

NOTES ON THE MIDDLE ATLANTIC ZONE TEAM AND THE SELECTION PROCESS:

Because the Middle Atlantic Senior Championship Meet is the week after Junior Olympics, selections for the 11-12, 13-14, and 15-18 age groups for the 2008 Winter Zone Team will not be made until after this meet. Zone Coaches will receive the top times list for their age group on Saturday night, March 22. They will pick their team on Sunday, March 23 (Easter Sunday) and make phone calls on Monday, March 24.

Entries for the meet are due March 28 at noon. For this reason we will need an answer on March 24 when the initial Zone call is made as to whether or not you will be accepting the selection.

It is our obligation as Zone coaches to pick the best team possible to try and win the team title (AGAIN) for Middle Atlantic. Some swimmers may get put into unexpected events at the meet. Please understand that we have an obligation to do what is best for the team and Middle Atlantic.

The Zone Team practice and team meeting will be held on Saturday, March 29th at 10:30 am at Emmaus High School (different location from past years). Team members should expect to swim with their group coach from 10:30 am to 11:30 am. During this hour a parents meeting will be held with Zone Team Managers Michele and Mark Paules. At this meeting parents will be required to pay the team fees and will be able to collect their swimmers' outfitting package. It is at this meeting that any and all questions regarding the team and the trip will be answered. If you have a question, write it down and ask it at the meeting. The Zone Team coaches will be available after the practice for a brief time for questions. All swimmers must be at the team practice.

The maximum qualifying times (see Winter Zone Team section of the MA website) are to be strictly enforced. Swimmers ages 13 and over achieving any one of these time standards is not eligible to be a member of the team in any events. Swimmers ages 12 and under who achieve one of these time standards are not eligible for the team if they have competed in any event at USA Swimming Nationals (short course or long course), Junior Nationals, or US Open.

Michele and Mark Paules will be at Junior Olympics to answer any questions. Head Coach Matt Sprang will be at Senior Champs to answer questions.

REGARDING THE TOP TIMES LIST:

If one or more of your times is missing from the top times list please contact Matt Sprang via email (msprang@gcit.org) ASAP. Please be prepared to provide a link to the meet results of the USA Swimming sanctioned, observed, or approved meet where the time was done. Times must have been done since September 1, 2007 and must have been done in a short course yards (25 yards) pool; conversions from any other format are not acceptable. The top times list will be posted at Junior Olympics and a revised version will be posted at Senior Champs.

The top times only contains results for swimmers who have properly registered for the Zone Team. Registration for the team closed on March 1.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ZONE TEAM WILL ONLY BE SELECTED BASED ON THE ZONE MEET EVENTS!