

Serpent Times

newsletter for
Southeastern Aquatics
Racine Family YMCA Swim TEAM
est. 1984



TEAM SEA's Mission:

To empower the youth of Southeastern Wisconsin in a safe and supportive environment to be champions in life through excellence in swimming.

October 1, 2026

Neil's Notes

Welcome to the start of our 43rd SEASON! The excitement and energy on deck during our first week has been, in a word, amazing. We currently have 32 new swimmers testing the waters here at TEAM SEA and everyone seems to fitting right in. We want to compliment our veteran swimmers and families on everyone's ability to be accommodating and welcoming ... great job and keep it up!

Families currently participating in our tryout period are welcome to train with us through Friday this week. After Friday, if your family has decided that TEAM SEA is a good fit, please reach out to me and I will assist you with the registration process.

Returning families should have already submitted online registration and/or forwarded their first monthly payments in addition to having zeroed out their family's escrow accounts. Please ensure these items are taken care of promptly if you have not done so yet.

The deadline to attend the first meet of our new season is Thursday, October 8. Any family interested in racing during the OZ Fall Classic (October 16-18) should send an email my way to have their swimmers slotted into the meet. The current list of swimmers planning on racing can be viewed on our website.

We will be hosting our first meet of the season on November 1 at the RAC. Mark your calendar and visit our website for more information!

One of the most important traits of our team is communication. We try really hard to be super responsive when families reach out with questions or concerns. Please, if you are confused about anything swim team related, do not hesitate sending an email, text or calling. We are here to help!

We all have important jobs to do here at TEAM SEA. Swimmer's swim, coaches coach and parents have the most important job of all ... love, support, and transport. LOVE your swimmers unconditionally (win, lose, draw, or DQ), SUPPORT your swimmers (ensure they

have the equipment they need, feed them, make sure they get eight hours or more of sleep each night, etc.), and TRANSPORT them (get them to practice and meets regularly, but more importantly – on time).

What is not your job as a parent? DO NOT COACH your swimmers. Please leave that to your staff of professionals.

Here are a few final reminders in regards to attending and departing practice:

- 1) Swimmers should never leave their belongings in the locker rooms (unless they are using a lock), please have your swimmers keep their items on the pool deck.
- 2) Locker rooms are not play areas. At the conclusion of practice, swimmers have 15-minutes to shower, change, and depart for home.
- 3) Family and friends can view practice from the spectator stands upstairs.
- 4) Do not drop off your swimmer at practice unless you are sure a SEA coach is on deck.
- 5) All swimmers should be picked up no later than 8:45 PM.

6) TEAM SEA is a bully-free swim team and bullying of any kind will not be tolerated (whether physical or verbal).

Reminder, all swimmers on TEAM SEA need to carry a current USA Swimming Membership.

Please note, the information in our weekly newsletter changes from week-to-week. Dates and times for upcoming events are fluid and can change. Please ensure you are reading the latest newsletter so you are up-to-date!

I can be reached at 262.994.3157 or south.eastern.aquatics@gmail.com. Please contact me when you have any questions, concerns, or comments.

Are you social? TEAM SEA is – find us at Instagram (seaswimteam) and Facebook (SEA Swim Team – this page is set to private and you'll need to request to join).

OZ Fall Classic Meet Information

Watch for finalized meet information listed here in the coming weeks.

Drive safe, swim fast, have fun!

Upcoming Meets

<i>Date</i>	<i>Meet</i>	<i>Entry Deadline</i>
Oct 16-18	OZ Fall Classic	10/8
Nov 1	SEA Pentathlon	tba
Nov 6	Conference Meet	tba
Nov 15	SSTY YMCA Invite	tba
Nov 20-22	Arena Mid-Season Showdown	tba
Dec 4	Conference Meet	tba
Dec 5-6	YMCA Finalist	tba
Dec 11-13	RA Distance Classic	tba
Dec 12-13	12&U Single Age State	tba
Jan 9-10	SEA Penguin Challenge	tba
Jan 17	Conference Meet	tba
Jan 22-24	ChaseStrong Invite	tba
Jan 24	J-HK 8&U All Star	tba
Feb 7	Conference Champs	tba
Feb 19-21	WI LSC Regionals	tba
Feb 26-28	Senior State	tba
Feb 27-28	10&U State (we host)	tba
Mar 5-7	11-14 State	tba
Mar 13-14	YMCA Sectionals (we host)	tba
Mar 19-21	YMCA State	tba
Mar 30-Apr 3	YMCA Nationals	tba

Canceled Practice Dates

We have a few dates scattered throughout the season where we lose pool time at RAC and cannot secure pool time at any of our back-up pools. We are unable to conduct practice on the following dates:

October 6, 13

November 27

Please watch this area of the newsletter for additional dates which may be added in the future.

YMCA Nationals Required Meets

Athletes qualified for, working towards, or may be attending as a relay swimmer will need to ensure they attend the following meets in order to race at YMCA Nationals which will take place in Greensboro, NC, March 30-April 3, 2027.

