

**Barracuda Swim Club**

**Kingsport  
Johnson City**

**BSC**

**Of Northeast Tennessee**

April 2008

## **TEAM ANNOUNCEMENTS PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **COMMITTEE POSITIONS**

### **EQUIPMENT REPAIR DAY**

**MAY 3, 9-11 A.M.**

### **DOBYNS BENNETT POOL**

To be better prepared for hosting swim meets, the Barracuda Swim Club is starting a new program ensuring the upkeep of our equipment. Scheduled repair days will be planned for both the Kingsport and Johnson City sites.

Our next meet will be held at the Kingsport site. The "Repair Day" will be held at the Dobyms Bennett pool on May 3rd. from 9:00am – 11:00am. We will need volunteers to help with simple activities such as cleaning the tarnish of timing harness plugs and receptacles, inspecting touch pad and mounting bracket velcro and replacing damaged or missing strips. Most of the tasks do not require a great level of technical abilities and can easily be explained by board members present who have performed these repairs in the past.

If you have an interest in serving the club in this manner please contact Kevin Cathers at (423) 245-9498, or at [Cathers@chartertn.net](mailto:Cathers@chartertn.net). If you can not make it to this repair day there will be another one scheduled over the summer for the Johnson City site in preparation for the Early Bird Meet in September.

Volunteers or nominations for committee positions to serve during the 2008-9 year are needed. Please submit all interest or nominations to Gary Wilson by May 15.

The current committees are:

1. Swim Meet
2. Team Records
3. Equipment and supplies
4. Finance
5. Nominating
6. Publications
7. Registration
8. Fund Raising.

Anyone with any talents/interests is invited to help. If you have any questions on these opportunities, contact Gary at [ggwduke86@yahoo.com](mailto:ggwduke86@yahoo.com) or 915-1082.

### **BRISTOL MOTOR SPEEDWAY**

We had 19 volunteers (Coach Chris, Andy Battista, Mike Loudermilk, Carol & Tom Witherspoon, Amy & David Wettack, Linda Moulton, Lynn & William Steelman, Shannon Townsend & her mother, Jewell & Steve Cook, Judy Herron, Kevin Cathers, Sueanne Green, Kathryn Hornsey) work at the Spring race! The total earned was \$1425.00.

Heather Owens and Mike Loudermilk did an excellent job coordinating this! Thank you! (If your fund raising obligation statement does not show that you worked this race, please contact Kathie Battista, 943-1015.)

### **CONGRATS TO THE FAMILIES WHO HELPED...**

...our team win the Mall of Johnson City's "Cash For Your Cause" contest!

In the past month, BSC families and friends reported what they spent at the mall, and we claimed the first place prize over other not-for-profit organizations. A check for \$7000 will be presented to the team in a couple of weeks. This fundraiser helps our team keep our fees low while still maintaining the excellence of our programs. Thanks, everyone, and great job!

# COACH'S CORNER

*Contributed By Coach Chris*

The 2008 Olympics are less than four months away! What Does This Mean For YOU?

Yes, the Olympics are a celebration of many sports every four years. However in our sport – swimming – the Olympics have a special significance. Unlike the sports that regularly get mainstream media coverage, the Olympics provide THE stage for our swimming heroes to get the recognition they rightfully deserve.

What does this mean for our team and our swimmers? USA Swimming is the National Governing Body for our sport – it is the organization responsible for selecting and preparing our Olympic Swimming Team. USA Swimming is the organization all our swimmers belong. So we all share the journey to the Olympics. Each one of the members of the USA Olympic Swimming Team started just like members of the Barracudas, on a local swim club with dreams to be great. All of us should be proud to be part of the greatest swimming country in the world.

This Olympic year is doubly special. We have a member of our team who will represent the Barracuda Swim Club at the Olympic Trials in Omaha, Nebraska, this summer! Kyle Owens qualified to race for the chance to be on the USA Olympic Team in the 200 Individual Medley. The top two swimmers in each event will make our Olympic Team.

Do you have Olympic dreams? Great! Now get to work, because those who will represent our country in the Olympic pool are some of the most dedicated athletes on earth.

There are only 52 swimmers from the United States that will go to the Olympics. What about everyone else? Is the dedication, commitment, focus, hard work, perseverance, goal-setting, personal responsibility, and other traits it takes to be a great swimmer – an Olympic swimmer – worth it? What do you think? How many other areas of your life can these traits be beneficial? In school? On the job? In other activities? How many other kids do you know who do not possess these life skills?

How easy is it to make the Olympic Team? It's not. How much is it worth to be on the Olympic Team? To steal a quote: "Priceless".

How easy is it to learn and regularly practice the traits that Olympians possess? I'll be honest – it's not easy. It's not easy coming to practice when your friends want you to go to a movie. It's not easy to push through the discomfort of training in order to get better. It's not easy to get up early in the morning and jump into a chilly pool – and then go to school. And it's not easy to pursue excellence when society tells you it's okay to take the easy way out, to be mediocre, and to expect immediate gratification.

How much is it worth to BE Olympian in your everyday life? Priceless? Only you can answer that for yourself. Think about it.

See you at the pool!

## 'CUDA BITS - F. Y. I:

### PRACTICE SCHEDULES:

Summer practice schedules may be different for your practice group. Check out the website or find out from your coach towards the end of the school year for any changes in practice times.

### FUND RAISING OBLIGATION:

Some have questioned the financial obligation for swimmers not swimming the entire year.

The Board reviewed this request and made a policy that if your child/ren swim for 3 months or less, there will not be an obligation; any family swimming for longer than 3 months will have a prorated amount.