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 22, 2026

Neil's Notes

Great meet last weekend in Mequon … read all about it later in this newsletter.

Tomorrow is our annual Halloween Practice/Party, 5:30-7:30 PM. We'll conduct a teamwide practice for a bit and then breakoff for fun relays and hopefully some diving board time. We'll finish up around 6:45 PM and head to the lobby for dinner. If this is your first Halloween with TEAM SEA please note it will be loud and it will be chaotic, but a lot of fun will be had. Hope to SEA you there!

Did you enter your swimmer(s) in our upcoming November 1st meet? Soft deadline to sign-up was yesterday! We can take additional entries and changes through October 28. Reach out if you would like to slot your swimmer(s) in the meet … there's still a little time left to make this happen. Take advantage!

As we progress through the season we work with our swimmers on the importance of our core values … caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. We work on instilling these values in all our athletes so the interactions which take place between their peers, coaches, officials, competitors, parents, anyone they come in contact with while representing TEAM SEA, are amazing. These core values are for everyone associated with TEAM SEA, parents and coaches alike!

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).

Upcoming Meets

Date	*Meet*	*Entry Deadline*
Nov 1	SEA Pentathlon	10/28
Nov 6	Conference Meet	10/26
Nov 15	SSTY YMCA Invite	11/2
Nov 20-22	Arena Mid-Season SD	10/25
Dec 4	Conference Meet	11/23
Dec 5-6	YMCA Finalist	11/23
Dec 11-13	RA Distance Classic	tba
Dec 12-13	12&U Single Age State	tba
Jan 9-10	SEA Penguin Challenge	12/28
Jan 17	Conference Meet	1/4
Jan 22-24	ChaseStrong Invite	tba
Jan 24	J-HK 8&U All Star	1/15
Feb 7	Conference Champs	1/25
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)	3/3
Mar 19-21	YMCA State	tba
Mar 30-Apr 3	YMCA Nationals	3/21

SEA Pentathlon Meet Information

We will be hosting and racing at the Racine Aquatic Center for our 17th Annual Pentathlon on Sunday, November 1. Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour when you hit the sack Saturday night as daylight saving time ends 2:00 AM Sunday.

Warm-ups begin at 8:00 AM, meet begins at 9:05 AM and is scheduled to end at TBD.

Watch the meet landing page for additional updates.

Drive safe, swim fast, have fun!

OZ Fall Classic Recap & Highlights

It's always a mixed bag when we attend the first meet of the Fall & Winter Season. It's great to get the first meet under our belts and shake the cobwebs off, but with only 18 practices under our belts, our 13&O swimmers tend to be on the struggle bus and our best time percentage as squad can be lacking (although, this meet wasn't terrible by any stretch of the imagination). Regardless, we are

a process driven team and we need to begin the season somewhere!

As a team we posted 54% best times (117 of 215 swims), nine DQs (three each for Breaststroke, Backstroke, and one each for IM, Butterfly, and Relay), and finished fifth of eight teams scoring 2,142.50-points (which makes total sense as we were the fifth largest squad in attendance).

New Single Age State qualifying times were turned in by Everly Hanson 8&U 25 Freestyle 16.95, Sophia Hanson 11-year-old 100 Butterfly 1:15.87, Hovan Karapetian 12-year-old 50 Breaststroke 37.32, AJ Phillips 8&U 50 Freestyle 40.56, Quinn Schmidt 9-year-old 50 Butterfly 43.66, and Molly Staniger 9-year-old 100 Backstroke 1:26.77, 50 Backstroke 40.24. Single Age State is scheduled for December 12-13 in Verona.

Achieving 100% best times in their events included Lilly Dolezal, Sophia Hanson, Abby Jurgens, Hovan Karapetian, Quinn Schmidt, and Molly Staniger.

Slicing five or more seconds in an event were Lilly Dolezal -10.08 100 Freestyle, Amalia Ehmcke -25.83 500 Freestyle, Asher Genduso -7.08 200 Breaststroke, EJ Gruettner -7.98 100 IM, Sophia Hanson -7.74 100 Butterfly, Miles Hoffman -23.80100 Butterfly, Abby Jurgens -6.06 100 Freestyle, Kealaula Licup -8.19 100 Breaststroke, Jocelyn Niebuhr -8.25 100 Freestyle, Isabelle Northern -10.20 100 IM, AJ Phillips -9.60 50 Backstroke, Quinn Schmidt -8.00 100 Freestyle, Claire Speers -11.30 100 Butterfly, and Molly Staniger -6.78 100 Backstroke.

