

Morton Otters Swim Team

Welcome to the Otters 2009!!



We are looking forward to a great season. Please take note our team has a website www.mortonswim.com I will use this site as much as possible to inform parents and swimmers of important information. We will have the directions to away meets, cancellations, Tazewell County & Journal Star deadlines, etc. on this website so please check it regularly. If this is the first year your children are swimming on a swim team, or the first time with the Otters, these are some important suggestions.

---Otters swim meets and practices are held rain or shine.

---There is an Otter mailbox at morning practices. The mailbox is a file box which contains a folder for each Otter family. In the folder are hand-outs, ribbons, etc. Please check your child's mailbox, they don't always remember.

---Please arrive at the meet 30 minutes prior to the start for warm-ups, the coaches will tell your children the warm-up for the evening.

---You or your swimmer should check the posted event sheets for what events your child is swimming. Write it down. The back of the swimmers hand is the best place.

---During the meets, there is **NO** swimming in the diving well or the baby pool.

---The events for the meet are usually announced (at some away meets they will be posted on a marker board). For example it will be announced, "Event 1, girls 8 and under medley relay to the bullpen". That is your cue to send them to the bullpen. Some meets they will only announce the event they are currently on. If your event is coming up soon, go to the bullpen.

---At most meets, there will be a bullpen that the swimmer will report to so the swimmers can be lined up before they report to the blocks. Most bullpens are easy to find, just look for the rows of chairs, with a couple of frazzled looking parents trying to line swimmers up. At some bullpens, the swimmers are given a card to be given to the timers at the blocks. At others, swimmers will be told which lane to go to and then swimmers are to give their names to the timers to ensure they are in the correct lanes. If there is no bullpen at an away meet, the coaches will designate a parent to be responsible for the cards.

---**IT IS YOUR JOB TO MAKE SURE YOUR SWIMMERS GET TO THE BULLPEN!!**

This is a large swim team and it is very hard to keep track of all the swimmers. If your child does not show up at the bullpen, it is not always possible for someone to go searching for the missing swimmer. The meet won't stop for a missing swimmer and they will not be allowed to make up the event if it is missed.

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Stuff you might need for swim meets

These are a few items that we think may come in handy at swim meets:

- Extra towels
- sweat suit (sometimes the air is hot, but the water is very cold)
- extra goggles (they are easy to loose, even if they are labeled)
- pen or sharpie (for marking events on hands)
- deck of cards, book, travel games, or legos (meets are long for little guys)
- lawn chair for mom and dad
- umbrella to clamp on back of chair
- sunglasses
- cooler with water, sports drinks, snacks
- baby powder for swim cap