

SRA Dolphins 2009 Swim-a-thon

You've heard of a marathon? Well now we have a swim-a-thon! All SRA Dolphins are invited to participate in our biggest fundraiser of the year, by swimming as far as you can during practice. You'll raise funds by getting friends and family to support you through pledges. Swimmers swim continuously for 90 minutes and try to raise a minimum of \$30. This type of fundraiser is fun, great exercise and helps keep our registration fees low.

WHEN AND WHERE?

The Swim-A-Thon will be held during normal practice times on **Wednesday, July 8** (rain date for the event will be the following day on **Thursday July 9** - all of the particulars will remain the same but a day later).

The Team will provide muffins and juice at the morning sessions and pizza and drinks at the evening sessions for all Swim-a-thon participants, coaches, and volunteers.

WHY?

We are very excited to have been able to expand our team by using the Anthology pool this year, but without the proceeds from last year's fundraisers we would not have been able to afford equipping the pool with lane lines, pick-up reel, and backstroke flags. 100% of the net proceeds go to the Dolphins to help defray the cost of managing the team and most importantly to purchasing the necessary competitive swimming equipment.

Swim-a-thon participation will also help your coaches understand just how much you have improved!

WHAT DO I DO?

Contact your friends, neighbors, and families and tell them how much you are enjoying swimming for the Dolphins. Ask them to pledge a set amount to support your participation in the event (for instance \$20 for swimming in the event). Collect their donation and then come and swim hard!

On your pledge form, be sure you put a larger donation amount as your first pledge. If people see a pledge of \$20, they are more likely to pledge the same. If they see a pledge of \$1.00, they may only pledge a \$1.00. Send the pledge sheet with your parents to work to try to get more pledges. Think about contacting grandparents and other family and friends too. They will be impressed that you can swim so far to raise money for the team!

WHAT IS IN THE PACKET?

Each swimmer will receive an envelope in which to place a pledge sheet and any collected pledges. Checks should be made out to Dolphin Aquatics, the non-profit corporation that manages the team. Cash donations can be accepted as well. Sorry, no credit cards.

IMPORTANT!!!

Come to the Swim-a-thon with your participation pledges in hand.

WHAT ARE THE PARTICIPATION AWARDS?

There are two levels of prize participation. Everyone will receive a **SRA Dolphins water bottle** filled with goodies. Then, on Friday July 10, during meet set up for the home meet versus Smoky Hill, there will be water bottle decorating party. The team will provide the paint decorating supplies. We are planning to have some of the older kids available to help the little ones decorate their bottles. Everyone should come dressed in painter's clothes, since it might get a little messy.

AND

for every \$10 in pledges, you'll earn a "raffle" ticket towards our big prizes, which will be given out at the August 1 End-of-Year Party. We've got great plans for prizes, including a new **iPod**.

WHAT DO PARENTS DO?

First, sign up your swimmers(s) online at Strohbranchdolphins.org, indicating which session you plan to attend. This helps us plan for food purchases and volunteers for general supervision.

Second, some of the swimmers may not be accustomed to swimming laps without any breaks. Your moral support and the encouragement that you provide your swimmer are very important!

Third, children in the 10 and under age group will need their family or friends to help them count laps. A counter sheet will be provided for you. Counting laps is a great way to measure your achievement and will show the coaches just how far you've come.

PARENTS CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE SWIM-A-THON AS WELL! SAME RULES APPLY TO THE OLDER FOLKS.

SEE YOU THERE!

If you have any questions, contact Laurie Schneyer (lschneyer@comcast.net) or Brenda Haaksma (bhaaksma@comcast.net).

