

PineBrookWood ORCAS

Whale Tales



Volume 16 Issue 5

June 21, 2011

Inside this issue:

Message from the President, PineBrookWood vs. Brooks	1
Coaches Corner Lost & Found, Important Dates, Orca Shutterfly Site	2
Note from the Clerk, Volunteer Information	3
Champ Series Meet Info	4

Orcas Meet Results

71 Champ Times

98 Reserve Times



Follow us on

Twitter (@pbworcas)

Visit our website:

[http://
www.pinebrookwoodorcas.
org/](http://www.pinebrookwoodorcas.org/)

From the President

Dear Orca Swimmers and Parents:

We survived a hot one this weekend against the Defending CCSL Division I and Champ Series Champions. We did lose by a score of 384.5 to 411.5, but because Friendswood is in the larger division, the score does not count towards the CCSL Division II Championships. This was a great performance. I thought all of our swimmers did an outstanding job this week in the heat.

Thank-you again to all our volunteers! Home meets in the base case are challenging, but swimming against the largest team in the league on one of the hottest days of the year made this meet especially tough. Your cooperation and hard work are appreciated by all of us.

We are swimming an away meet this coming Saturday, June 25, against the Brooks Blue Marlins. They are one of our division rivals, so a win against them would be very satisfying! Because of their proximity, I am sure you and your kids will have several friends on their team, so it should be a fun Saturday as well. They are holding this meet at their Middlebrook pool located off of Dunmoor. The map is on our website's home page under Meet 4 on the 2011 calendar. Please remember to check-in at 6:30 am at the Pine Brook pool, both swimmers and volunteers.

I hope everyone had a good time at our mid-season party held on Thursday, June 16. I was happy to see so many Orca faces and hope all attendees enjoyed themselves. Coach Chris even broke a sweat skating out there with all the youngsters. Thanks to Debbie Basich, our Orca Secretary, for organizing the party and getting the cake.

Save the date: Our end of season party will be Monday, July 11, starting at 6:30 pm at the Pine Brook pool. We will start trophies and awards promptly at 6:30 to be followed by wacky relays organized by Coach Chris, plenty of swimming, and pizza/drinks. Write the date and time on your calendar.

Lastly, remember to let Coach Chris (headcoach@pinebrookwoodorcas.org) and Melanie Saunders, volunteer coordinator, (volunteers@pinebrookwoodorcas.org) know if you will be missing all or part of the next meet.

Thank-you and Go Orcas!

Debbie Rudisill

PineBrookWood at Brooks Blue Marlins Saturday June 25th Check-in 6:30 am

The meet with Brooks starts at 8:00am. Check-in is at 6:30am at the Middlebrook pool. PLEASE BE ON TIME! It is extremely important if you are leaving early, that you tell us at the Clerk Table before the meet AND come by to check out before leaving. The Brooks clerk has passed on some **parking information**. Please do not block mailboxes, driveways, fire hydrants, etc. Brooks has had a very hard time with the Middlebrook HOA, even though they use this pool every other year for one meet only. Cars have been towed. The streets are very narrow, especially on Dunmoor, so PLEASE PARK ON THE SIDE OF THE STREET WITHOUT HOUSES ONLY! That is the side that backs up to the houses in Pine Brook. This will be repeated and more location information provided in the Thursday email. Let's make sure we don't contribute to the Marlins difficulties and cause them to lose access to this pool.

Coaches Corner by Chris Woodard

Thank you to everyone that came out on Saturday, it was a long hot meet and we toughed it out together. Throughout the meet the score stayed pretty close but in the end we only ended up losing to Friendswood by 27 points. Yes it was our interdivision meet but its nice to know that the team that finished 4th at the Champ Meet almost beat the team that finished 1st. What's even more amazing is that there were a few people that weren't there that if they were we would of beat Friendswood.



For these next 2 weeks you really need to make sure you are practicing at the pool in your neighborhood. Practices are getting entirely too crowded at Pinebrook which is making it hard for swimmers to get a good practice in. For example on Friday at Pinebrook with the 11&ups we probably had 40 swimmers and at Brookwood with the 11&ups there were 4. We have two pools and we really need to make sure we use them because if we can't justify the need for 2 pools then we might not have 2 for long.

As far as the Champ Meet goes, I am very disappointed with how many people have notified me that they are not going to be at the Champ Meet. We have such a good team and we can do so much better than what we have done in the past but every year we are plagued with people going on vacation. The Champ Meet has always been around the same time in July and the schedule is posted months in advance. It just upsets me that someone can swim the entire season and then miss the Champ Meet. That's like someone missing the State Swim Meet for high school or the TAGS/Sectionals Meet for USA swimming. Why miss something you have worked so hard for? Your team needs you, I need you.

Go Orcas! *Coach Chris*

Have any pictures to share?

Dave Kerr created a Shutterfly website to enable our families to share photos with one another. The site is located at <http://pinebrookwoodorcas.shutterfly.com>. The password to get onto the site is the same password used to open meet results on the website. It is in your family folder. We hope this feature makes it easier to share and obtain pictures of our swimmers to better capture the fun of the season. Check out the site and feel free to post some swimming pictures!



Lost & Found

If you find items at the pool, such as goggles, swim caps, towels, etc., please turn them into lost and found. There are swimmers (and their parents) looking for these items. This is especially true of the younger swimmers who forget their gear at the side of the pools.

Also, if you have lost something, please check out lost and found just in case it is there. Our lost and found seems to be growing each week. Thanks for your help getting belongings back to their owners!

