pavilion area is available for use by anyone while eating from the concession stands.

**NOTICE:** NO UNAUTHORIZED PEOPLE WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE SCORING TENT OR IN CLERK OF COURSE!

NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE PREMISES!

ANY SWIMMER OR SPECTATOR CAUGHT IN THE ACT OF VANDALISM OR DISORDERLY CONDUCT WILL BE ASKED TO LEAVE THE PREMISES AND MAY FACE PROSECUTION!

**The Springbrook Pool Manager, under the direction of Blount County Parks & Recreation, is in charge of the facility and will enforce their rules and regulations toward all in attendance.**

***WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THIS YEAR'S  
SMOKY MOUNTAIN INVITATIONAL!***