

PineBrookWood ORCAS

Whale Tales

Volume 16 Issue 6

June 28, 2011

Inside this issue:

Message from the President PineBrookWood vs. Pineloch	1
Coaches Corner Volunteer Info End of Year Party Important Dates	2
Note from the Clerk Fundraiser Information	3
Last Chance Meet	4
Champ Meet Series	5

Meet Results

Orcas 433

Blue Marlins 287



54 Champ Times

94 Reserve Times

End of Year Party!

Monday, July 11,

6:30 – 9:30 PM



Details on page 3

From the President

Dear Orca Swimmers and Parents:

Thank you again for a very successful meet! We beat the Brooks Blue Marlins by the score of 433 to 287 to bring us to 2 – 1 within CCSL Division II. Our last regular season meet of the summer is this coming Saturday, July 2, at the Pine Brook Pool. We finish against the Pineloch Piranhas, a newcomer to our Division. We swam against them a few times over the past few years, so I am sure you will see many old friends and neighbors.

Thank-you to all of our great volunteers! It was a hot and humid one this past Saturday, with more of the same expected this week. The Piranha meet will be challenging to staff as we have some vacationing July 4th families. Please remember to check-in with Melanie Saunders, volunteer coordinator, at 6:30 am Saturday. Any extra help would be appreciated!

The Champ Series and Last Chance meets are just around the corner. Look in this newsletter for detailed information on the Last Chance meet. It will be held Tuesday, July 5, at Clear Falls High School. There will also be information coming over the next two weeks on the Champ Series. If you have any questions on whether your child is eligible for any of these meets, please see Coach Chris or Coach Kip.

Our end of season party will be held at the Pine Brook Pool on Monday, July 11, the day following the Champ Series weekend. We will start trophy and awards promptly at 6:30, followed by pizza, drinks, ice cream, swimming, and wacky relays coordinated by Coach Chris. We have the pool until 9:30 that evening. It should be a very fun evening, so we hope everyone can make it! To help offset costs, we ask for a \$2 donation per attendee.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your time and efforts this swim season. This is my second and last year as President following 5 total years on the board. I have enjoyed getting to know and work with all of you. The Orcas are a strong organization, and it is because of support from our parents. I hope your kids had fun this summer and improved their swimming skills. Swimming is a great sport that will last them a lifetime.

Go Orcas!

Debbie Rudisill

PineBrookWood vs. Pineloch

Our last regular meet of the season is with the Pineloch Piranhas this Saturday, July 2nd, at 8:00am. Check-in is at 6:30am at our home Pine Brook pool. Please be ON TIME. Also, swimmers, PLEASE REMEMBER TO GET YOUR STICKERS!! The coaches should not have to hunt you down to give them to you. If we still have a sticker for you, we assume you are a scratch. Before you leave the meet, PLEASE CHECK OUT WITH THE CLERK!!!!

Coaches Corner by Chris Woodard

Well, not only did we beat the Brooks Blue Marlins this weekend, we dominated by a difference of 146 points. What's crazy is that Clear Lake Forrest also beat Brooks by a difference of 150 points and we lost to them by 78 points. That just tells me that we should have beat them the first time and, despite being short a few swimmers, we're going to get them back at the Champ Meet. Thank you to Thomas Tao, Tyler Ebell, RC Getteau and Bryce Poling for staying until the end and swimming-up in relays. It really helped your team!

This Saturday I am going to have the signups for the Novice, Reserve and Champ Meet. Just like the past 2 years, we will be sending 12&unders that are within 4 seconds of their Reserve time to the Novice meet and any 13&up's that are within 4 seconds of their Champ time to the Reserve Meet. All I need to know is if you're going to be there or not. I will decide what you will be swimming and what relays you are in. As far as relays go, I have already had a few people that have told me they weren't going to be at the Champ Meet. So, if you're curious if you're on any relays at the Champ Meet, just email me. If you fail to notify me of your absence, you will not only be costing the team points but wasted entry fees as well.

For practice next week, it will only be for swimmers that are in any of the 3 meets I mentioned above. We will all be combined at Pine Brook during regular practice hours, and everyday we will be working on starts, turns and relays. If you need any specific instruction outside of practice, feel free to talk to any of our coaches. Last year we finished 4th at the Champ Meet, so lets work hard during the time we have left so we can achieve better than that.

Go Orcas!
Coach Chris



Volunteer Information from Melanie Saunders

Orca Parents, thanks for another great meet this past Saturday! This Saturday, July 2, will be our last home meet. We have a lot of families out of town this weekend, and I do not currently have any subs available. If we have any unexpected absences, I will need to move people around real-time during the meet so we are appropriately staffed in key areas. I appreciate your flexibility! Thanks in advance for all your hard work Saturday. See you bright and early at the Volunteer Desk right after you check-in your kids with the coaches! Go Orcas!