- 1) November 15, YMCA Invite
- 2) December 5-6, Y-Finalist
- 3) March 13-14, YMCA Sectionals
- 4) March 19-21, YMCA State

New Family Meeting Scheduled

To assist our new families in understanding the ins-and-outs of TEAM SEA, we have scheduled a new family meeting on Monday, October 19 at 6:00 PM in the lobby of

the Racine Aquatic Center. We hope you can attend, but if you are unable – and have questions, concerns, or comments – please reach out to Coach Neil and he will be happy to assist you.

Please understand, there is a huge learning curve when joining a competitive swim team. You will not know everything right away, but that's okay! Speak with any coach and they will attest, after the first year, everything becomes a lot clearer!

14&U Zones Recap & Highlights

We sent six swimmers to this past summer's 14&U Zone meet in Minnesota ... we believe this a record number of swimmers for TEAM SEA!

Congratulations to Jordan Borzynski, Charlotte Gruettner, Braxton Rosemann, Kaylee Staniger, Harrison Yanke, and Vivi Yanke on their efforts!

Team Records: Harrison Yanke 9-10 50 Breaststroke, 39.13 (old mark was held by Connor Sanders, 40.49 from 2001), 200 IM 2:49.27 (broke own record of 2:50.09 from this summer), 100 Breaststroke. 1:27.25 (broke own record of 1:28.02 from this summer), and 200 Freestyle, 2:33.55 (old mark was held by Micah Eberle, 2:33.55 from 1992).

Top Ten times: Jordan Borzynski 13-14 2nd 50 Freestyle 25.99 and Charlotte Gruettner 9-10 3rd 50 Breaststroke 44.49, 3rd 100 Backstroke 1:23.58, 2nd 50 Backstroke 37.40.

Harrison won the 50 and 100 Breaststroke events and podiumed in three other events and Jordan and Charlotte scored points by placing in the top 16!

Way to go!!

Fifteen Long Course Team Records Broken

We had a great long course season last summer! Here's the list of new team records that were broken during our 2026 Summer Season ...

9-10 age-group

- 1) Charlotte Gruettner, 200 Breaststroke, 3:48.90
- 2) Charlotte Gruettner, Bria Widmar, Zoey Aho, Molly Staniger, 200 Freestyle Relay, 2:25.36
- 3) Zoey Aho, Charlotte Gruettner, Bria Widmar, Molly Staniger, 200 Medley Relay, 2:49.24
- 4) Harrison Yanke, 200 Freestyle, 2:32.91
- 5) Harrison Yanke, 50 Breaststroke, 39.13
- 6) Harrison Yanke, 100 Breaststroke, 1:27.25

- 7) Harrison Yanke, 100 Butterfly, 1:20.14
- 8) Harrison Yanke, 200 IM, 2:49.27

13-14 age-group

- 9) Kaylee Staniger, 100 Breaststroke, 1:18.98
- 10) Braxton Rosemann, Kaylee Staniger, Vivi Yanke, Ireland Byrne, 400 Medley Relay, 4:55.38

17-18 age-group

- 11) Jack Borzynski, Nathan Breit, Nathaniel Foster, Ethan Eckel, 400 Freestyle, 3:41.34
- 12) Nathan Breit, Jack Borzynski, Nathaniel Foster, Ethan Eckel, 400 Medley Relay, 4:11.22

Senior age-group

- 13) Brady Moore, 50 Freestyle, 23.92
- 14) Brady Moore, 100 Freestyle, 51.98
- 15) Brady Moore, 200 Freestyle, 1:56.56

Way to go TEAM SEA! Let's focus our attention on our new season and the daily goal of maintaining processed focus during practices and meets ... let the outcomes take care of themselves!

Annual Halloween Party

Save the date ... we will be hosting our annual Halloween Party on Friday, October 23 at the RAC, 5:30-7:30 PM for all training groups. There are no practices offered this evening so we hope to SEA you there! Watch this section of the newsletter for more information in the coming weeks.

ChaseStrong Invite (team travel meet)

We will continue our tradition of racing in Indiana during the ChaseStrong Invite, January 22-24. Hotel information will be posted in this section of the newsletter soon. As last year, 13&O swimmers are invited to travel with the coaches to and from this meet. If your swimmer is planning on attending this meet with the coaching staff, please reach out to Coach Neil stating your intentions (last year cost about \$250 and which included transportation and hotel). More information coming soon.

RaiseRight Fundraising Information

SEA offers RaiseRight (formally SCRIP) sales as a fundraising option for our families. This has proven to be an easy way for many families to meet their fundraising requirement! RaiseRight offers gift cards for many favorite merchants and restaurants, including Kohl's, Walmart, Pick 'n Save, Target, Kwik Trip, Starbucks, Amazon, iTunes, and many more.

They make great gifts and are easy for families to use for personal use while fundraising. Take a look at the list, watch for specials, and see how easy it is to raise funds while you shop. Read the "how to" pages linked on our RaiseRight webpage (www.sea-y.org/scrip) - you can also read about PrestoPay on that page too.

Your order can be placed at www.shopwithscrip.com by use the SEA enrollment cord (please email Coach Neil at south.eastern.aquatics@gmail.com for the code) and registering for PrestoPay at least two days before placing your first order. DO NOT place your first order until the PrestoPay registration process is complete. PrestoPay is safe, simple and the only payment method accepted by SEA.

