

LOS RANCHITOS SHARKS

Newsletter

July 22, 2008

Questions to – Sharks@lrcc.org

Championships

This Saturday, July 26th, is our championship meet at Sobrato High School at 401 Burnett Ave., Morgan Hill, 95037. All five teams compete.

Directions to Ann Sobrato High School:

Take 85 south to 101 south,
Go 3.5 miles to Exit #373 Bailey Ave.
Right on Bailey Ave., take short ramp
on right towards Monterey Hwy/Rd
Left on Monterey Hwy/Rd (at the light),
go ~4-5 miles to Burnett Ave.
Left on Burnett Ave.
High School is on the left

Take first driveway "Student Entrance,
Sports Field Parking"

Follow road to back of school to large
parking area

Pool is to the right next to the
basketball and tennis courts

It took about 30 minutes to get there
with light traffic conditions. Note that
this is the same weekend as the Gilroy
Garlic festival, so the later you leave to
come to the pool, the more traffic there
will be. There is no overnight RV
parking and no one may arrive before 6
am.

The Sharks will warm up in lanes 3 and
4 as follows:

ages 11-18 from 7:30 – 8:00

ages 10 and under from 8:00 – 8:20

Swimmers, please make sure to check
in with Lori Booroojian so she knows
who is available for relays. If you come
late, don't warm up, and you don't
check-in, you run the risk of being
scratched from your relay. If an
emergency arises, please call Lori at
807-6626. Parents, please check in
with Laura Conlan in the pink hat.
Parent volunteer work schedules will be
distributed by Thursday.

Los Ranchitos will be setting up on the
grass area nearest the corner of the
pool with the starter and also outside
the pool area on the basketball courts.
No one may set up on the pool deck
itself. Please set up within one of
these two areas so that we can find
swimmers for relays.

At 8:20 we will have a team meeting to
give our team cheer! Please find your
relay teams at this time. We will only
be running A and B relays. For all 8
and under relays – since we are
swimming in ten lanes, the clerk of the
course is trying to seat 10 relays for
each event. It gets rather confusing
and hectic. We absolutely need at
least two parents for each relay team to
help the swimmers get to their lanes on
both sides of the pool. The relay cards
will be marked with lane numbers.

There are ten lanes being run for each
heat. The events run quickly and
swimmers often do not allow
themselves enough time to get to the
clerk of the course and we have had
swimmers miss their events. We have
found in the past that the announcer is
not always accurate in calling
swimmers to the clerk of the course so
you are better off checking yourself.
We will also be keeping the Event
Board updated. Programs are on sale,
which list all of the events by heat and
lane numbers. There will also be
league apparel for sale at the meet.

Swim Caps – All swimmers (**male and
female**) are requested to wear Shark
swim caps at champs. Not only does
this promote team spirit, but it also
helps the coaches identify our
swimmers in the pool. Please
purchase a latex (\$3) or silicon (\$10)
cap from Lori Booroojian this week or at
champs on Saturday, or borrow a cap
from a friend for your events.

There is a warm-up area on the side of
the pool near the clerk of the course
that may be used by swimmers before
and after their races. Swimmers are
limited to 4 laps and then must get out.
This is not a play area!

When our team visited the site, it was
extremely windy. Plan on bringing
weights or anchors for all canopies and
umbrellas. Last year it was extremely
cold early in the morning. Bring plenty
of sweatshirts, sweats and blankets for
the morning.

There will be a parents and coaches'
relay at the end of the meet. Parents
interested in swimming should bring
their suits!

Champs Snack Bar

If you have a large ice chest that we
could use for champs, please bring it to
the pool by Thursday night so we can
fill it with ice...thanks!! In addition to
coolers, the snack bar also needs a
volunteer to slice tomatoes, 2 onions,
and some lettuce for burgers. Please
contact Beth Russell if you're able to
help. beth95008@yahoo.com

We also need help transporting food
and equipment to Champs. Please
email Beth if you can take items Friday
night (from Spaghetti dinner) and
deliver them to Sobrato Saturday
morning.

Pancake Breakfast

On Thursday, July 24th, we will be
serving a pancake breakfast to all
swimmers after their normal morning
practice. Adults, please sign up on the
sheet inside the sign in binder if you
can help out at this event.

