

FAQ's

FEES

1. Besides my Y membership and monthly swim fees, what other expenses/fees can my family anticipate?

ANS: Team members are expected to purchase a team suit, team cap, swim goggles and the appropriate practice equipment for their team and practice group.

Swimmers participating with the York YMCA Competitive team will also be charged meet entry fees for the USA and YMCA Invitationals that they attend as well as an annual USA Registration fee. These fees consist of a per event charge for individual swim events and a separate rate for any relays in which the swimmer participates. They also incur travel expense fees, hotels, airline tickets, rental car fees if the swimmer competes in designated "Team Travel " meets.

Tidal Wave swimmers will be charged a League registration fee and can also expect to pay meet entry fees for any League or Y Invitational in which they choose to participate. There are no meet entry fees for League dual or tri-meets. Tidal Waves do not participate in designated "Team Travel" meets.

2. Do I have to purchase a team suit, cap, and equipment?

ANS: Yes. Team suit and equipment guidelines are available in the York YMCA Competitive swimming guidelines. York YMCA has contracted with SPEEDO for all new suits, caps and gear. New swimmers may notice teammates in TYR suits for meets or using TYR equipment for practice. Swimmers that already have these items are allowed to continue using them until they need to be replaced.

NOTE: There is a limited supply of equipment, kickboards, buoys, and fins on pool deck at both the Natatorium and GAC. These are not to be relied on as the swimmers primary source of equipment. They are available as a **temporary solution** should your swimmer forget their equipment, lose, or misplace an item.

3. How do I purchase these items? Who do I contact?

ANS: Suits, goggles, swim fins, kickboards, pull buoys, paddles, equipment bags, and parachutes (for YY Senior Swimmers) may all be purchased through our SPEEDO supplier:

FLYING FEET SPORT SHOES
1511 MT. ROSE AVENUE
YORK, PA (717) 845-2833

Swim caps are available, cash and carry, from the Team Apparel supply which is located in the large gray cabinet in the GAC Lobby. To purchase these please see our Apparel Coordinator, Amy French. If Amy is not available see either Coach Andy or Coach Nate.

Please see NOTE: under Teams Can my swimmer compete for both teams?

There may be circumstances where a swimmer would need to purchase both the Black YORK cap and the Red Tidal Waves Cap

4. What are "meet fees" and how do I pay them?

ANS: Any Swim meet, League, Y, or USA, which is formatted to accept a large number of teams like an Invitational, will charge a meet entry fee. This fee is due from the entering team upon submission of their swim entries and essentially holds the swimmers space in that event. Many times these meets will "fill up" with their maximum entries and the meet will "close" to additional entries. Therefore it is important for the York YMCA Teams to submit entries (and fees) early in order that our swimmers get an opportunity to compete.

The fee charged will vary from meet to meet, and on occasion includes a charge per swimmer. Usually though, the charge is per swimmer per event and is often (but not always) between \$4 and \$6 per event. So a YY Competitive swimmer who enters a 3 day Invitational and is scheduled to swim 9 or 10 events, can expect to be charged between \$35 to \$60 per meet. Tidal Wave swimmers who generally attend only 1 day invitational and may swim 3 or 4 events can expect to pay \$15 to \$20 per Invitational. There are no meet fees for Dual or Tri-meets, or Tidal Wave League Meets.

The meet fees must be paid to the host Swim Team on submission of the total Team entry, so payment is made from the York YMCA Aquatic Club Treasury. The Aquatic Club then debits each individual swimmer's **Escrow Account**. Each swim family is expected to maintain a positive balance in their account. YY Competitive Team swimmers' families are asked to maintain approx \$100 balance in their account. Tidal Wave families wishing to participate in Invitationals are asked to have \$50. For more information on **Escrow Accounts** please refer to that section.

5. How much "travel expense" should I expect?

ANS: This applies to York YMCA Competitive team members who have qualifying times for National Level meets, Grand Prix meets, Jr. and Sr. Nationals, Y-Nationals, and those swimmers qualifying and attending Far Western Age Group Championships (LC) in CA during the summer season. If your swimmer is not on this team or at this level of swimming there should be no travel expense charges that appear on your family's escrow statement. For those families that will have swimmers attending these meets, the York YMCA Aquatic Club will make all team travel arrangements, airline, hotel, ground transportation, and whenever possible meals. Travel and room assignments will be made and total charges then divided between the participating swimmers and debited from each swimmer's escrow account. In most cases (but not all), if the swimmer has attained the minimum number of meet qualifying times, there will also be an accompanying credit from the Aquatic Club for Travel Assistance to the escrow account.

6. Does my swimmer have to travel with the team to "Travel" meets?

ANS: Almost always, Yes for designated Team Travel Meets. As stated above for designated "Team Travel" meets the York YMCA Aquatic Club will make all travel arrangements, so that attending swimmers and coaches can travel together as a team. There may be special circumstances when an individual swimmer, due to family or school commitments, must travel separately, but this should be approved by the swimmer's Coach. For Far Western Age Group Championships, when younger Junior swimmers will be attending accompanied by their parents, they may choose to travel separately. Again, this should be approved by one of the Coaches.

In the case of travel to Meets that are **not** designated Team Travel meets, for example **Winterfest** or **Middle Atlantic Junior Olympics** (summer or winter), a team hotel will be identified and a block of rooms reserved by the Travel Coordinator for the York YMCA Aquatic Club. In this case it is the choice of the swim families, whether to use these arrangements or to make their own.

7. What is "Travel Assistance" and how does my swimmer qualify for it?

ANS: Travel Assistance is a stipend given to qualifying swimmers for designated "Team Travel" meets. It is not need based. It is available only for the pre-determined (by the York YMCA Coaches and Aquatic Executive Committee) Travel meets identified each year in the York YMCA Competitive Swimming Program Guide. Its purpose is to help alleviate the financial strain carried by the families of our team's highest level swimmers. These swimmers may Travel across the country to swim meets 5 or 6 times each year for National level meets, incurring significant travel expenses. Swimmers must have achieved the minimum number of qualifying times for the designated "Travel Meet".

Often the Team will also hold fundraisers for a specific Travel Meet. Money raised will be divided between the swimmers attending the travel meet and added to the Travel Assistance. In order to receive these additional monies, the swimmer not only needs to have the required qualifying times, but must have participated in the fundraising activity. For more information see FUNDRAISING.

8. My swimmer loves the program and really wants to do this, but I'm afraid my family can't afford it. Is there anything that we can do?

ANS: Yes. Financial Assistance may be available from the YMCA of York and York County. You will need to stop at the reception desk at the YMCA main branch, 90 N. Newberry St and ask for Financial Assistance paperwork. After completing the required paperwork, return it to the main branch (rec. desk). The YMCA will then contact you. This assistance will be for your families Swim fees, it will not apply to meet fees of escrow account purchases made from the swim team itself.

