

Hammonton Stingrays Swim Team Statement on Volunteerism

Hammonton Stingrays Swim Team 115 Berwyn Ave Hammonton, NJ 08037

The Hammonton Stingrays Swim Team, along with the Hammonton Swim Club, runs on the power of adults volunteering their time, talents, and services. This is critically important – absent adult volunteers, and a spirit of volunteerism, the swim meets would not happen and the swim team would not exist. To this end, we need adults to actively contribute during swim meets, as well as before and after swim meets, both home and away.

Last season there were 50-plus families (80-plus athletes) comprising the swim team. Each home swim meet requires filling 35-plus jobs and we need all families to help. Beyond the coaches, following is a sample listing of the jobs for a home swim meet:

<u>Job</u>	# Needed
Suburban Swim Association Representative	1
Head Referee *	1
Starter *	1
Stroke & Turn Officials *	4+
Chief Judge *	1
Ribbon Writer	1
Runner	1
Head Timer	1
Place Judge	1
Card Distributor	1
Attendants (team area)	2+
Timers (2 per lane)	10+
Scoring Table	3+
Lifeguard	1
Announcer / DJ	1
50/50 Sales	2+
Concessions Staff	5+

Note, this list does not include set-up of the swim club prior to a swim meet and breaking-down the set-up immediately following a swim meet (i.e., 6+ adults before and after a swim meet), along with myriad 'jobs' that need to get done every day during the season that do not have a formal name/role associated with them.

We value your time, talents, and service and fully realize that most swim team families graciously perform these jobs at each swim meet and do so absent any nudging. However, we believe it is imperative to have 100% participation and for every family to have at least one adult contributing their time, talents, and services at each swim meet – this can not only be a fun, learning experience but it also demonstrates to your child(ren), and the entire swim team, the importance of volunteerism that we are indeed one cohesive swim team.

We have been successful in leveraging a 'volunteering' model, whereby at least one adult from each swim team family has 'stepped up' and embraced a 'job' (or jobs). This has eliminated the need for us to mandate work assignments and/or impose financial costs and/or penalties for any family(ies) not complying with the 'volunteering' model. However, swim team families that do not actively contribute by having at least one adult performing a job at a swim meet may incur a financial cost/penalty and/or having your child(ren) disqualified from one or more swim meets, while repeatedly not contributing and taking on a job may result in your child(ren) being dismissed from the swim team.

^{* -} Position requires attending a free training/certification class prior to the swim season (locations/dates to be announced).