Schedule for Friday

There will be only shortened morning
practices on Friday and no evening
practices due to the Spaghetti dinner.
The morning schedule is:

Advanced practice 8:00 – 8:45

Intermediate 8:45 – 9:30

Beginner 9:30 – 10:00

Swimmers should spend this day doing
quiet and relaxing activities, saving
their energies for Champs on Saturday.

**NO SWIMMERS ARE
ALLOWED IN THE
POOL FOR
RECREATIONAL
SWIM ON FRIDAY!**



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There will be a spaghetti dinner beginning at 4:30 on Friday evening. Any adult who can help with this event, please sign up on sheet in the sign-in binder. Swimmers will be painting spirit banners before the dinner and continue throughout and after dinner. This is open to all swimmers and their families and there is no charge. Events that swimmers are entered in for Saturday and relays will be posted. Please do not complain to the coaches about the events you are swimming. All swimmers are entered in events to score maximum points for the team and it may not be your favorite or best stroke. No changing of events will be allowed unless there is an error. **No swim team member may use the pool this evening!**

Shark Fairy

New families may not be aware that the Shark Fairy visits all of our swimmers on Friday night before the Championship meet. The Shark Fairy needs parents' assistance. Parents, please come into the office sometime Thursday or during the Spaghetti Dinner on Friday to facilitate this endeavor.

The Mike McEvoy Award

Mike McEvoy was an excellent swim coach, but his impact on the Los Ranchitos Sharks was much more than just that.

Mike was a lifeguard, swim lesson instructor and coach for the Sharks who loved swimming and loved kids, and those feelings came through loud and clear as he coached the team. Mike's goal wasn't just to make everyone a better swimmer; he also wanted every kid to have a great time and learn the

joys of teamwork and good sportsmanship. All the swimmers, young and old, idolized Mike and gravitated around him all the time, and Mike never gave any of them anything less than his full attention and effort. He sweet talked sobbing five year olds into taking the blocks at their first meet, charmed teenagers into giving more effort than they knew they had in them and he always greeted every swimmer at the end of each race, be they a Shark or an opponent, with a resounding cry of "Good swim!" Mike wasn't just acting; he truly loved swimming and coaching and every meet and every practice he went to was something that he enjoyed and savored.

Mike's untimely death at 23 left a huge hole on our team and in our hearts. The Sharks have moved on, but for those of us who were here at the time, Mike's incredible legacy will never fade. Having a "good swim" will always be a key part of our team's philosophy, even if those good swims don't always result in first places.

This year at the Spaghetti Dinner, the highlight is the awarding of the Mike McEvoy "Good Swim" Award. Voted on in secret by the coaches, it is given to the Shark who best exemplifies Mike's fun-loving spirit. The winner is someone who encourages the youngest swimmers, cheers for his or her teammates, exhibits the highest levels of good sportsmanship and just generally loves the cabana swimming experience and shares that love with everyone around. The reward is simple but very symbolic: in addition to having his or her name engraved on the memorial plaque, the winner gets to

wear Mike's straw hat to all practices and meets the following year before handing it off to the next year's winner at the awards ceremony. Seeing someone else wear that hat doesn't bring Mike back, but it does remind us all why we enjoy being involved with the Sharks and with swimming, and that is something that Mike would have approved of unreservedly.

After Champs – Awards Night

The Los Ranchitos pool will be open to the team and on Saturday evening at 5:00 pm. (Non-members are allowed to use the pool recreationally this evening). Families bring their own dinner and drinks. *Dessert will be provided.* Awards begin at 7:30 pm. The swimmers will get their ribbons and/or medals from Champs as well as some special awards from the coaches.

White Card Keys

For those of you with white card keys, you have the option of keeping the key and having it be re-activated next season, or returning the key to Lori Booroojian for a refund of your \$10 deposit. If you wish to return the key, please see Lori at the Awards Pot-Luck.

Ribbon Holders

We just received a new shipment of ribbon holders. Each sheet will display five ribbons and conveniently fits in standard binders. The holders are \$1 per page. See Lori Booroojian or Maria Garibaldi if you are interested in purchasing any.

Good Swim!

Under federal anti-spam rules, this is a "relationship" message when sent to current LRCC and Sharks swim team members and a "promotional" message when sent to non-members. To unsubscribe from all LRCC e-mail lists, including the Sharks swim team newsletter, reply to this e-mail with "remove" in the subject line. (LRCC and Sharks swim team members who unsubscribe will no longer receive membership benefits and updates that are announced by e-mail).

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