RaiseRight delivery is in the pool balcony/bleachers, but individual arrangements can also be made. You may also take advantage of re-load and ScripNow options in between deliveries. Thank you for shopping!

Order Dates

<i>Order By</i>	<i>Delivery On</i>
October 11	October 14-15
November 15	November 18-19
December 13	December 16-17
January 10	January 13-14
February 14	February 17-18
March 14	March 17-18

If you have any questions or need help, please reach out to Coach Neil at 262.994.3157 or at south.eastern.aquatics@gmail.com.

2027 13&O Training Trip Information

Since 1999, TEAM SEA has offered a 13&O Training Trip experience for our athletes. These trips are major highlights of their time with TEAM SEA and give them a great opportunity to not only bond together as a team, but solely focus on swimming and only swimming for a solid week.

We traditionally stay west of Panama City Beach in Florida, secure lodging on the beach, and train at Frank Brown Park. The cost usually runs around \$1,500 per athlete and includes transportation, lodging, pool access, and dinners. Our next training trip is scheduled for June 20-27, 2027.

Athletes planning on attending next year's trip need to forward a non-refundable \$200 deposit by December 1, 2026 to reserve their spot.

We try our best to allow everyone to attend these trips, but these trips have "sold out" in the past. Take advantage!

There's more information on our website to read or kindly speak with Coach Neil if you have questions.

October Birthdays – Happy Birthday!

Aubrey Becker, Eden Cayemberg, Silas Coughlin, Sarina Foster, Kylie Greiner, Adeline Hell, Miles Hoffman, Roman Kennedy, Nate Steenrod, Molly Warren, Bria Widmar, Valeria Zavala Lopez.

Extended Calendar

October

6 No practice (no pools available)
13 No practice (no pools available)
16-18 OZ Fall Classic
19 New Family Meeting, 6:00 PM in lobby
23 No practice
23 Annual Halloween Party, 5:30-7:30 PM

November

1 SEA Pentathlon Meet
6 Conference Meet
15 SSTY YMCA Invite
20-22 Arena Mid-Season Showdown

December

4 Conference Meet
5-6 YMCA Finalist
11-13 RA Distance Classic
12-13 12&U Single Age State

January

9-10 SEA Penguin Challenge Meet
17 Conference Meet
22-24 ChaseStrong Invite
24 J-HK 8&U All Star

February

7 Conference Champs
19-21 WI LSC Regionals
26-28 Senior State
27-28 10&U State (SEA hosts at RAC)

March

5-7 11-14 State
13-14 YMCA Sectionals (SEA hosts at RAC)
19 Final practice of the Fall & Winter Season
19-21 YMCA State
30-3 YMCA Nationals

April

19 Tryouts
20 Banquet
21 Spring & Summer Season begins

May

1-2 SEA Early Bird Meet
28-30 BAC JPI Invite

June

4-6 SEA Pirate Plunge Meet
18-19 SEA Summer Sizzler Meet

July

15-18 Speedo Sectionals

16-18 WI LSC Regionals

23-25 12&U State

29-1 13&O State

August

5-8 14&U Zones (RecPlex)

September

20 Tryouts, 5:30-6:30 PM

22 Fall & Winter Season begins

Some Tips on How to TEAM SEA

In this section of the newsletter, you'll be able to review some of the processes involved with TEAM SEA. If you need additional help in understanding anything TEAM SEA related after reading this section, please reach out to Coach Neil. *Please note this section is under construction and will be updated throughout the season.*

How do we sign-up our swimmers for meets?

To enter your swimmer in any meet on our meet schedule (which can be viewed online at MEMBERS/MEET SCHEDULE or earlier in this newsletter) simply email Coach Neil stating which meet you plan on having your swimmer race in (please include the day(s) you plan on having your swimmer race if the meet is multiple days). 95% of our family's leave event selection up to the coaching staff (you are welcome to select your swimmer's events and if you do, please include them in the email you send).

Families can view meet information, entries, meet fees, and final results online on the MEET SCHEDULE page. Families should view their escrow account via MEMBERS/ESCROW ACCOUNT throughout the season and forward meet fee payments via check (payable to SEA) or cash to any coach on deck.

How do we purchase TEAM SEA swim caps?

Coach Neil has TEAM SEA swim caps with him at practices and meets. Cost for silicone is \$20 and latex is \$5. What's the difference between the two caps ... basically, thickness. These days, most swimmers prefer silicone, but to each their own.

How many practices should my swimmer attend?

General rule of thumb: Bronze and Silver 2-3, Gold 4-5, and Senior 5-6.

How do I receive emails?

If you are currently not receiving weekly newsletter emails and other updates, please

send an email to Coach Neil at south.eastern.aquatics@gmail.com and he'll ensure your email is added to the database.

I submitted a check for escrow and/or swim tuition and it's not cashed yet, when will it?

Deposits are made at the end of each month.

***Caring * Honesty
Respect * Responsibility
Build * Promote * Achieve***