

## Parent's Responsibility

The Metuchen Municipal Pool Team is fortunate to have very-dedicated, highly-motivated coaches working to develop our children into better swimmers, and more importantly teaching and instilling important life skills. These skills include time-management, self-discipline, and sportsmanship. Your child will reap the benefits of swimming long-after his/her participation with the team ends. As parents, it is absolutely essential that we give our coaching staff the respect and authority they deserve to run our swim team. It is with this respect, that the coaches will be able to deliver the number one goal of the MMP team; a fun, supportive environment for swimmers and divers of all ages.

### Basic Expectations of Parents:

1. Set the right example for our children by showing respect and common-courtesies at all times to the team members, coaches, competitors, officials, parents and for all facilities and properties used during practice and competitions.
2. Demonstrate good sportsmanship during all practices, competitions and team activities.
3. Practice teamwork with all parents, swimmers/divers, and coaches by supporting the values of Discipline, Loyalty, Commitment and Hard Work.
4. See that your swimmer/diver is on time for all practices, arrives on time for warm-ups at meets and is well fed.
5. Know your role:
  - a. Swimmers → Swim
  - b. Divers → Dive
  - c. Coaches → Coach
  - d. Officials → Officiate
  - e. Parents → Parent
6. Do not coach your child at practice or during meets, that is the coach's job. During practices all parents should remain on the pavilion, please do not come down to the pool deck.
7. Do not interrupt or confront the coaching staff on the pool deck during practices or meets.
8. Any questions about disqualifications, judging, etc. should be directed to your swimmer's/diver's coach, after the meet.

9. Be respectful and supportive of all swimmers/divers. Observe silence during racing starts/dives and cheer for EVERYONE!
10. Communicate with the Coaches. It can take a couple of hours to complete a meet sheet to ensure that every swimmer is getting a fair chance to participate, last minute changes are difficult and unfair to everyone. Please let your Coaches know when your athlete will not be at a meet. Coaches can be contacted by leaving a note in their mailbox (envelope on bulletin board) or by leaving them an email message (see email links on "Coaches" page of the web-site).
11. Stay Informed! A great way to help the team and the coaches is to know what is going on. Please check the team bulletin board (at the entrance to the pool) and the team website often. You can also friend MMP on Facebook. Last minute changes, weather delays and important announcements are communicated via these channels regularly.
12. Do your part! It takes over 30 parents to run one swim/dive meet. Show your support of the team, by being on time for work assignments, working them respectfully, and diligently – the swimmer you are timing might be going for a personal best or a conference time – accurate timing and efficient meet operation is important to a positive experience for everyone.
13. Teach your child that doing one's best is more important than winning so that your child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a race. The most important part of swimming and diving is having fun!