

# Louisa Gators Swim Team

## 2012

Hello,

Welcome to the Louisa Gators Swim Team. We are excited that you have made (or are considering) a decision to join our swim team. We have a fantastic group of swimmers and parents! The Swim Team is sponsored by Louisa County Parks and Recreation and is managed by the Parents of the Gators Association Executive Board. Swimming is an incredible and unique sport as it provides your child with the opportunity to participate as an individual as well as part of a team. Throughout the summer, we focus on learning swimming skills, earning time improvements, displaying good sportsmanship and team spirit.

Although the swim season lasts from the middle of May through the end of July...it is like other team sports in many ways. Swimmers joining the team should plan on attending practices on a regular basis and participating in swim meets unless on vacation. Swim meets are to the swim team just as a baseball game is to a baseball team. In an effort to provide the maximum amount of practice time and to attempt to provide a variety of practice times, the Louisa Gators Swim Team practices both morning and evening Monday thru Friday. The projected schedule will be distributed at registration, with the updates/revisions of the schedule to be distributed once we are at the pool. The length of practice varies depending upon the age and ability of the swimmer. We hold clinics on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings as well as team special events on Fridays and Saturdays. Swimmers are encouraged to attend as many practices as possible but should try to come to at least one practice per day. We recognize that the majority of the season occurs during the last few weeks of school and summer vacation so swimmers will have other commitments such as exams, family vacation, 4H Camp etc.. Please make sure that the Coaching Staff is aware of known absences in advance (a vacation form is available for this purpose).

Swim Team parents are also expected to participate in a variety of ways. **All parents should plan on working at least one-half of each swim meet as it takes at least 30-40 people to run a meet.** In addition, all families are expected to participate in the team's fundraising efforts. The Louisa Gators Swim Team is totally self-supporting and needs to raise at least \$20,000 each summer. We have a variety of fund-raising events and projects. Each family is expected to work a minimum of two Fundraising events and to assist in all fundraising projects. There are many ways to assist with the fundraising events - both in advance and during the event. Please review our Fundraising Strategy to familiarize yourself with the many options.

Swimmers are encouraged to attend one of the Swim Team registration meetings in order to meet the Coaching Staff, try on swim team suits (required for all swimmers - not included in registration fee) and order any other equipment desired. Times and locations are available in the Leisure Times. We look forward to spending the summer with you and having a wonderful time! In the event you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact our Head Coach - Debra Bickley. Coach Debra's contact information: Cell Phone (540) 760-1464 or email at [CoachDebraB@yahoo.com](mailto:CoachDebraB@yahoo.com).

See you at the pool!

The Parents of the Gators Association (POGA)