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COUNTY YMCA SWIM TEAM FAQ SHEET

Q. Who is eligible to be on the Swim Team?

- A. Participants must be able to swim one length (25 yards) freestyle, one length backstroke, and one length breaststroke (in rudimentary form). All swimmers must have a YMCA of Greater Erie membership to participate; this is a National YMCA guideline.

Q. How much does it cost to be on Swim Team?

- A. For the first swimmer the cost is \$280 and \$250 for any additional siblings. High School swimmer's and Meadville Satellite Swim Team Members the cost is \$150 with coach verification.

Q. What does my registration fee cover?

- A. Coach wages, pool rental fees, general operating costs, and dual meets.

Q. What does my registration fee not cover?

- A. Swimsuit, goggles, training equipment, team clothing, special events, invitationals, and championship meet costs.

Q. Where and when do we practice?

- A. The County YMCA Blue Dolphins are one team with two practice locations. Our County Y swimmers primarily practice at PennWest Edinboro's McComb Fieldhouse, while our Meadville Satellite Team regularly practices at the MARC in Meadville.

We will kick off the season by bringing our swimmers together for the first week of practice:

SEASON KICKOFF – ALL BLUE DOLPHINS TOGETHER

September 28–October 1

MARC – Meadville

Monday–Thursday | 6–7:30 PM

Bring a Friend Week!

WEEK TWO

October 5–8

PennWest Edinboro McComb Fieldhouse

Monday–Thursday | 7–8:30 PM

REGULAR PENNWEST PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Beginning October 12

PennWest Edinboro McComb Fieldhouse

Monday–Thursday | 5–6:30 PM

Our Meadville Satellite Team will continue its regular practice schedule at the MARC. Throughout the season, there may also be select dates when the PennWest pool is unavailable. On those dates, PennWest swimmers may join our Meadville swimmers for

practice at the MARC. Families will be notified in advance of any schedule or location changes.

Q. What is the Meadville Satellite Team?

- A. Our Meadville Satellite Team is part of the County YMCA Blue Dolphins Swim Team and provides swimmers with the opportunity to practice regularly at the MARC in Meadville. Although our swimmers may practice at different locations, we compete, support one another, and represent the Blue Dolphins as **one team**.

Q. How long is the season?

- A. The season will begin on Monday, September 28, 2026, and run through early April 2027 dependent on State and National Championships.

Q. When can we sign up?

- A. Registration opens Monday, August 24, 2026. New swimmers must complete a swim evaluation prior to registering for the Blue Dolphins.

Our scheduled **New Swimmer Tryout** will be held:

Thursday, September 10 | 5:30–6:30 PM

PennWest Edinboro McComb Fieldhouse

Advance registration for the tryout is required and may be completed online, by phone, or in person at the County Y.

Can't make the scheduled tryout? Contact us to discuss an alternate swim evaluation.

Q. What if I cannot make every practice?

- A. We encourage your swimmer to make as many practices as they can. The more practices you attend, the more you will gain from our program.

Q. Do I have to compete?

- A. We are a competitive swim team. You will benefit and gain life lessons by competing. We strongly encourage you to compete.

Q. What do I need for practice?

- A. You will need a swimsuit, swim cap, goggles, water bottle, a towel and a positive attitude! You may bring additional equipment to practice, but it is not required.

Q. What do I need for a swim meet?

- A. You will need a swimsuit, County Y swim cap, goggles, water bottle, extra towels and a smile!

Q. What is a dual meet?

- A. Dual meets are our league scheduled meets and should be attended by all swimmers on the team. There is no fee for these meets, and they are against one other team. Coaches pick the events in which swimmers will compete.

Q. What is an invitational?

- A. These meets are optional and usually have an entry fee per event entered. You and your child pick the events in which you want to compete.

Q. When do the meets take place?

- A. Dual meets and invitationals are mostly held on Saturdays. There may be one or two that fall on a Sunday. *The meet schedule will be available online and shared with parents once finalized.*