



Hi everyone. We've reached the end of term 3 already and isn't it great that summer is on the way, with loads of aquatic activities. It's good to know we're helping our kids enjoy themselves and be safe in the water. And for our competitive swimmers the Long Course season starts as we move towards national championships in February/March. So, what's happening at YOUR swim club...

Things you need to know...

Payment of entry fees - this has caused some confusion in the past few months as we have trialed the system where coaches have been selecting swimmers' entries for signature meets. That has been a great success for swimming results, but we need to fine-tune the payment of fees. So, effective immediately, entry fees will need to be paid in advance of the swim meet in question or your swimmer's entry will not be forwarded to the meet organizer.

The procedure for Signature Meets is -

- 1) Entries will be selected by the coaches (usually 2 swims, plus one of the swimmer's choice). These will be written on the entry envelopes which swimmers will bring home. The entries will also be emailed to you by the race secretary, together with the due date.
NB: YOU MUST READ YOUR EMAILED ENTRY REPORTS IMMEDIATELY - LATE SCRATCHINGS ARE A HEADACHE FOR THE RACE SECRETARY AND PARENTS WILL PAY ALL SCRATCHING FEES. YOUR COOPERATION IS ESSENTIAL.
- 2) All returned entries must now be made on the entry envelopes (not by email to the race secretary). Parents must sign the envelope and indicate whether the fees are enclosed or being internet banked. Any changes to entries should be made on the envelope.
- 3) The envelope **MUST** be shown to the coach for his signature, then placed in the green entries box by lane 6.
- 4) The complete (and final) entries report will then be emailed to swimmers by the race secretary.

For all other meets, you will need to check the flyers on the website/notice board and complete the entry envelopes in the same way. Fees must be enclosed or internet banked in advance of the meet, and signed envelopes placed in the entries box by the due date. An entries report will be emailed to the swimmers attending that meet.

For regional and national meets, coaches will discuss entries with the swimmers but entries are to use the envelope system, with entry fees paid in advance (regional meets only).

Officials' duties - it was great to have so many parents assisting with duties during the SC champs. We are lucky that our club has a large group of parents who are qualified officials or who have experience at assisting in various roles. **Please remember that if your son or daughter is scratched from a meet at which you have offered to assist as an official, you must contact the officials' coordinator Julie Park, since she will need to inform the race organizer so that the position is covered.** Thanks.

Tuesday Club Nights - Thank you from our club captain Jo Forster, who co-ordinates Tuesday swimming, to those parents who have stepped up as volunteer coaches. Without you, and our senior swimmers who also volunteer their time as coaches, the club would be unable to offer Tuesday night swimming.

What's coming up...

- **2009 Spring Meet (NZ SC Champs)** - We have a team of 10 who have qualified for this 4 day meet in Christchurch during the holidays: Jake Allen, Joseph Mansell, Chris Roberts, Michael Roberts, Kate Forster, Samantha Piper, Chrystal Neilson, Dayna Lawton, Sophie Dyhrberg and Brooke O'Connell, together with coach Jim and team managers Kylie Piper and Jill Roberts. We wish them a successful and enjoyable meet. Follow their progress on www.raumatiswimming.co.nz.
- **Jason's swimmers** - parent information evening on Wednesday 14th October 5.30. Jason will discuss the LC season and upcoming meets, and also a possible junior swim camp. Be there to find out more!
- **Term 4 race nights** - mark your calendars for 20 October and 10 November and keep an eye on the website/notice board for flyers. If you are unsure about whether your child is ready to enter race nights, need advice about which races to enter, or just want to know more, don't hesitate to ask your child's coach. These nights are a great chance for kids to give swim racing a go, with lots of friendly help and encouragement on the night. **GIVE IT A GO!!!**
- **Swim Camp** - this is being organized for 13-19 December at Marton, training at the 50m Marton pool and staying at Arahina training centre. There will be five days of pool time, as well as other activities, which will be a valuable start in training towards 2010 national meets. The camp is open to swimmers who have already qualified for Juniors, Div 2 and NAGs, although it may be offered to others dependant on numbers. There is a maximum of 30 spaces available. Please see the notice board/website for details or speak with Coach Jim.
- **Long Course information evening** - to be held in early November. Stayed tuned for details.
- **2009 Jarvis Cup** - this is the club's 100m freestyle handicap trophy. First rounds will be swum during the 10 November race night and the final on the night of our Xmas Party. Swimmers of all ages should give it a go. Last year's winner Grace Cagney held off much older swimmers for victory!
- **2009 Xmas Party** - to be held on Tuesday 8 December, beginning with the Jarvis Cup final. There'll be silly races, BBQ and shared meal, with Santa delivering goodies. Book that date now!!

