

Instructions for USA Swimming Registration

The CFYN Tigersharks are also a USA Swimming team. Participation in USA Swimming enables you to compete in additional invitational meets where you can choose your events. USA Swimming meets include a larger variety of events than typical YMCA invitationals. For example, USA Swimming meets typically have not only 50 yard events for the off strokes (back, breast, and fly) for 10 and unders and 11/12 year olds, but also have 100 and 200 yard events in these strokes. In freestyle, the 500 yard freestyle is offered for 10 and unders and 11/12 year olds and the 1650 yard freestyle is offered for 11 and overs. In addition, many of the USA Swimming meets are held at some of the fastest pools (Cleveland State, Akron U., SPIRE Institute) in the state. Because of the additional events and the faster pools, many CFYN swimmers attain most of their YMCA Zone times at USA meets.

Many swimmers think that USA Swimming is only for experienced, older, elite swimmers. However, USA Swimming has competitions for all ages and skill levels. Participation in USA Swimming is voluntary. If you are interested in signing up for USA Swimming or would like more information, please make sure to stop by the USA Swimming table at the Tigershark Registration or contact Diane Kurlich, CFYN USA Secretary at momoftwins972@yahoo.com.

To register for USA Swimming, please bring the following to the Tigershark Registration:

- ⊖ **Completed registration form.** Please make sure to choose a designation in the "Race/ethnicity" item on the form. This information is important to USA Swimming in pursuing grants and for Tigersharks in completing our Level 1 team certification;
- ⊖ **Copy of Your Birth Certificate** (if you previously submitted a birth certificate to Tigersharks, you don't have to bring another one);
- ⊖ **Check for \$82.00 made out to CFYN.** Of this, \$57.00 goes to USA Swimming and \$25.00 goes to the Tigersharks to help defray the additional cost associated with administering this program. Please put "USA Swimming Registration" in the memo line.
- ⊖ **Additional opportunities to register for USA Swimming.** If you do not register for USA Swimming during registration, you can put your check and registration in Diane Kurlich's mailbox at the Nat (please send me an e-mail, so I know it is there), hand the check and registration materials to Diane Kurlich at the Tigershark dual meets during October and November, or give it to Dale Craddock in December, January, and February.

If you were a seasonal USA Swimming athlete with the Tigershark summer long course team, your USA registration will expire in October. To continue to compete in USA meets without interruption this fall and winter, you will need to upgrade your registration to an annual membership. Your new annual membership will be good through December 31, **2015** (including next summer's long course program).

For all USA Swimmers who already have annual memberships, we recommend that you still renew your membership during Tigershark registration. Your membership will expire on December 31, 2014. By renewing now, you don't have to remember to renew in December and you will be ready to compete in meets in January

For high school pre-season and post-season swimmers, by renewing now, you will be ready to swim in early season meets (prior to the start of high school season) and will also be ready to swim in the USA Swimming Championship meets held in early March after the State High School meet.