

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.

February 13, 2026

Neil's Notes

Please remember, we could not secure any pool time tonight so all practices are canceled. Gold and Senior will have practice tomorrow at the Y and we'll be back at the Racine Aquatic Center Monday.

The next "big" meet to sign-up for is WI LSC Regionals. This meet will be held at the Racine Aquatic Center (we are not hosting) and ALL our swimmers should enter! This is the final meet of the season to achieve USA State qualifying times. Deadline to sign-up is Sunday, February 15. The entire coaching staff is hoping for a very high percentage of our athletes' race in this meet!! Send an email my way if you would like your swimmer(s) slotted into the meet (please remember to include which days).

Good luck to our high school boys who will be racing in WIAA Sectionals tomorrow and hope to punch their tickets to WIAA State the following weekend.

Remember, YMCA Sectionals and YMCA State use December 1, 2025 as the age-up date. What does that mean? However old the athlete is on December 1st of 2025 will be the age the athlete will race for these two meets. Weird, yes, but it is what it is.

Additionally, we have a few important dates you'll want to save: 1) Team Picture will take place on Monday, March 9th beginning at 5:00 PM, 2) our annual Team Banquet will take place on Tuesday, April 21st, 3) our final practice of the current Fall & Winter Season will be held on Friday, March 20th, and 4) the first day of practice for the upcoming Spring & Summer Season is Wednesday, April 22nd.

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
Feb 20-22	Regionals	2/15
Feb 27-1	Senior State	2/22
Feb 28-1	10&U State	2/22
Mar 6-8	11-14 State	2/22
Mar 14-15	YMCA Sectionals	3/8
Mar 20-22	YMCA State	3/15
Mar 30-3	YMCA Nationals	3/22
May 2-3	SEA Early Bird	4/19
May 15	Conference Meet	tba
May 16-17	SSTY Distance/Sprint	tba
June 5-7	SEA Pirate Plunge	5/24
June 19-20	SEA Summer Sizzler	tba
June 26	Conference Meet LCM	tba
July 9-12	Speedo Sectionals	tba
July 10-12	West Michigan Classic	tba
July 17-19	WI LSC Regionals	tba
July 24-26	12&U State	tba
July 28	Conference Champs	tba
July 30-2	13&O State	tba
Aug 6-9	14&U Zones	tba

Conference Champs Highlights and Recap

Great meet last weekend in Lake Geneva. TEAM SEA won Conference Champs scoring 1,189.50-points, posted 59% best times (76 of 129 splashes) and five DQs (three Butterfly and one each for Breaststroke and a relay event). Way to go!

New USA State qualifying times were achieved by Sophie Gutknecht 13-14 50 Breaststroke 34.00, Ellie Staniger 11-12 200 Butterfly 2:40.86, 200 Backstroke 2:35.90, Bria Widmar 9-10 50 Backstroke 38.98, and Vivi Yanke 13-14 50 Butterfly 28.81.

New YMCA State qualifying times were notched by Allie Balk 8-year-old 50 Backstroke 47.20, Aviana Gelden 9-year-old 50 Backstroke 43.84, 50 Freestyle 36.40, Julissa Gonzalez 7&U 50 Breaststroke 1:04.24, 50 Butterfly 1:01.05, Bria Widmar 10-year-old 50 Backstroke 38.98, and Rosalie Zinnen 7&U 50 Backstroke

51.41, 25 Backstroke 23.62, 25 Freestyle 24.76.

Swimmers posting times in our Top Ten list were Molly Staniger 8&U 6th 25 Freestyle 15.45, 10th 25 Breaststroke 21.00, 3rd 25 Butterfly 17.02, Harrison Yanke 9-10 6th 100 Backstroke 1:14.90, 5th 100 Butterfly 1:16.73, Ellie Staniger 11-12 7th 200 Butterfly 2:40.86, Sophie Gutknecht 13-14 6th 100 IM 1:07.95, and Aubree Van Dyke 8th 100 IM 1:10.01.

Swimmers achieving 100% best times included Aviana Golden, Julissa Gonzalez, Delilah Kuhl, Braxton Rosemann, Molly Staniger, Aubree Van Dyke, Harrison Yanke, and Rosalie Zinnen.

