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Newsletter for Irving Swimmers

Oct. 2010

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[USA Swimming](#)
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Newsletter
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Dear Anne,

Irving Swimmers is trying something new!

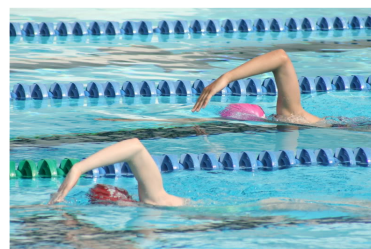
Our newsletter has always been sent as a separate file, but your team is now a little more techno-savvy! Please let us know how you like it!

You'll find lots of great stuff here including links that take you to specific areas on the Irving Swimmers website or other websites to get further information. Since we have not had a newsletter in quite awhile, there's lots to talk about.

Click on the "update profile" link at the bottom of this email to change or add information to make your communication with Irving Swimmers easy and accurate. If you would like these communications sent to an additional email, please contact [Anne Rice](#). We welcome feedback on the new newsletter layout as well.

Put your swimmer on the newsletter email list!

If your swimmer has their own personal email and would like to receive the Irving Swimmers newsletter, please let Anne know and she will add that email to the Newsletter list only. Just reply to this email, it's that easy!



COACH'S CORNER

Welcome back everyone! Along with all the great information in this newsletter, we would just like to point out some special things.

Regarding the meets hosted by IS, organizationally speaking, the DASA All Star meet was one of the best days for our club. All who contributed should be very proud for hosting a first class Championship Swimming



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meet. Ditto for the TAAF Regional meet. We also impressed quite a few people with our B/C meet.

As the Opening Act for the 2010-2011 SCY season, it was extremely exciting to see our youngest swimmers do so well at the September B/C meet. The meet was fantastic with individual best times as well and the Bronze group weathering the wind and cold to show many best times also.

We would especially like to welcome the newest members to the Irving Swimmers I.M. Club: Mrugank P. and Greg A. Congratulations!

We are both looking forward to another exciting year of racing and having fun!

Coach Tom and Coach Britt

President's Points

Hello to all Irving Swimmers and their families! My name is John Sherwood and I am the current President of the Irving Swimmers Board of Directors. For those of you who do not know me, I am generally at the pool two to three times a week so do not hesitate to say hello or ask me questions. I am still trying to learn names and faces myself. I have two boys, Braden and Bryce, who swim with the team and my wife Kerri and I are active triathletes and swimmers ourselves.

I'd just like to say "Wow!" to our team for their performance at the North Texas LAC BB Division 1 Invitational held on October 15 through 17. We placed 4th overall in the [team competition](#). Way to go Irving Swimmers! As the short course season progresses, I am sure we will continue to see great team and individual results.

ANNUAL BOARD ELECTION

And finally, the annual election of the IS Board of Director members will be held at a general membership meeting on December 16 along with a team Christmas Party. Positions include President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member at Large and Masters Representative. You may nominate yourself or anyone else to serve in one of these positions. Please send all your nominations to Cecile David at mackdvd@sbcglobal.net by Tuesday, December 14 to be printed on the ballot. A reminder will be sent closer to that date. Nominations can also be submitted at the election meeting but will have to be written in. Each family has one vote per active swimmer. Serving on the Board is a great way to get involved and make a difference. If you want more information on any position, just ask a current board member (see the list of contacts above).

See you at the pool!
John

A New Short Course Season



A new short course season has begun! The first meet of the season was our own B/C meet held at North Lake. Many of our swimmers have joined their high school swim teams and we won't see them as often as we used to until the high school season is over in early 2011. However, we've had many excellent swimmers move up from Bronze to Silver and from Silver to Senior Development. Our swimmers are getting better and stronger every day. Our Bronze team has lots of great talent and we should be seeing many great things from them.

The new [2011 North Texas meet calendar](#) is available on North Texas Swim website. Coach Tom will send out a list of meets that Irving Swimmers will attend as a team.

Upcoming Meets for the rest of 2010:

Oct 29-31 [ATAC Your Times "A" Inv.](#) at CISD Aquatic Center in Southlake hosted by ATAC
 Nov 6-7 [BB Div1 Short Course at GCISD](#) Swim Center in Grapevine hosted by TRS
 Nov 12-14 [B/C Div2 Short Course at Keller](#) ISD Natatorium in Keller hosted by LAC
 Dec 3-5 [Winter Classic "A" Meet](#) (prelim/finals) at Loos Natatorium hosted by COR
 Dec 10-12 Open Class [Jingle Bell Splash](#) at UT Austin hosted by Texas Longhorn Aquatics
 Dec 17-19 BB Div1 Short Course at Mansfield ISD Nat. in Mansfield hosted by MAC/MARS

Webmaster Needed!

