

## To parents and caregivers of swimmers in NZ Senior → Bronze Squads

### Squad and Fees restructuring

As we first advised you in our newsletter last month, it has become necessary to look at our fee structure and fee levels to ensure our club can grow in the long-term and continue to offer the best possible coaching to our young and aspiring athletes.

We explained that there has been a constant increase in the monthly costs of running the club and that up to now, the club has shouldered these. In addition, the economic impact of last year has had an adverse effect on the level of funding given to NZ sporting clubs by charitable trusts so that we have received less than half of the funding received in previous years to help cover major running expenses.

As a result, we have to make an increase in our fees (which have not changed in over two years) and also change the way our fees are structured so that they will be paid on a monthly basis.

The committee would like to thank those members who provided us with feedback, both positive and negative, on the new payment structure and the fees level. At its last meeting, we decided on the following fees structure for all squads, which will commence 1 July 2010 and will be put forward to be ratified at the AGM on 20 July 2010:

<b>Current Squad</b>	<b>New Squad</b>	<b>Monthly Squad Fees</b>	<b>Annual Swim Wgtn fee for Competitive Swimmers</b>	<b>Annual Club Membership Fee</b>	<b>Total Per year</b>
Bronze	Bronze	\$35	\$70	\$100	\$590
Silver	Silver	\$50	\$70	\$100	\$770
Gold	Gold	\$70	\$70	\$100	\$1010
Elite 3	Junior	\$95	\$70	\$100	\$1310
Elite 5	Junior	\$95	\$70	\$100	\$1310
Junior Nat	Senior	\$120	\$70	\$100	\$1610
Senior Nat	Senior	\$120	\$70	\$100	\$1610

***The monthly fees are calculated on a basis that is fair to everyone across the squads and reflects 1) basic pool hire per hour of swimming and 2) coaching fee per hour of swimming/training.***

- Each Squad Swimmer will pay an **annual club membership fee**, in addition to monthly squad training fees. All competitive swimmers will also pay an **annual registration fee** to Swimming Wellington.
- We encourage Tuesday Night swimmers to move to squad swimming if they want to swim competitively (100m or more). They can stay a Tuesday Night swimmer and compete but the annual club membership fee as well as the annual registration fee to Swimming Wellington will have to be paid. Tuesday night swimmers that participate in events **other than** Novice Carnival and Club Race

Nights, and in races of less than 100m only, will be asked to pay the membership fee in addition to the Tuesday Night fee.

- Swimming Wellington requires all competitive swimmers to pay an annual \$70 registration. This is in addition to monthly swim fees and will now be payable by July 31 each year. Failure to pay the fee will mean the swimmer is not registered with Swimming Wellington for any competitive swimming and cannot obtain any official times until the fee is paid. The club will not pay registration fees in advance or on behalf of any swimmer, although the club will pay registration fees for officials. **Please note:** a competitive swimmer is defined as someone swimming events of 100m or more at club, regional or national level. Swimmers who are still doing only 25m or 50m do not need to pay the SW fee. This is applicable to Tuesday night swimmers as well. It is club policy that all swimmers on Gold Squad and above must be registered competitive swimmers and regularly compete for the club.
- An annual club membership fee of \$100 per swimmer is to be paid by August 31 each year. This covers all club costs for administration, prize-giving and the club room facilities. In return, each swimmer will receive a squad t-shirt, 2 Raumatī caps and no entry fees will be payable for the annual club champs. The squad t-shirt, designed each year by senior swimmers and approved by the committee, will be acceptable uniform for club or swimming events, other than national meets. **Please note:** if you participate in swim events outside of Club Race Nights, you must be a member of the club and therefore pay the separate \$100 membership fee, even if you are a Tuesday night swimmer.
- The current uniform bond and rental fee will be abolished. Uniforms currently issued to a swimmer will become the property of that swimmer and the bond will be forfeited to the club as payment for this. The uniform will remain the recognized attire for all swim meets and must be kept in a clean and tidy condition. Future orders for full uniforms or replacements will be taken twice a year, with payment in advance. **Please note:** the club uniform is the ONLY recognized attire at national and regional events. The squad t-shirt can be worn in addition to the uniform, but not in place of it.

### **Squad definition and name changes**

- The current National Senior and National Junior squads (Jim and Mike's swimmers) will combine into "Senior Squad", all paying the same amount per month. They will be entitled to train up to 10 sessions per week and during the holidays as well. PT is offered to all college age swimmers in these squads. Younger swimmers may be accommodated in accordance with Swimming NZ guidelines for those age groups.
- The current Elite 3 and Elite 5 squads (Jason's swimmers) will combine into "Junior Squad", all paying the same monthly fee. This group of swimmers will be

entitled to train with the Senior Squad during holiday periods under Jim and Mike at no additional cost. Please note that the Senior Squad will be given preference in lane space allocation.

- Bronze, Silver and Gold will remain as they are but the fees will be recalculated into monthly payments, rather than quarterly payments. This is to make payments more regular and ease the burden of big financial amounts once every 3 months. This **does not** mean these swimmers are entitled to swim during holiday periods. The current timetable of swimming only during School Terms still applies. It means that there will be payments made during months where they will not be swimming (January in particular). This is unforeseeable as the fees are now based on a year's swimming divided by 12 months. Previously, it was divided by 4 to calculate a quarterly payment.

We had a lot of feedback from parents asking to make this a monthly payment, not quarterly as current.

- Swim fees will **include** the increased GST rate of 15% coming into effect on 1 October 2010.
- All swim fees will be paid in advance either for the full year, or on a monthly basis and payments are to be made by an Automatic Payment. **Please note** that swimmers, who only swim for part of the year, will be asked to commit for 6 months at least (no less) and will lose their lane space to swimmers that commit for a year if that situation arises. In order to be fair to everyone, swimmers swimming in **Q4 and/or Q1** will be required to pay for December and January respectively, traditionally months where limited swimming for Bronze, Silver and Gold is available. In the past, this was factored into the Quarterly fee and the change to Monthly payments does not change this undertaking.
- The club's constitution currently rules that any swimmer whose account is more than 14 days overdue will be ineligible to compete in any club, Swimming Wellington or Swimming New Zealand events. This will be enforced with effect from the 1 July 2010. Only members with an agreed payment plan will be exempt from this ruling. Any fees currently in arrears will have to be paid in full as soon as possible and the agreed payment plan must be adhered to.
- Any member who is experiencing financial difficulties can make a written request to the President or Club Secretary for consideration of a payment plan. All such requests are dealt with confidentially.

The committee also wants to clarify that for all levels of swimming (Tuesday Night as well as Squad)

- There will be no reduction in fees offered for swimmers than cannot swim to the maximum allocated amount of sessions. It is your choice not to use the allocated sessions.
- There will be no reduction in fees for anyone in the Junior or Senior Squad, irrespective of the swimmer being a competitive or non-competitive swimmer, for not swimming during Holiday periods.
- Swimmers that get injured and cannot swim for a period of 2 weeks or longer because of the injury will be able to apply for a credit for the number of weeks they are out of action.
- Pool closure of 3 weeks during the winter period of June/July is factored into the new fees and no additional credits will be issued in the future.

All enquiries regarding your account should be forwarded to the club's treasurer. Our coaches are your first point of contact for any competitive swimming matters but matters of finance should be directed to the Treasurer or President.

Regards,

Awie van den Berg, President

[president@raumatiswimming.co.nz](mailto:president@raumatiswimming.co.nz)

Louwtjie van Eck, Treasurer

[treasurer@raumatiswimming.co.nz](mailto:treasurer@raumatiswimming.co.nz)

30 June 2010