Slicing five or more seconds in an event were Zoey Aho -6.31 100 IM, Allie Balk -10.35 100 Freestyle, Miles Hoffman -29.03 200 Freestyle, Ava Kerbawy -6.47 400 IM, Delilah Hul -7.52 200 Freestyle, Ellie Staniger -10.53 200 Butterfly, Evan Steenrod -26.92 400 IM, Aubree Van Dyke -15.15 500 Freestyle, Harrison Yanke -8.23 100 Backstroke, and Rosalie Zinnen -21.88 50 Backstroke.

Gold Medalist: Jordy Borzynski, Ireland Byrne, Molly Staniger, Evan Steenrod, Vivi Yanke, Ale Arteaga, Kaylee Staniger, Sophie Gutknecht

Silver Medalist: Jordy Borzynski, Jessica Gonzalez, Sophie Gutknecht, Ava Kerbawy, Braxton Rosemann, Ellie Staniger, Kaylee Staniger

Bronze Medalist: Ale Arteaga, Ireland Byrne, Victoria Domnikova, Zack Steenrod, Aubree Van Dyke, Harrison Yanke, Vivi Yanke

Don't forget to sign-up to race during WI LSC Regionals which will be held in our home pool, February 20-22. Take advantage!

10&U USA State Hotel Information

We have a block of rooms secured at the Staybridge Suites (2916 Hardrock Road in Fitchburg). These are king rooms (double queens were not available – there's a lot going on in and around Verona the weekend of 10&U State). The rate is \$169 per night plus everyone's favorite taxes and fees. The reservation agent said to call back beginning January 30 to see if you can switch from a king room to a double queen as a lot of block reservations drop on January 30. The deadline to reserve your room is January 30. Reserve online [at this link](#) or call 608.616.5664.

SEA Towels Available for Purchase

We have a few TEAM SEA towels available for purchase. Each towel is \$40. Contact Coach Neil if you would like one.

Canceled Practice Dates

We have a few dates scattered throughout the season where we lose pool time at RAC (usually for high school dual meets, college meets, and holidays) and cannot secure pool time at any of our back-up pools. We are unable to conduct practice on the following dates:

February 13, 20

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

Team Picture ... Save the Date

Our annual team picture is scheduled for Monday, March 9th beginning at 5:00 PM. Save the date! Options to order will be available closer to the date.

Annual Awards Banquet ... Save the Date

Our annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for Tuesday, April 21st beginning at 5:00 PM at Infusino's Banquet Hall. More information about this event can be viewed on our website at [MEMBERS/ANNUAL BANQUET](#). We hope to SEA you there! Below is the current list of families attending:

Bronze

Silver

Family	Swimmer	4&U	5&O
Balk	Allie	0	3

Gold

Senior

YMCA National 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, 2026.

- 1) November 16, YMCA Invite
- 2) December 6-7 Y-Finalist (high school boys will need permission from their high school coach and athletic director)
- 3) March 15-16, YMCA Sectionals
- 4) March 21-23, YMCA State

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 card (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>
February 8	February 12-13
March 8	March 12-13

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.

February Birthdays

Kealey Aalderks, Allie Balk, Autumn Cress, Maddy Genduso, Jessica Gonzalez,

Charlotte Horton, Maddie Kaminskis, Sophia Marini, Zoe Pomeroy, Lila Rudoll, and Lily Rudoll.

Extended Calendar

February

- 13 No practice
- 14 WIAA Boys Sectionals
- 20 No practice
- 20 WI D2 Boys State
- 20-22 Regionals
- 21 WIAA D1 Boys State
- 27-1 Senior State
- 28-1 10&U State

March

- 6-8 11-14 State
- 9 Team Picture
- 14-15 YMCA Sectionals
- 20-22 YMCA State
- 30-3 YMCA Nationals

April

- 20 Tryouts for new swimmers
- 21 Annual Banquet
- 22 Spring & Summer Season begins

May

- 2-3 17th Annual SEA Early Bird
- 25 No practice, Memorial Day

June

- 5-7 11th Annual SEA Pirate Plunge
- 19-20 16th Annual SEA Summer Sizzler

July

- 4 No practice

August

- 6-9 14&U Zones

September

- 21 Tryouts
- 22 Fall & Winter Season begins

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*