Irving Swimmers has had a great Webmaster for a very long time. However, Lukasz Gagulski and his family have now moved away leaving big shoes to fill for another gracious volunteer.

If you have webmaster experience and would be willing to take on this very important position, please contact [John Sherwood](#) and he will do his best to explain the parameters of our current website. The new Webmaster will be able to contact Mr. Gagulski to get up and running. Time spent maintaining the website goes toward your volunteer hours for the year. The team needs someone as soon as possible!

Social Coordinator Needed!

Do you like planning parties?
 Got great ideas to inject some fun into the swim team?
 We could REALLY use your help!

Our Social Coordinator for the last couple of years, Connie Schmitt, is stepping aside to give someone else a chance to use their talents. Connie has done a fabulous job making parties special for our kids and we have been very fortunate to have her. She'll continue to help out whenever and wherever she can.

The Social Coordinator plans special team building and fun events for our kids each month with the help of other parents on the team. If you are interested, please contact any board member or reply to this email. Two people can serve together as a team if you wish! Remember, time spent in this capacity goes toward your volunteer hours for the year. The first event that needs to be planned is a party for the Bronze kids sometime in the next two weeks. They've worked hard and deserve some fun! Also, our annual Christmas Party / Board Elections will be held on Thursday, December 16.

Corpus Christi Meet



This summer, Irving Swimmers attended the **Valero Invitational Swim Meet** hosted by BEAT in Corpus Christi for the second year. The meet was a little more crowded this year as it has become more popular. Thanks to Renee Doyle for handling all our travel plans. Great bus, great hotel and great food the entire weekend! The beach is definitely where it's at, right kids? The weather was great and it's wonderful to travel with friends and teammates. We are proud of all our swimmers!



DASA Meet Made Fabulous by Irving Swimmers



volunteered!

Our first foray into meet hosting (in quite a few years) was on Monday, July 19 at The Colony pool to run the DASA All-Star Meet. The Dallas Amateur Swimming Association needed a team to help them host this meet and IS really came through. We had ample volunteers and nobody runs a ready bench like Irving Swimmers! Our runners worked hard and our safety team really kept things in order. Financially, this meet benefitted Irving Swimmers in a grand way. More importantly though, many parents and coaches of DASA swimmers commented on how well this particular meet was run compared to those in the past. A huge pat on the back for those who

TAAF Regional Meet A Well-Run Success

We put everything we learned from the DASA meet into the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation Regional meet held at our own North Lake pool. The meet was held on Saturday, July 31, 2010. It was a beautiful day and our volunteers came through yet again. Our ready bench ran smoothly and the swimmers had tons of fun thanks to you! The summer swimmers that make up the TAAF organization deserve a well-run meet like ours every year.



Irving Swimmers Hosts USA B/C Meet



Holy cow! A lot went into this USA Swimming meet held at our home pool on September 25 and 26. We were prepared for just about anything. Even though Mother Nature did not cooperate the entire meet, everyone took it in stride and came through for the kids and the team. We learned a lot from this meet that we can apply to any future meet the we host. The Heat Winner tattoos and the fabulous ribbons were a big hit with the swimmers.

Far and away, we've got the best volunteers in North Texas. Seriously. The meet director actually had too many volunteers at times. What a great problem to have. Our timers were on the ball, our concessions and hospitality rocked. Even though our rented scoreboard didn't like the weather (hey, who did?), our computer operations volunteers held up their end of the bargain. We had smiling faces all over that deck!

Treasurer's Topics

A huge Thank You to all that volunteered for the Irving B/C meet in September. I have adjusted your accounts accordingly for those who worked and earned volunteer hours. If you feel there is an error, please feel free to contact me and we can work it out.

Just a few reminders:

- A 30 day written notice is required for any swimmer wishing to discontinue their Irving Swimmers/Irving Masters membership.
- All monthly dues/invoice payments are due by the 10th of each month or a \$20 late charge will be applied to your account.
- All payments can be dropped off at the North Lake pool IS cage in the mailbox located on the cage door. You can also mail your payment to Irving Swimmers, P.O. Box 168173, Irving TX 75016. Use this address when using your bank's scheduled payment feature.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns regarding your account or invoice. I will do my best to answer them or find the answers for you. Call my cell at 214-728-3508, my home phone 972-539-1905 or [email me](#).

