

SWAC - Please note that I am sending this message on behalf of Coach Mike. Please, do NOT hit reply (or reply all) if you want to reply to this message. I have put a link to Mike's email here if you want to reply to him.

Jen

<mailto:mbonitatibus@cbsd.org>

Dear SWAC Parents,

I have received a good amount of emails over the course of the season that I want to address to all of you rather than send it back individually so everyone is aware. I hope that all of you know that I absolutely love coaching and being the head coach of this swim team. Being able to make your children better swimmers and just being around them puts a smile on my face day in and day out. However, with being a swim coach there will be some issues that come up and I am doing my best to handle them to the best of my ability, but I have some requests for you....

Requests for multiple events and more than one relay and one individual event

As I tried to make clear in the parents meeting in the beginning of the year I can only guarantee your child swim one individual event and one relay at each meet. This is because there are a maximum number of second heats that we as coaches must stay under from meet to meet. Therefore prior to every meet I talk with the coach of the other team and discuss what events in what age groups we need second heats. We then do our best to compromise to keep from there being too many 2nd heats. This is why depending what age group your swimmer is in sometimes determines how many events your child may be in. For example, in 10 and under and 12 and under age groups we have over 25 girls in each. If everyone is going to the meet it makes it EXTREMELY hard to stay under the heat maximum while still making sure to get your swimmers in the 2 events I promise. So getting your child into more than the one individual and relay can be hard enough let alone trying to get them into 4 events. The idea of the "notes" when you sign in your child is to make me aware of an event your child may not have swum in awhile which they would really like to. When you do make those requests I have done my best to at least put your child in one or two of the events you requested, as I will continue to do so. But I would like to keep those requests at a minimum and would like it if

you would keep your requests to no more than 2 INDIVIDUAL events for a given meet (Relay requests can be even more difficult). I do understand some of your swimmers in the larger age groups may be swimming less than those swimmers in the smaller age groups, but I keep notes to try to make sure your swimmer gets a few more than the minimum when I can.

Requests for IM

Please understand that this is an event that we as coaches try to keep away from making second heats due to the difficulty and to keep the meet from being too long. If you would like to use this as your request that is ok, but I can't guarantee it. Requests such as these are the reason we have invitational meets. This goes for the issue above as well.

Requests for 1st Heats

As all of you know these meets are scored. As much as my main goal is to make your child a faster and better swimmer it is also my goal to win the meet. Therefore requests for your swimmer to be in the first heat are just not possible. I need to go by the times and give our team the best chance to win. If you feel your child does in fact hold a time worthy of the first heat, but has not received an opportunity take a look at the results online to be sure and then send me an email and we can discuss it.

Requests for individual attention on specific strokes

A lot of you have attended a practice at one time or another. I'm sure you noticed we never have more than 5 coaches on deck with over 60 kids (ATLEAST) at a given time. We also have written practices with what we are working on specifically for each practice. Because of this we may not be working on what your child needs work with every night. If your child does get an opportunity to swim that stroke during practice I'll do my best to quickly give them something to work on. However, please remember we give you the opportunity to contact any of the coaches or myself for private lessons on Sundays. I have only given them to one swimmer and I find them EXTREMELY beneficial. They would be your best bet for quick and dramatic results in something you want to specifically work on.

I apologize for being this being so lengthy but I wanted to be thorough in my explanations of why we do certain things while also

answering some questions you may have had. I completely understand the difficulties of being the parent of a swimmer and needing to make them happy as well as get them all over the place. Trust me your efforts to get them to the practices and meets every week do not go unnoticed. If you have any other questions at all PLEASE feel free and I will get back to you as soon as I can. We are having a fantastic season so far and I am pleased with the times and the swims your children have been having and I am really looking forward to the rest of the season. Thank you for your time.

Mike Bonitatibus

Mbonitatibus@cbsd.org