



## ***Welcome OTTERS!!***

Practices start next week! We are getting ready for another great season. This year there are a few new faces, new fun activities, and some additional swim meets for those Otters looking for a challenge. This letter contains a lot of important information, please read all of it. We will be utilizing our Facebook page to get Otters news out to parents in addition to emails. If you are on Facebook please like our page. <https://www.facebook.com/ConcordOtters/> We're on <https://www.instagram.com/> as well.

**Coaches:** This year we have Coach Susan, Manan Aurora, and myself. Throughout the season we will have guest coaches stopping by so stay tuned for more information. To ensure our practices run smoothly there will be volunteers from the CCHS Swim and Dive team coaching as well. The volunteer program has worked well in the past and the high school swimmers and Otters swimmers work well together.

### **Otters Practice Schedule: [CLICK HERE](#)**

Practice may be cancelled in the event of a CCHS Swim and Dive Meet being held at Beede. If a practice is cancelled swimmers are able to make up a missed practice.

**MetroWest League Meet Sign Ups: [CLICK HERE](#)** to sign up – At the bottom of the sign up form you will see tabs for the individual swim meets. Here is the [Otters 2019-2020 Swim Season Schedule](#)

We have 7 Metrowest League meets and swimmers are required to participate in a minimum of 4 League meets in order to compete at Championships. This is a League rule. We have 3 Away meets this year, Wayland, Mystic Valley, and Flaherty, please sign up for those as well.

**Parent Volunteer Sign Ups for League Meets: [CLICK HERE](#)** - At the bottom of the sign up form you will see tabs for the individual swim meets.

Please sign up to volunteer in at least 3 meets. Detailed description of the volunteering positions and expectations is provided in this letter.

### ***Championships will be held March 7, 2020 @Boston University***

**Information to follow in December**

**Specialty Meet Sign Ups:** This year we are offering 3 opportunities for Otters to compete in different format meets. These meets offer longer distances and are optional.

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up - At the bottom of the sign up form you will see tabs for the individual swim meets.

**Parent Volunteer Sign Ups for Specialty / Distance Meets:** [CLICK HERE](#) - Parent volunteers are needed in order to run these optional swim meets. If your swimmer will be participating in Specialty meet please consider volunteering.

## Volunteering:

**Parents will be expected to volunteer in at least 3 League meets.** The necessary positions and descriptions are listed below.

- Volunteer Organizer: Responsible for checking in Otter Volunteers at the beginning of the meets and letting the backup volunteers know if they will be needed or not.
- Timers: Responsible for starting and stopping the stopwatches at the beginning and end of races and recording the times on the heat sheets.
- Computer: Responsible for inputting the times into the computer that calculates the places and scores the overall meet.
- Bullpen: Responsible for getting the swimmers to the blocks.
- Starter: Responsible for starting each event and calling back swimmers for false starts.
- Stroke & Turn Judges: Responsible for watching swimmers and determining if they are swimming according to regulations and disqualifying those who are swimming incorrectly.

***\*\*Beede will be hosting a Stroke and Turn Clinic on November 6, 2019 @7:00pm\*\****

- Runners: Responsible for collecting timer sheets from timers.
- Ribbons: Responsible for putting ribbon labels on ribbons. (This will take place during practice time on the week after the meet.)

## Team Suit:

You can order the team suit and other Otters apparel at [swimoutlet.com/concordotters](http://swimoutlet.com/concordotters). Otters colors are ***Navy and White***. Swim Caps and T-shirts will be provided.

## Parties:

***Please save the dates for our team parties!!***

October 13 Ice Pop Party 6:00-8:00pm

December 15 Holiday Movie Night 6:00-8:00pm

March 6 Poster Party (Last day of Practice) 5:00-7:00pm

March 22 End of the season banquet, Details to follow

## **First Day Tips:**

**Bag Tags** – These will be issued and attached to your child's swim bag when they check in at the front desk for their first practice. This pass will need to be shown to the front desk every time the swimmer enters the building for Otters practices and meets.

**Showers** – All Otters must take a shower before entering the pool. Those who show up to practice dry will be sent back to the locker rooms to take a shower.

**Equipment** – All Otters should arrive on deck having showered, with their goggles, and with the hair in a cap.

**Lower Lobby** - Congregating on the stairs or allowing children to play in front of the locker room doors or in the lobby is unsafe for those using the facility. For safety reasons the stairwell, locker room doors, and lower lobby area need to remain free and clear of toys and/or people. Please use the upper lobby and spectator seating while waiting for your child's practice to finish.

**Swimming before or after practice-** Only members are allowed to use the facility outside of practice times.

**Green Bands** – Green bands will not be issued to any Otters swimmers during practice times. For those members wishing to swim before or after practice they will need to bring their green band with them. If the swimmer forgets their green band, they will not be allowed in the pool before or after practice.

**Drop Off Policy** – **There must be someone over at 18 in the facility during practice times who will be responsible for your child in case your child should become sick, forget their equipment or in the unlikely event that an injury occurs.**

**Where to meet** – Otters should meet on the pool deck by the starting blocks (same place where we met for tryouts) at the start of practice time. Please make every effort to get your child to practice on time. **For the first week we will be meeting outside the Lifeguard Office.**

Looking forward to another fantastic season,

Maureen, Susan, Manan, and Beede