

FAQ's

FUNDRAISING

1. How much fundraising does the swim program do and must my family participate?

ANS: The York YMCA Aquatic Club holds two major team oriented fund raisers each year, a number of small escrow based fundraisers, one on-going escrow based fundraiser, the Giant-Weis-Scrip program, plus the team sponsored Concession stands at all York YMCA and Tidal Wave home meets. Participation in the team fundraisers, USA Swim-A-Thon and the York YMCA Kids Tri are mandatory. Participation in any or all escrow fundraisers is optional. Support of the Team Concession stand is also mandatory.

2. If we pay swim fees to the Y and have escrow accounts to pay competition fees, why do we need to raise additional money for the team?

ANS: The YMCA membership fee and swim fees go toward paying for our competitive swim program. Coaches' salaries, facility usage, utilities, are all part of our membership in the York YMCA swim program. But just as this does not cover all phases of our swimmer's competitive experience, it does not cover all phases of our Coaches' needs and equipment. Competitive swim meet equipment such as touch pads, computers, timing systems; coaching tools – such as cameras and video equipment that will help our Coaching staff make the most of our swimmers all come from the Aquatic Club fund raisers. In addition, the Travel Assistance program for our Competitive swimmers is 100% funded by the Aquatic Club fund raisers. We all use the competition equipment, we all benefit from the Coaches' training tools, we all hope that someday our swimmers will be in the elite group that travels nationally, we have all committed to the York YMCA Swim program, so we must all support the fund raising efforts of the program.

3. Must my swimmer raise money for the USA Swim-A-Thon? Do they have to swim?

ANS: Yes. The York YMCA holds only two major team Fundraisers per calendar year. The Swim-A-Thon is held during the winter season and raises nearly 75% of the teams' funds each year. All swimmers and their families must participate. Except in the cases of swimmer illness or unavoidable family scheduling conflicts, swimmers are encouraged and expected to swim. It is a very fun "team-building" activity that shouldn't be missed.

4. I have a YY Tidal Wave Swimmer that does not participate in USA Swimming, why do they have to raise money for the Swim-A-Thon?

ANS: Tidal Waves are part of the York YMCA Swimming organization and share the same coaching staff as the York YMCA Competitive team. As previously stated in item #2, the funds from the Swim-A-Thon go towards meet equipment for both teams and Coaches' training tools used by both teams. Tidal Waves are a chosen path through a larger organization as is the YY Competitive Team. Both groups are obligated to support the program as a whole.

5. What is an escrow account fundraiser? Does my family have to participate?

ANS: The York YMCA Aquatic Club realizes competitive youth swimming is expensive. They realize that it is difficult, though necessary to fundraise for the entire Team when each family is carrying a financial burden of they own paying swim fees and escrow fees. As such several times during the year, the Aquatic Club will sponsor escrow account fundraisers. Sandwich sales, Revs games, Home vendor sales nights (Lia Sophia, Tastefully simple)..... in each of these programs all profits from a swim families sales go directly into that families escrow account. The team takes no portion of the profit from these fundraising activities. Because all benefit goes to your escrow account, it is your option to participate.

6. What is the Giant, Weis, Scrip program? Does my family have to participate?

ANS: The Giant, Weis, Scrip program is an ongoing escrow account fundraiser offered by the York YMCA Aquatic Club. Giant, Weis and a variety of other store gift cards are purchased at face value by swim families through the program. The gift cards are sold to the Aquatic Club at varying discounted values. The Aquatic Club then refunds the discounted value of the gift card to the swim family's escrow account. For example, a family may purchase a \$100 Giant gift card through the program. Giant sells the gift card to the Aquatic Club for \$95 and the Aquatic Club credits the \$5 difference to the family's escrow account. The family has received a \$100 gift card for \$100 plus added \$5 to their escrow account.

For more information see the Giant, Weis, Scrip procedure on the York YMCA Competitive Swimming Web Site or Contact Lynn Seymour the Aquatic Club program Coordinator.

As with the other escrow based fundraisers, participation is optional.

7. What is the "Kids Tri"? Must my swimmer compete?

ANS: The Kids Tri it for Fun! Is a great York YMCA Aquatic Club sponsored event held each Memorial Day at the GAC. Young competitors come from all around the local area to swim, bike, and run in hopes of completing this challenging "first Triathlon" experience. It is the second largest fundraiser for the YY and Tidal Waves swim teams and has been growing every year since its inception. Any swimmer that chooses to enter is greatly encouraged to do so! Those swimmers that do not compete and all swim families are expected to help man the 3 competitive courses and ensure that all Tri-Athletes have a safe and fun experience!

8. Is my family (and swimmer) required to volunteer to help with the Kids Tri?

ANS: Yes. There are a great number of volunteer needs from advertising the event, soliciting event sponsors, coordinating and sorting race materials and entries, cleaning and marking the bike and run courses, staffing the 3 courses the day of the race to ensure fun and safety, and finally venue cleanup! Every volunteer is needed, every family is expected to help. All swimmers not competing will be assigned a volunteer position. Race Director Natalie Harnish will answer any questions and accept all offers of assistance.

9. Must my family contribute Concession donations for home swim meets? How much and how often? How do I sign up?

ANS: Yes. Concession sales at the York YMCA Competitive team sponsored Invitationals and Tidal Wave home meets are the third significant Team Fundraiser. Concession donations will be solicited by our Concession Coordinator Chantelle Keating prior to every home meet. Sign-ups will be both on-line (for those that do not come into the GAC for practice) and through a manual sign-up sheet hanging at the GAC on the windows that look over the pool. There will be a variety of food items requested so that each family can sign up for an item that suits your family's needs and schedule. As with the other two "team" fundraisers, all families are expected to contribute, not just the families whose swimmers are competing in that particular meet.

Chantelle may also hold beverage drives when they are needed families will be asked to bring either a case of water, Gatorade or Soda. Again all families are expected to participate.

10. Where and when do I bring my donations? Who do I contact if I have questions or concerns related to my donations?

ANS: Non-perishable items can be brought to the GAC lobby and given to Chantelle or placed in the York YMCA Team Room. Perishable Items should be brought either the night before the meet or the morning of the meet at set-up time. Any questions or concerns should be referred to Chantelle Keating York YMCA Concessions Coordinator.

The York YMCA Team Room is located at the back of the first cross hallway (front of the building) that leads to the bleacher seating inside the GAC. At the end of this hallway is a glass door, passing through this door you will see another solid door. This is the TEAM room. If the door is locked, Coaches, YMCA Staff, or Aquatic Club officers or Committee heads can open it.