

FAQs about Swim Meets

Q. What are the different types of meets?

A. HFSC participates in two types of swim meets: dual meets and USA meets.

1. Dual meets are team meets in which HFSC swims against another club in the South Suburban Swim Conference. Coach Chris handles dual meet sign-up and will have a sign-up sheet posted in the hallway a few days before the meet. We also participate in the end of season conference meet in mid-February. There is no entry fee for dual meets or the conference meet.

2. USA meets are bigger weekend meets. Swimmers have the opportunity to swim more individual events against swimmers from many other clubs. HFSC does hosts several of these meets every year and will be traveling to other meets as well. You must sign up on a USA Meet registration sheet and pay entry fees for USA meets well in advance of the meet. You may e-mail meet sign-ups by the due dates on the sign up sheet, if you have established an escrow account. (see below)

Q. How much do USA meets cost?

A. Swimmers are charged per event entered, so the cost varies by age group and for each meet. It usually averages \$12 to \$15 per day.

Q. What is the escrow account?

A. Because USA meets must be paid for in advance, we collect the fees in advance. To reduce some of the collection issues and administrative time, we ask parents to set up an escrow account of \$35 (for one meet) to \$100 (for three or more meets) per swimmer. As each meet is entered, the entry fee for that meet is deducted from your escrow account. If you need to replenish your escrow account, you will be notified. Also, at the end of each season, you will be notified of your escrow balance. This balance will be carried forward to the next season or refunded at your request.

Q. Are swim meets only for the veteran swimmer?

A. NO!

1. Dual meets are a great introduction to swim meets. The swimmers stay on deck through the entire meet. There are teammates and coaches on deck to help the new swimmers.

2. Although some USA meets have qualifying times (like the Westmont meet), and some are not for the beginning swimmer (like our Go the Distance meet). Most meets are for swimmers of ALL ability levels. In fact, at USA meets swimmers are seeded in advance and therefore swim in heats against swimmers of comparable ability. Our St. Nick's meet is a great meet for the new swimmer.

Q. Why do USA meets have sign-up deadlines?

A. Illinois Swimming regulates the earliest date that a host can begin accepting meet entries. We try to enter meets at the earliest date (even time of day) as possible to ensure we are accepted into a meet. Please follow the given deadlines to ensure your child is entered into a meet. Once the team has entered a meet, additional entries are not accepted. Also, if you decide not to swim a meet after you have signed up, those fees are non-refundable.

Q. I still have questions. Is there someone I can talk to?

A. The coaches would be happy to answer questions (but not on the pool deck), or you may contact Sabrina Barney at stb716@sbcglobal.net, or speak to another board member.