ABOUT THE PINE BROOK POOL CLOSURE ON MONDAY

This past Monday during the 13 & Up practice between 7 and 8 am at the Pine Brook pool, the swimmers noticed that their eyes and mouths were bothering them after 30 or so minutes in the water. Coach Chris and Rob Plaza analyzed the water chemistry and found the pool water to have an alarmingly high level of chlorine as well as a high Ph. We did not feel that the water was safe for our kids to swim in and therefore canceled the remaining practices.

Poseidon, who is hired by the Pine Brook Community Association, performs the Pine Brook pool maintenance. They are responsible for pool shocking and regular water maintenance. We have talked to Poseidon about this situation and notified the Pine Brook board as well. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this last-minute cancelation caused you.

Our primary methods of communicating in these situations are Twitter and email. If you follow us on [Twitter \(@pbworcas\)](#), you can receive text messages to your phone relaying breaking news.

Thank-you for your understanding!

Important Upcoming Dates

June 25:	Away meet against Brooks
July 2:	Home meet against Pineloch
July 9 – 10:	Champ Series meet
July 11:	End of Season party at Pine Brook pool 6:00 - 9:00 pm

A Note from the Clerk

Sharon Marston

A Note from the Clerk

We had another great meet with Friendswood on Saturday with our swimmers achieving 71 Champ and 98 Reserve times. This meet was really close throughout and the final score had only 27 points difference between the two teams – and we were swimming a city!!! Let's keep up the hard work and progress towards those times this week in preparation for the meet with Brooks this Saturday.

If you haven't notified Coach Chris this weekend of your status for the meet with Brooks Saturday, please do so immediately. Knowing who is and isn't coming will help him place swimmers to challenge them and contribute to the team score. It also helps minimize relay changes the day of the meet, making your friendly neighborhood clerk very happy.

And speaking of making your friendly neighborhood clerk happy, this week we had 10 scratches, 7 Girls, and 3 Boys, tying our all time record low! THANK YOU everyone for notifying Coach Chris so we could keep scratches down for this meet. It helped the meet go very smoothly. GIRLS!!! REALLY!! You let the boys show you up again! I'm still hoping to break record before I stop clerking, so let's make sure Coach Chris knows your swimmer's status for the meet with Brooks!

As a side note, the Friendswood clerk ran a timeline on the meet out of curiosity, and we finished a full 30 minutes ahead of the timeline! For those not familiar, there's a way in the software to estimate the timeline of the meet. Those used to year round swimming see the timeline every meet and the best meets run right on or ahead of the timeline. We rocked Saturday!

To the growing number of families checking out with the clerks, THANK YOU!!!! You helped the meet run more smoothly. For those who didn't check out, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE make sure you do at ALL future meets. Knowing who is leaving helps us when we are trying to fill a spot on the late relays due to a swimmer scratching. That late in the meet, we appreciate all the information we can get.

**Volunteer Information from Melanie Saunders**

Orca Parents, many thanks to all of you for working so hard on Saturday to make the Friendswood meet run smoothly! Everyone was flexible, energetic and dedicated despite the searing heat. Your great work made the meet run on schedule. This week should be a little easier and if we are lucky maybe a little cooler! Please watch for your volunteer assignments to be posted and emailed on Wednesday and I will see all of you bright and early Saturday morning. Please remember to check in with me right after you check your kids in for their events. See you then and THANKS!

**END OF SEASON PARTY!
Monday July 11th**

Coming soon!

Trophies/awards, swimming,
wacky relays, and pizza.Pine Brook Pool
Monday, July 11
6:30 – 9:30 PM

WATCH OUT! CAR BROKEN INTO AT PINE BROOK POOL

On Monday morning, June 20, one of our Orca parents had their car broken into while parked at the Pine Brook Pool. She parked the car at 8:00 am in the second spot from the end by the basketball courts and went into Orca practice. By 8:25 when she returned to the car, the window was broken and the purse that had been under the dashboard, but visible from the window, was gone. The thieves were careful not to open the car door, so no alarm was tripped. This is very disturbing as it happened in broad daylight with many people around the area.

Please be very careful when leaving your car parked outside either of our pools. Take all valuables with you when locking up your car, and be on the lookout for suspicious individuals who do not belong.

The Houston non-emergency office number is 713-884-3131 (Pine Brook pool) and the Pasadena number is 713-477-1221 (Brookwood pool).



Champ Series Information (helpful for new parents!)

The Champ Series meet is fast approaching! It will be held the weekend of July 9 – 10 at the Matthew T. Doyle Natatorium in Texas City. There are three sessions in the Champ Series which is considered one continuous meet:

- Novice: for swimmers 12 and under who are close to Reserve times.
- Reserve: for swimmers 12 and under who have achieved Reserve times, and 13 and up swimmers who are close to champ times.
- Championship: for swimmers who have achieved Champ times.

Novice and Reserve are held on Saturday, July 9, and the Champ portion will be held Sunday, July 10. Points are awarded at the Champ meet. Because it is considered one continuous meet, each swimmer can only participate in three individual events for the weekend. Unlike regular season meets, swimmers can participate in 2 relays. All Champ meet event selections and relays are completely at Coach Chris's discretion in order to optimize points for the Orcas. If you have questions on whether your child should participate in Novice or Reserve, contact Coach Chris.

Champ and Reserve times are posted on our website (www.pinebrookwoodorcas.org/ParentInfo.htm).

As mentioned, the Champ Series meet will be held at the Texas City Natatorium. This is a very nice, indoor facility, and it will be hosting the CCSL Champ Series for the second straight year. Swimmers and spectators alike will stay inside with air conditioning throughout the meet unlike our regular season meets. Expect it to get crowded, however, especially on Sunday.

Not to be forgotten, there is the Last Chance meet held Tuesday evening, July 5, to be held this year at Clear Falls High School. This meet gives all swimmers striving for Reserve and Champ times one last attempt to reach those times.

Look for future emails and Whales Tales for additional details about these events.