

# **Bayou Middle School Swim League**

## League Information and Participation Guidelines

### **Requirements**

**New Teams:** Schools joining the league must submit the *Agreement for Participation in the Crawfish Aquatics Middle School Program*, signed by the school principal or school athletic director to participate in the league competitively (this grants permission for students to participate under their school name).

**Insurance Registration:** Teams will submit a swimmer information roster. The insurance policy for the Middle School Swim League only covers swimmers at the Crawfish Aquatics facility during the Middle School Swim League season and its respective events.

**Required Roster Information:** Swimmer First/Last Name, Age/Date of Birth, Grade Level

### **Rules, Regulations, and General Information**

1. All athletes will compete in one classification. Athletes participating in any high school/varsity level swim league are not eligible to participate in the Middle School Swim League within the same season.
2. Each school is required to submit the *Agreement for Participation in the Crawfish Aquatics Middle School Program*, signed by the school principal or school athletic director to participate in the league competitively (this grants permission for students to participate under their school name).
3. Each school will have a school representative (can be a teacher or a team parent) that will be responsible for roster management, collection and payment of fees, and meet entries.
4. Apart from homeschooled students, individuals may not participate in the league without school affiliation. *See homeschool student guidelines for specifics.*
5. All swimmers are required to have insurance coverage, regardless of USA Swimming registration or school athlete insurance coverage as this league is not sanctioned by USA Swimming or LHSAA.

### **Meet Guidelines**

1. Current USA swimming technical rules and code of regulations will be used for judging (all meets) and scoring (championship meet).
2. All events will be timed finals seeded slowest to fastest.
3. Each swimmer may compete in four events and per regular season meet (maximum of three individual events and one relay event) and five events in the Championship Meet (maximum of three individual events and two relay events).
4. There is no limit on individual entries per event per team (for all meets within the season).
5. Relay limits: Each team may enter two relays (A and B) per event for cluster meets and the Championship Meet.

### **Fees**

1. Meet Fee: \$5 per swimmer per meet. This entry fee includes a digital copy of the heat sheet, which will be published to the Crawfish Aquatics website and Meet Mobile the Thursday prior to each meet. Meet fees are due the week following each meet. Championship Meet fees will be due by the day of the championship meet.
2. Payment Guidelines: Checks payable to Crawfish Aquatics. Payments can be separate checks, but must be turned in together by the team representative for the group at one time for the team. Teams have the option to pay for all 4 meets at the start of the season; however, reimbursements will not be issued for non-participation. If check payments combine multiple fees, documentation should be attached that details the payment.

## **Meet Format**

There will be two Cluster Meets, which will have relay events. For the first Cluster Meet, the 200 Free Relay will be offered, and for the second Cluster Meet, the 200 Medley Relay will be offered (both will be offered at the Championship Meet). The Cluster Meets will not be scored. Swimmers will be ranked under the one single grade division for these meets.

The Championship meet will host all teams and will be the only scored meet. There will be awards for male and female high point swimmers and for individuals (first through eighth). For the championship meet, individual events will be ranked/scored by time with the top eight athletes among all grade levels scoring points.

## **Facilities**

All meets will be held at Crawfish Aquatics at Nicholls State University. Meets will be contested in an 8-lane, heated, 25-yard outdoor pool consisting of an electronic scoreboard and its accompanying timing equipment as well as a large deck space with a covered pavilion area available to all spectators.

## **Meet Entry Information**

Entries are due by the Wednesday before each meet. Email entry file to *office.nicholls@crawfishaquatics.com*.

*Team Manager is required for teams with 5+ athletes.* To download Team Manager Lite (a limited version of Team Manager that is free to download), go to <http://www.hy-tekltd.com>, "Download Center" (under "Quick Links" on homepage), and go to Team Manager "Lite."

If a coach is looking for self-guided assistance, see the Middle School Swim League section of the Crawfish Aquatics website to view "Documents for MS Coaches," which will include steps for setting up your Team Manager database, entering meet entries and events, and adding swimmer results following a meet.