Congratulations...

- ❖ Well done to all our swimmers who swam their hearts out at the Wellington SC Champs. The percentage of PB swims over the team of 47 swimmers was over 80%, and a number were qualifying times for national meets. That's what it's all about!! Special congrats to our 29 finalists and 14 medalists, including Emily Malaulau who gained top points in 10yr girls and Joseph Mansell runner-up in 14yr boys. Great effort swimmers, coaches and parents!
- ❖ Congratulations to the club for winning four awards at the Swimming Wellington 2009 Awards - Coaches Jim Floerchinger and Jason McPhee for NZ Juniors Coach of the Year, Jess Hortop for Volunteer Coach of the Year, and Yvonne Mansell for Administrator of the Year. It's a great reflection on how well our club works!
- ❖ Congratulations to Awie van den Berg & Brian Dunce who qualified as national IOTs during the SC Champs and to Chris Dhyrberg who is a regional IOT. We also had a number of new timekeepers qualify at the meet. Cool!!
- ❖ Paul Forster came 14th in his age group at the World Mountain Running Champs in Croatia. Great effort Paul!

Please remember to keep checking our fabulous website for daily updates on what's happening with your club.

www.raumatiswimming.co.nz

From our Head Coach...

Term 3 has certainly been a successful one for Raumati! We have so many outstanding things going on, and as you've seen from the earlier part of the newsletter, there have been lots of great swims, and some accolades as well. The entire club works well toward getting every participant a chance to have a great time, and to enjoy the process of being an athlete. What a great thing it is to be a Raumati Swimmer!

While many of you are reading this, we will be competing at the NZ Spring Meet (which will be renamed NZ Short Course Championships next year) as the end of the short course season. I am excited about the possibilities for our group of 10 athletes, and the results will be available online at a number of locations, and I'd encourage you to follow along.

Heading into Long Course Season, we have a Swim Camp coming up for 30 of our top athletes, and that will be a great foundation to the Long Course phase that we are entering now. Having some time away for the group, and some opportunity to train hard and work through some of the priorities for this season will be instrumental to our continued success. Long Course season is through the summer months, and is a season that extends ultimately through the next wave of National Meets, Juniors, NAGs and Div2.

Let me take this opportunity to also point out that while, as Head Coach, the buck stops with me, the success that we enjoy here is due to the whole coaching staff. From our Tuesday Night Volunteers (Great job on the Award, Jess!) through to Brogan, Jason and Mike, who all provide support, input and guidance for our competitors. The club has a great atmosphere and momentum about it, and we all, coaches, athletes and parents alike are part of the positive environment that has been fostered since I've been involved with Raumati.

While some of you are aware, not all of you are, and this term, while monumental in our success, also was marked by the passing of my Father. My Dad was a huge supporter of my decision to be a coach, and was a source of strength for me. We did have a service for him in Auckland, but, I will be away in October to take some time to reflect, time that couldn't be taken at that point of our competitive cycle, as well as sort out various family details, including selecting a burial site for him in our hometown of St. Louis, Missouri. I am appreciative of all the support that has been given to me at this time. Many thanks to you all for the cards, flowers and gifts, they meant more than you could possibly know.

See you on the deck,

Jim