Last Chance for Bling

It is great seeing so many parents showing their Orca pride through the Bling shirts and Soffee shorts, new this year. Although we are no longer taking orders, we do have 1 large short-sleeved shirt remaining, as well as a few Soffee shorts in varying sizes. If you are interested in any of these items, stop by our novelty sales (located right by volunteer check-in) this Saturday.

Join us at the End of Year Party!

Where: Pine Brook Pool
When: Monday, July 2, 6:30 – 9:30 PM
What: Trophies, pizza, wacky relays & swimming
Cost: \$2 per attendee

Hope to see you there!!!



Important Upcoming Dates

June 30:	Black Eyed Pea Fundraiser
July 2:	Home meet against Pineloch
July 5:	Last Chance Meet
July 9:	Novice Meet & Reserve Meet
July 10:	Champ Meet
July 11:	End of Season party at Pine Brook pool

A Note from the Clerk

Sharon Marston

We had another great meet this weekend with the Brooks Blue Marlins. The meet ran very smoothly, and our swimmers achieved 54 Champ times and 94 Reserve times. We will be back at our home pool with our competition blocks this coming Saturday, so hopefully those numbers will go back up! Congratulations to all of our swimmers who are working so hard to achieve their times!!

We had 13 scratches this week, still not a new record low, but not a bad number, and we know that a number of those were either sick or injured, making the real number of scratches about 6. Hopefully, all our swimmers will be healthy again this Saturday and back in the pool! This Saturday will be the last weekend of my clerking career, so please let's try to get the record low scratches. I'm hoping for single digits. I know that it is July 4th weekend and some may have other plans. So to achieve that nice low number of scratches, please make sure you let Coach Chris know if you can't make the meet on Saturday. Call him at 832-221-1487 or send him an email.

Please continue to come by and check our before leaving the meet on Saturday. We need to know even if you have finished all of your events!!! If you haven't max'ed out on your allowed number, we may need you for a late relay. We try to notify swimmers when we make substitutions or have to scratch a relay, but sometimes things are a little hectic and we don't always make all of the notifications. Also, we sometimes swim up a younger swimmer with an older age group in those late relays, so don't assume you are finished early if your relay scratches!

And as I hinted above, I will be leaving the board this year after 5 years as Head Clerk of Course, and I assisted for 1 year prior to joining the board, so I've been at this for 6 years. It has been wonderful working with all of our parents and young swimmers and watching them improve. Even though I'm leaving the board, I will still be around, since my son will still be swimming, and I have promised to help smooth the transition to the new Clerk. I just may have more of an opportunity to actually watch the meet! I hope to see all of our wonderful Orca families next year as just the parent of a swimmer! Enjoy the rest of your summer!

**Fundraiser & Sponsorship Information from Shawn Lovely-Kennedy**

Thanks to everyone who came to the Fuddrucker's Fundraiser last Tuesday. It was a great time & we earned 20% of all Orca purchases! This week's fundraiser will be held at the Black Eyed Pea on Bay Area Blvd. We will earn 20% of all dinner sales from the Orcas. Please download your flyer from the Orca web site. Flyers will also be available at the Thursday practices. Give your flyer to your server when you place your order & the Orcas earn 20% of what you spend! The fundraiser is also good on to go orders and fax in orders for pick up; you only need to include the flyer! Give Mom & Dad the night off of cooking and join the Orcas for dinner time fun at the Black Eyed Pea this Thursday, June 30, 2011!

We had a great year for sponsorships! We would like to thank all of our sponsors for their support. The sponsorships help to keep costs down and keep swimming affordable! We have already begun to solicit sponsors for the 2012 season! We need your help to find even more sponsors for the Orcas! If you know a business that might be interested in sponsoring the Orcas in 2012, please forward the contact information to Shawn Lovely-Kennedy at sponsors@pinebrookwoodorcas.com. Please be sure to include as much information as possible, such as name of business, contact name, address and telephone number. It helps to have a contact person at the business.

As a part of sponsorship, we are also looking for fundraisers. This year we started the dinner fundraiser nights. Each fundraiser dinner was a little better than the last. We plan to continue the dinner nights as a fundraiser next year. If you know of a restaurant that might like to host a dinner night, please forward the name of the restaurant, a contact persons name, the address and telephone number & I will contact the restaurant to set up a fundraiser. If you have other ideas for fundraisers, please forward your idea to me. We are looking for fundraisers that do not include any up front cost or having the swimmers sell items. The dinner nights were great because all we had to do was show up and have dinner! This is the kind of fundraiser we are looking for.

Champ Series Information

Last Chance Meet

The Last Chance Meet has been scheduled for Tuesday, July 5th at Clear Falls High School. If you are close to achieving your times and want an additional opportunity to make it into the Champ Series, please see the Clerk, Sharon Marston, at the Pineloch Meet or send an email to clerk@pinebrookwoodorcas.org by 6:00pm Monday, July 4th. I have to submit entries by 12:00pm Tuesday, July 5th, but since I work, I will be unavailable to submit them that day and must do so the evening before. Due to my need to submit entries Monday evening, I cannot accept entries after 6:00pm. Since I am willing to spend part of my 4th preparing and submitting our entries, please take a few minutes out of your busy day and celebrations to submit your entries when requested.