## **Order of Events**

### **Cluster Meets**

200 Relay (Free at Meet 1, Medley at Meet 2)  
50 Freestyle  
50 Backstroke  
50 Breaststroke  
50 Butterfly  
100 IM at Meet 1, 100 Free at Meet 2

### **Championship Meet**

200 Medley Relay  
100 IM  
50 Freestyle  
50 Breaststroke  
50 Backstroke  
50 Butterfly  
100 Freestyle  
200 Freestyle Relay

## **Championship Meet Grade Division for Events and Event Scoring**

For the Championship Meet, points will be awarded through 16 places for individual and relay events. Individual events and relays will be split by 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades for scoring at the Championship Meet. There will be no limit of swimmers per team per event, but there will be a limit of two relays per team per event at the Championship meet. Events offered will be the 50 fly, free, breast, back, 100 free and IM, and the 200 Medley and Free relays.

## **Parking**

Meet participants are permitted to park in the parking lot directly across from the Crawfish Aquatics facility as well as in the parking lot along the tennis courts in the adjacent parking lot. A copy of the Nicholls State parking permit can be acquired via each respective school or at the Crawfish Aquatics facility. Note that those without visible permits are subject to ticketing per the university's standards.

## **Timing Information**

- Each team will be assigned lane timers in proportion to the meet entries in a session.
- Timers must report 10 minutes prior to the start of each session.

## **Warm-Up Information**

Lane assignments for warm-up sessions will be posted prior to each meet.

## **Meet Programs**

- Complimentary meet programs will be provided to coaches and team representatives.
- The meet program will be posted online (Thursday) prior to each meet for parents to print or download.
- Meet programs will not be sold at meets.

## **Team Training/Practice Options**

All participant teams are offered practice options at the Crawfish Aquatics facility and coaching from Crawfish Aquatics staff. Practices will begin two weeks prior to the Kick Off Meet and run through the end of the season, culminating with the Championship Meet. Contact Crawfish Aquatics for practice information and pricing. Teams are assigned to a 5:00-6:00 PM timeslot with practices held Monday-Thursday.

## **Homeschool Student Participation Guidelines**

1. These allowances are only available to students that are not enrolled in a public or private school and are homeschooled students. Individuals that attend a public/private school that is not a member of the Middle School Swim League may not participate as "unattached" or by individual status. The only students with the option to swim without team affiliation are homeschooled students.
2. Homeschool swimmers must be grades 5-8 and between ages 10 (as of August 1) and 14 (must not turn 15 prior to August 1) years of age. Swimmers that are age 10-11 through July 31 of the competition year will participate in the 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade division at the Championship Meet, and swimmers ages 12-14 years will participate in the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade division.
3. Middle School Swim League administrators may request proof of homeschool status.
4. Three Participation Options
  - If participating by individual status, team name will be listed as "Homeschool."
  - If participating with an organized homeschool team/group/co-op, the group can select a team name. We will not regulate that these individuals practice together, etc. The team must have one representative that will organize the roster, collect and submit payments, and collect and submit one entry file per meet for all swimmers participating on that team.
  - If a homeschool student wishes to attach to a league participant school, they must directly contact that school/team representative, and it must follow the LHSAA guidelines that are used for High School Swimming and homeschool swimmer affiliation/attachment. The school athletic director will give the approval for an individual homeschool student to attach to their school. Any team that has a homeschool swimmer attached should denote them as such on their team roster submitted at the start of the season. Each individual school can decide whether or not to allow this, provided they use the criteria the LHSAA uses in the High School Swimming League. The school representative will be responsible for turning in payment for these swimmers also, as well as entries. This option is only available to homeschool students and not for students from a different, non-participating school.
  - *Note in regard to future High School Swimming participation:* There is no carry-over of eligibility from the middle school league to any LHSAA High School Swimming affiliated team. That is a separate situation and regulated by LHSAA rules.