Congratulations on racing in the first swim meet of your lives! Cheryl Celeste, Curtis Celeste, and Marian Dolezal!!

Winning a High Point award were Everly Hanson 3rd for 8-year-olds with 98-points, AJ Phillips 1st for 8-year-olds with 111-points, Molly Staniger 1st for 9-year-olds with 153-points, Quinn Schmidt 3rd for 9-year-olds with 125-points, Sophia Hanson 1st for 11-year-olds with 140-points, and Asher Genduso 2nd for 12-year-olds with 119-points.

First place finishers: Jordan Borzynski, Charlotte Gruettner, Sophie Hanson, AJ Phillips, Ellie Staniger, Molly Staniger

Second place finishers: Jordan Borzynski, Asher Genduso, EJ Gruettner, Everly Hanson, AJ Phillips, Quinn Schmidt, Molly Staniger

Third place finishers: Maya Bassler, Jordan Borzynski, Lincoln Grover, Charlotte Gruettner, EJ Gruettner, Everly Hanson, Miles Hoffman, Hovan Karapetian, Quinn Schmidt, Ellie Staniger, Molly Staniger

Great job TEAM SEA! Don't forget to sign-up to race in our upcoming Pentathlon (November 1st, deadline is this Wednesday, October 21). Take advantage!

Burghardt Sporting Goods Online Store

Our online Burghardt Sporting Goods team store is open! There's a lot of cool TEAM SEA items for purchase and items ordered will be mailed directly to your home. The store is open through October 22 and the store linked was shared via social media (Facebook) and via the weekly newsletter and cheat sheet emails. Order up!

Elegant Farmer Team Fundraiser

It's that time of year again! With Thanksgiving right around the corner, we will once again conduct our annual Elegant Farmer team fundraiser. Every item sold profits our team $7.00. Information is on our website under the Fundraising tab (view and print the order form there). Orders are due November 1 and pick-up is scheduled for November 7. Take advantage!

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:

November 6, 25-27

December 24-25

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

Annual Halloween Practice/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!

The night begins with a team wide practice before sliding into some relays and games.

Chick-fil-a sandwiches will be provided for all swimmers and families. A list of other items for families to donate can be found below. Please contact Coach Neil if you are willing to help make this event a success by supplying a donation.

Veggie tray (need three) – Ehmcke, Staniger, Hell

Fruit platter (need three) – Bassler, Johnson, Guetschow

Brownies (need three) – Chentnik, Dolezal, Van Dyke

Cake Pops – Fahy

Single serving juice boxes/bags (need a handful of these) – Steenrod, Balk, Horton, Dolezal

Case of water (need four) – Jurgens, Gustafason-Binger, Horton, Grover

Box of single serving chips (need four) – Hanson, Barden x2, Bassler

Paper plates & napkins (need 150 of each) – Bassler

If there is something else families think would be cool to bring, please reach out to Coach Neil and let him know.

Looking forward to a great night of fun!

ChaseStrong Invite (team travel meet)

We will continue our tradition of racing in Indiana during the ChaseStrong Invite, January 22-24. 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 which included transportation and hotel).

We have a block of forty rooms (20 double queen and 20 King + sleeper sofa) at the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Greenwood (1180 Wilson Drive in Greenwood, IN 46143) – 23-minute drive to the pool. $139 per night plus taxes and fees. Call 317.881.0600 to pull a room from the Southeastern Aquatics room block – deadline to secure your room is January 8, 2027.

Planning on traveling with the team: Aubree Van Dyke, Kaylee Staniger, Ellie Staniger, Vivi Yanke.

We hope to SEA you racing in Indy!

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.

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 PrestroPay 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

Order By	*Delivery On*
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.

October Birthdays – Happy Birthday!

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

Extended Calendar

October
23 No practice
23 Annual Halloween Party, 5:30-7:30 PM
November
1 SEA Pentathlon Meet
6 Conference Meet
6 No practice
15 SSTY YMCA Invite
20-22 Arena Mid-Season Showdown
25-27 No practice
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).

Family's 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