

Smoke Signals

Newsletter of the Woodley Swim Team, July 27, 2010 No. 9

Woodley In A 3 Way Tie For Division Champions!

This past Saturday, Woodley had an extraordinary meet against Stratford. The score stayed very close throughout the meet. At the end of the freestyle events, Woodley had 43 points, Stratford 47; after backstroke, it was Woodley 92, Stratford 88; after breaststroke, Woodley had 127 points to Stratford's 143; and bouncing back after butterfly, it was Woodley 175 and Stratford 167. The relays went back and forth and finally, going into the mixed age relays, the score was Woodley 195, Stratford 197. We announced how close the score was and by doing so, put more pressure on the final 16 Woodley and Stratford relay swimmers. Woodley had to win the final two relay events in order to win the meet. The boys put forth a great swim and the pressure built upon the shoulders of both sets of ladies from Stratford and Woodley. Everyone in attendance from both teams was asked to stand and cheer – and cheer we did – louder than a Woodley meet has been in a very long time. No matter what the outcome, it made for the best meet of this season.

Both Stratford and Woodley were very proud of their teams for producing such a competitive meet. The very first event, boys 8 and under freestyle set the tone with only .02 seconds separating first and second place, Jack Fricka of Stratford and Daniel Schmidt of Woodley. Ultimately, there were many events where less than one second separated first, second, and third places. In fact, there were four butterfly events in which less than .3 seconds separated first and second places. This is competition at its best. Just think, how long does it take you to count to one? With such close races, technique is very important from the starts, to the turns, and that final reach at the finish. Remember Michael Phelps' quick reach at the finish in the last Olympics? Every one of the swimmers swam with great enthusiasm and proved that they all deserve to be division champions. Congratulations!

More Woodley Records Broken

It was brought to my attention that I had missed a Woodley record that was broken at the Division 16 Relay Carnival on July 14. Our 13-14 boys' medley relay team consisting of Joey Kammerer, Bobby Dubas, James Sturges, and Sam Palencia swam a 2:19.97 breaking the record. Also, Aaron Tingley broke both of his records posted earlier this season, at the meet against Stratford in 8 and under backstroke and butterfly. Congratulations young men!

Check out the records board as we finally broke down and purchased more letters/numbers (using the profits from a hot dog dinner) and updated the names and most of the times.

A Hot, Successful Mini Meet

Under the leadership of Janet Mansfield and Deb Haynes, this year's mini meet was a huge success. The dedication of everyone who worked the meet in the dangerous heat was tremendous. A large number of our 11 and up swimmers helped out in many different ways, displaying a love for this pool and a hard work ethic. As the parents began to wilt in the heat, these kids stepped up as timers, concessions workers, etc. Thank you very much for raising such great kids.

Divisional Meet This Saturday

As described in the previous Smoke Signals, the divisional meet this coming Saturday at Stratford is not as much about the team, as about the individual swimmers. It is not a scored meet and there are no relays. It is an individual qualifying meet for NVSL All Stars. Each team within our division receives two lanes in each age group, in each stroke including IM and 8 and under Butterfly. Empty lanes given up by teams are filled with the next fastest swimmer within the division. ***The coaches will be discussing divisionals with the swimmers and determining the entries Monday and Tuesday of this week as entries must be made in the computer by Wednesday morning.*** Wednesday evening from 6 p.m. until who knows when, while you are all enjoying a quiet evening at home, the Division 16 swim representatives will be meeting at Stratford, merging the entries, and making final selections to fill the empty lanes as well as planning the officials' list.

Progressive Dinner for 13 and Older

On Thursday, July 29, 2010 from 5:00 p.m. to 10 p.m., there will be a Progressive Dinner for swimmers and divers ages 13 and older. Dress clothes are worn for this event. Also, bring a bathing suit and towel. We will meet at Woodley Pool for pictures at 5:00 p.m., car pool to the Wald house for appetizers, then to the Marsilii house for salads, the Blincoe house for your main dish and be driven back to the pool for a late swim, movie, and dessert. Parents should pick up their teenagers at 10 p.m.

All of the younger families are strongly encouraged to come to the pool at 5:00 p.m. to witness our teenage Woodley Warriors in clothes and wide awake. Most of the time we see them at 7:30 a.m. in bathing suits and pajamas! These are the swimmers who help your children learn their strokes and encourage them. Many of the young swimmers look up to these teenagers and before you know it, your young swimmer will be one of *them*.

End of Season Party, Sunday, August 1

The 2010 End of Swim and Dive Season Party will be held on Sunday, August 1, from 4-10:30 p.m. This includes a potluck dinner. Those with last names beginning with an A-L should bring a main dish and a side dish to share. Those with last names beginning with an M-Z should bring a main dish and a dessert to share. Drinks, plates, napkins and utensils will be provided.

Volunteers are needed to plan any games such as a mixed age volleyball tournament, relay races, or sack races. We will eat from 5-6 p.m., have the awards ceremony from 6-7 p.m., and have hired a d.j. from 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Woodley Winter Swim

Even though it seems too hot to be thinking about winter swim, it's really not. Planning for this year's Woodley winter swim program began in July 1 when a contract was submitted to Providence Recreation Center for four lanes every Sunday evening from 7-8p.m. The Woodley winter program is designed to keep our children, especially the younger swimmers, in the water over the winter so that they will not lose any skills developed over the summer. It will begin in September and run through the summer swim team registration picnic held the third weekend in May 2011. Practices will be held each Sunday evening for one hour and the time will be confirmed when the contract is accepted. The cost will be based upon the number of swimmers enrolled and this year, we will be **asking for a non-refundable deposit of \$75 prior to September 1** (the total cost usually does not exceed \$130 as we do not run this program for profit, using the formula lane rental + coaches' salary divided by #swimmers). A signup sheet will soon be placed on the bulletin board and the \$75 deposit per swimmer may be give to Peggy Marsilii or Janet Sims, checks payable to Woodley Swim Team.

Other Winter Swim Programs

Besides Woodley winter swim, there are several other winter programs for example, some of our swimmers join the Potomac Marlins, FISH, or York. These are all USS teams within PVS (Potomac Valley Swimming). There is also a program held on Saturday evenings at Providence Recreation Center called Nadar Por Vida. My best advice for those seeking additional training beyond Woodley winter swim, is to look on each program's web-site, view the cost, practice locations and times, the goals/philosophies of each, and talk to your teammates.

Mystery Volunteer and Swimmers

Last week's answers: Joe Marsilii, Anthony Suarez, Mia Velasquez

Volunteer: This person is a member of the pool board and a swim team parent. This person has worked both as a timer and at concessions and worked at concessions throughout the whole mini meet even though their kids were not swimming.

Male Swimmer: This swimmer was not planning on joining the swim team this year. He only wanted to do the dive team. His parents strongly encouraged him to join swim as well and we are very grateful. He should thank his parents as well because now his name is on the record board! He has posted some extremely fast times in his races.

Female Swimmer: This young lady would rather play basketball than swim despite the fact that she is a natural born swimmer. She has swum in the past for FISH and has been a member of Woodley swim team since she was seven.

Upcoming Dates

July 29: Swim and Dive 13 and Older Progressive Dinner, Begins 5 p.m. at Woodley Pool

July 30: **Team Breakfast:** Dubas and Wald

July 31: Division 16 Divisional A Meet at Stratford

August 1: End of Season Party, 4-10:30p.m.

August 1: No Hot Dog Dinners; **Sunday Sundaes:**

- Janet Sims, 703-207-3098, simbaugh@gmail.com

- Robin Tingley, arktingley@msn.com