

# **ATHLETIC PROGRAMS AT WILLOW GROVE**

## **SUMMER 2021**

### **2021 BARRACUDA SWIM TEAM**

We are so happy to be able to resume a more traditional summer season for our Barracuda Swim Team! Things won't be completely the way they were pre-Covid, but we WILL be having in person swim meets with the other clubs in our summer swim league. The UCOSL league reps are working hard to ensure a safe environment for volunteers and swimmers alike.

Our Barracuda swim team will be led by three fabulous coaches – Co-head coaches, returning from last year, Rachel Small and Sean Merkle, and new assistant coach Julia Yick. All three of our coaches are lifelong competitive swimmers on their high school and club teams, and of course at Willow Grove! They are also lifeguards at the Grove so they are familiar faces. We will be having 4-5 swim meets during the month of July. These will be dual meets – meaning our WG Barracudas will be competing against one other swim club. Dual meets are always held on Wednesday evenings or Saturday mornings. We don't yet know if there will be a championship meet – we are awaiting decisions by Westfield Memorial Pool, which is town operated, and NJ state guidelines. If there is a championship meet it will likely be July 30-31. Our practices will be WEEKDAY MORNINGS between 9:00-11:30am and will be divided into age appropriate sections based on number of swimmers in various age groups. We will also offer EVENING PRACTICES on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays – exact time to be determined.

Swim team is open to anyone 18 years old and younger who can pass the Basic Swimmer Test and swim independently. More information will be sent out in the near future with dates and times for swim team evaluations, registration and practice start dates. **Be on the lookout!**

### **2021 SWIM LESSONS**

We are also very excited to resume teaching swim lessons to our youngest Willow Grovers! Swim lessons will be offered in one-week sessions, beginning June 28, 2021. Our lessons will be small groups – maximum of 4 children per group to accommodate Covid precautions. The lessons will be Monday – Thursday for 30 minutes between the hours of 9:00-11:30am. We offer three levels of lessons to those aged 3 and up – Beginner, Advanced Beginner and Intermediate. Once a child has reached the intermediate level and can pass the Basic Swimmer Test they can join the swim team. We are limiting each child to a maximum of 3 weeks of lessons at the initial sign ups to allow all our youngest swimmers an opportunity to attend. We will offer 6 weeks of morning lessons from June 28 to August 8 (morning times will change slightly for the week of 8/2-8/5). We will also offer 2 weeks of evening lessons from August 2 to August 12. The evening sessions will run between 5:30pm-7:20pm in 30 minute sessions. Our swim lessons are offered free to Bonded members and at a cost of \$10 per child per session for Seasonal members. More information to follow in the coming weeks for swim lesson registration – **Be on the lookout!**

### **OTHER ATHLETICS AT WILLOW GROVE**

We are planning to have more normal activities around the Grove this summer since we can operate safely in an outdoor setting. Our playground equipment will open again, as well as our basketball and tetherball courts! We will also be offering our Ping Pong table and Nok Hockey games and other play equipment as we have in the past, and we hope to have a volleyball net up as well!

As always, feel free to speak to me, Cindy Rojek, Athletic Chairperson, [pcrjrojek@icloud.com](mailto:pcrjrojek@icloud.com) or any of our managers with ideas, questions or concerns about any of our athletic activities. Looking forward to seeing everyone safely enjoy summer in the Grove!