

## **How SCRIP saves our family HUNDREDS of Dollars**

Hello fellow SEA families,

My name is Sarah Foster and all three of our children Nathaniel (9- Gold), Nicholas (7- Bronze) & Sarina (4- Bronze) currently swim for SEA. We first joined the SEA team in the fall of 2016. Prior to SEA we have never participated in competitive sports and were surprised to realize that we had to FUNDRAISE in addition to paying the registration & meet fees. I am by no stretch of the imagination a sales person and truth be told feel uncomfortable asking friends and family to pay a hefty price on pies, popcorn, pizzas or any other typical fundraising item.

I first learned about SCRIP through the NEWSLETTERS that come out weekly. It sounded good, so I looked at what it was about and learned that I had to register, give my bank info etc. Well needless to say it sounded too complicated and I figured I will just pay the money.

It was not until our first meet at Walter Schroeder in November of 2016 that Halina Pudzisz encouraged me to give it a try and sign up. Since I did the truly simple registration process I have not looked back and it has saved me by now over ONETHOUSAND Dollar, to be precise \$1113.45 as of today 9/29/17!! YES, you read that correct!

The SCRIP program gives a percentage back to you on each purchase and SEA allows its members to keep 100% of that money to use toward registration and meet fees, unlike some schools and other sport clubs. SCRIPs program allows you to either purchase physical giftcards or use their [www.myscripwallet.com](http://www.myscripwallet.com) APP / Website to get instant giftcards or reload a physical giftcard that you have such as for PickNSave, Speedway, and/or PaneraBread to name a few.

I am horrible at planning ahead and therefore do not like to get physical giftcards, except for Kwik Trip. I primarily use the [www.myscripwallet.com](http://www.myscripwallet.com) App for which I keep a quick link in my FB messenger, I have an Android phone. Apples iPhone allows you to save the website as an app-tile on your phone. Although places such as Amazon only give you 2.5% back it adds up and who doesn't shop on Amazon?!

When shopping at Old Navy, Sam's Club, Nike or Adidas for example I will have my app open, wait for the total to get rung up and simply purchase a giftcard on my phone, which after about 30-45 seconds shows up. All my giftcard balances remain in one place and I don't have to worry about forgetting where I put a giftcard or how much is left on it. I don't have to worry about preplanning each month to get a certain amount of physical giftcards that I will then have to carry around to be sure to use.

SCRIP frequently has 'ThankSCRIPing days' on which dates random retailers will give additional percentages. Old Navy will go to 20-25% for example, Applebees went from 8% to 18% the last time etc. Although there is a very minimal fee of 15 cent per each gift card order the savings have clearly outweighed the fee. Most retailers participate in the program and allow for instant giftcards on the App. I have found that although TJMaxx is not on their myscripwallet app as instant option, their giftcard loads instantly as well when you go to their main website [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) from your phone once your total rang up.

I already fundraised my required \$150 for the Fall/Winter Season 2017 and will be able to use the rest either toward my children's meet fees or the registration fees for Spring/Summer. I am so grateful that I can use the SCRIP FUNDRAISING option as it saves us HUNDREDS of dollars and I don't have to worry about putting up flyers at work, asking around for friends and family to spend money etc.

Since SEA also does Team Fundraisers such as Buffalo Wild Wings, we enjoy going at times. Not only will SEA get 10% back on the total bill but I will also get at least 8% back as I use SCRIP to pay. Win-Win for me and the team 😊

If you are uncertain on how to get started I would be more than happy to help guide you through the process, as would Halina Pudzisz who is our SCRIP coordinator. You can either catch me on the pool balcony at Case from 530 most nights or call me if you have questions at 262-344-4433.

Give SCRIP a serious TRY!!! As Thanksgiving is approaching the percentages will be insane and getting your Christmas shopping done while earning money back toward your child's fees sound pretty awesome to me!

Welcome to all the NEW SEA families and glad to see so many familiar faces back on the balcony at Case!

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(proud MOM of three SEAtastic young swimmers)