

YMCA & USA Differences / Why Meets?

MEYO is a YMCA & USA Team. Why join USA?

MEYO swimmers are fortunate to be able to be part of two swimming leagues. When a swimmer joins the YMCA they can swim in any of the YMCA sponsored meets. Unfortunately, because there are so few YMCA meets available, especially dual ones, the trend has been toward large meets where the competition is more exciting. The MEYO Swim Team is a YMCA team and also a USA team to provide more meet experience for all swimmers.

HOW TO BECOME A USA SWIMMER

If you are a new member, fill out the registration form and it will be processed. Old members are renewed the first week of December. The USA fee is \$45.00 for 8 & unders and \$52.00 for all other age groups. USA membership is not required, but is recommended. You must be a USA member before you will be allowed to swim in a USA meet. NO DECK ENTRIES ARE ALLOWED FOR USA MEETS UNLESS ROBIN BERG VERIFIES YOUR USA CERTIFICATION.

Make checks payable to: Wisconsin Swimming.

	YMCA	USA
Length of Competition	Some all day meets. Some divided into half days.	You compete only half days. Age groups per AM or PM session vary from meet to meet.
Age	Whatever age you are as of Dec. 1, you swim for the rest of the season.	You swim whatever age you are on the first day of each USA meet.
Awards	Each age group swims against all other swimmers in that age group. Awards are given for each age group.	(A-BB-B-C) Meets. Swimmers compete in their age group. (A+BB-B+C) Meets. There is a breakdown of ability levels within an age group. 8 & unders, however, are one class. Awards are given for placing within a category i.e. A, B, or C levels. Achievement awards are given for swimming out of the swimmer's seeded ability level. (A-BB+B-C, or A-BB-B+C) Meets are combinations to watch for. The + means that all classes receive equal awards.
Open Swimmer	Any swimmer 12 & older.	
Senior Swimmer		Any age swimmer. An 8 & under could compete as a USA Senior.
Fees for Registration	Included in MEYO sign-up.	\$45.00 per year for 8&unders. \$52.00 per year for all others.

Could I join the team but skip the meets?

NO! Swim team is a competitive sport, not an exercise class. Anyone in practice is expected to compete.

Do I have to go to all of the meets?

Except for the INTRASQUAD meet and the OCTOPI SPLASH MEET, you are free to decide which meets you would like to enter. Remember though, it is not the faster swimmers that enter more meets, but rather, the more meets you enter, the faster you become. You should enter at least one meet per month. Less than that and you will lose the competitive experience necessary to succeed. We also expect that any meet we host is attended by full team strength. If you do not enter a home meet, **YOU ARE STILL EXPECTED TO COME AND HELP WORK.** Each family must work three shifts at the Octopi Splash Meet.

Do I have to go to all the days of a meet?

No, just the days you wish to swim. Example: A meet is held on Fri. / Sat. / Sun. You could swim all three days, just two days of your choice, or just one day of your choice. **WATCH OUT FOR HIGH POINT MEETS.** At these you want to swim as much as you can because the more you swim, the more points you accumulate.