Renee Doyle

Irving Swimmers Spirit Wear & Equipment Orders

Are you up to date on your Spirit Wear and equipment? All swimmers should have their own equipment according to Coach Tom and Coach Britt's request.

Spirit Wear, swim caps, etc. will be available throughout the year. We even have a few of the "Racing & Having Fun" hand towels that were given to the B/C meet participants in September. They're only \$2.50 each, just write it in on a blank line on the [order form](#) if you would like one or more.

John Sherwood is our Spirit Wear & Equipment chairperson. He is usually at the pool two or three days a week. Just ask your Coach to point him out if you've never met him. You can also leave a form with payment in the mailbox on the cage door at North Lake pool. If you have any questions about what your swimmer needs, please see their Coach.

USA Swimming Rules Changes

USA Swimming just had its annual convention here in Dallas in late September. There are a few items that were decided there that directly affect our team.



First, effective January 1, 2011, there will no longer be exhibition swims at any meet unless there was an administrative error on the part of the host team. Swimmers with one or two BB times cannot swim those events in a B/C meet as exhibition. This works the same for swimmers with one or two A times, they cannot swim those events at a BB or B/C meet.

Second, as of January 1, all non-athlete members of USA Swimming must have a Criminal Background Check (CBC). This includes officials, team board members and all coaches. If you would like to serve on the IS Board of Directors, this will be a requirement. USAS has not chosen the company that will handle these and they have given no details beyond the fact that they will be required. CBC's from any other organization cannot be used. We'll let you know more when WE know more!

Find more specific information on [USAS Athlete Protection Program](#). Visit the [USA Swimming website](#) if you would like to stay updated on our governing body.

North Texas Swimming Rules Changes

North Texas Swimming LSC (Local Swim Committee) is the regional governing body for our team. We are required to follow the policies and procedures put forth by the Committee as well as those of USA Swimming.

The NTS LSC House of Delegates meets four times per year to decide on open issues regarding the 26 teams that they govern. Each North Texas team, including Irving Swimmers, has delegates that are allowed to vote on issues brought by the committee. The last meeting was held in September of 2010.

At this last meeting, many issues in the NTS LSC Policies and Procedures were voted on and updated. There will be another special meeting in November to vote on additional items. There were quite a few items that directly effect our team as well as items that effect upcoming swim meets.

Please visit the [North Texas Swimming](#) website for more information. You may also view all the [proposed changes](#) to the Policies and Procedures (at the bottom of the website page) and voice your opinion to Anne Rice, one of our team's delegates, and she can bring up your concerns at the next House of Delegates meeting in November. I urge all our parents to take the time to look at what is happening in our LSC.

Team Outreach

If you have or know of a swimmer that is eligible for the reduced/free lunch within your school district, he or she is also eligible to receive their USA Swimming registration for only \$5.00 instead of the

normal \$57. This information is not made public to the team or anyone else if a family chooses to take advantage of it. Please see your Coach or contact the IS [team treasurer](#).

Refer Your Friends

Got a swimmer friend that wants a fun place to train and excel? Irving Swimmers is the place to be for North Texas athletes of all ages and we're always looking for new kids to add a little spice to the team. Tell your friends to visit [our website](#) and give Coach Tom a call to get more information or to try out. Bring your buddies to watch a practice some day so they can see what a great team is really like!



Got Pictures or Great Stories about an Irving Swimmer?



Kids love to see themselves in the newsletter and we all love to read about our own kids. If you have any pictures, quotes or stories you would like to share with the team, please email them to [Anne Rice](#) or put them on a memory stick and put in the Secretary box in the IS cage. We can also put the pictures on our website photo page. Share your stuff with us!

We've Got Birthdays Coming Up!

Say **Happy Birthday** to these kids! Their team and birth date are listed.

October Birthdays: Francesca S. (SenDev., 9th), Gabby W. (SenDev., 11th), Carson W. (Silver, 21st), Brianna R. (SenDev., 23rd), Trevor D. (SenDev., 24th), Alex A (Silver, 28th), Holly N (Bronze, 30th)

November Birthdays: Alberto H. (Silver, 8th), Ethan R. (Bronze, 21st)

December Birthdays: Sydney T. (Bronze, 1st), John Jacob C. (SenDev., 17th), Arnavi S. (Bronze, 19th), Kane D. (SenDev., 28th), Madison R. (SenDev., 31st)



Irving Masters

2010 Lake Benbrook Open Water Swim



**Don't let success go to your head.
Don't let failure go to your heart.**



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