On deck entries will be accepted Tuesday at the meet, but advance entries are preferred. On time entry fees that I submit will be paid by the Orcas. If you aren't sure you will be going, you may enter on deck the day of the meet. On deck entries will be accepted until 5:00pm. If you are in line at that point but have not completed your entry, you will not be permitted to enter. 5:00pm IS THE HARD CUTOFF FOR ON DECK ENTRIES. So, if you plan to enter on deck, be there early. On deck entrants will be expected to pay their own entry fees of \$6 per swimmer per event when they enter. Swimmers must have participated in at least 2 regular season meets to be eligible – the Practice Meet on May 21st DOES NOT COUNT!

Swimmers may enter with a No Time (NT). If you do not make your Champ and Reserve times at the Pineloch Meet on Saturday, July 2nd, you are strongly encouraged to attend the Last Chance Meet for another opportunity.

Clear Falls High School is located at 4380 Village Way, League City, TX 77573.

Directions: Go East on League City Parkway (FM 96) from I-45S for 5.7 miles. Turn Right on Lawrence into the Education Village. The high school faces League City Parkway. The pool is on the left as you enter the campus. Parking is in any of the 3 lots in front of the campus.

The pool will be open for warm-ups from 4:30 to 5:00pm. When we have a majority of swimmers present, the coaches will choose an empty lane and begin our warm-up. The meet will start at 6:00pm. The spectator seating area is in the bleachers along the West wall of the building only. The North bleachers are reserved for ready area and coaches. No coolers or portable seating is allowed in the bleachers and no reserve seating is allowed. Spectators are encouraged to only sit in the bleachers while their swimmer is swimming to allow all spectators to have a chance to watch their swimmer. Wet swimmers are not allowed in the spectator seating area. Tents and portable seating are allowed in the grassy areas around the outside of the pool. Please clean up our area prior to leaving the meet.

Champ Series Information

Champ Meet Series

The Champ Meet series will be held at the Texas City Natatorium, Saturday July 9th and Sunday July 10th. The Novice and Reserve Meets are Saturday, and the Champ Meet is on Sunday. Entry grids will be available for the Champ Series Saturday at the Pineloch Meet. Please sign up for these meets so the coaches don't have to call you to find out if you will attend. I know this is a holiday weekend. If you aren't attending the Pineloch Meet, please make sure you notify Coach Chris of you status for the Champ Series.

For those new to the Champ Series, your swimmers may swim 3 events for the entire series. For example, if your swimmer has Reserve times in 50 Free and 50 Breast, and Champ times in 50 Back and 50 Fly, Coach Chris will enter them in 50 Back and 50 Fly for the Champ Meet, and assuming you are willing to be there both days, enter them in either 50 Free or 50 Breast, dependent on which event he feels your swimmer has the best chance of achieving a Champ Time. So, when you sign up, let us know if you will attend only one day, or both, and which meets, Novice, Reserve, and/or Champ.

For the fourth year in a row, we are recommending that more swimmers attend the Novice Meet to up the number of Champ and Reserve times even more. What that means is that even if you don't have a Reserve time (for 12 and under), or your Champ time (for 13 and up), we may be asking you to go to the Novice Meet (12 and under), or the Reserve Meet (13 and up) to see if you can achieve your times for the next meet. If you make Reserve times at the Novice Meet, you are automatically entered in the afternoon Reserve session. If you achieve your Champ Times at the Reserve Meet, please find Coach Chris, or email Sharon Marston, Head Clerk to let us know you will attend. Any swimmers achieving their times at Last Chance will be able to enter the Champ Meet Series and we will assume, if you go to the trouble to attend, you will also be at the Champ Series. If you choose not to swim the next meet after qualifying, let one of the Coaches or the Clerk (Sharon Marston) know so that we can scratch you by the deadline and not have to pay the penalties. Remember, if you have achieved times in more than 3 individual events, Coach Chris makes the final determination on which events you swim. He also makes the final determination on relays the day of the Champ Meet, taking into account who is swimming well and who might be having an off day. Please respect his decisions. He is trying to position swimmers to achieve maximum points for the team. If you have any questions, contact Sharon Marston at clerk@pinebrookwoodorcas.org. Please make sure you sign up at the Pineloch Meet for the Champ Meet Series. We will also be watching the times for Saturday's meet to see who achieves their times for the Champ series.

The Texas City Natatorium has two attached air conditioned gymnasiums, and the League has full use of the facility for the weekend. This means that we will be sitting inside in air conditioned comfort. The current director of the facility is the parent of a former league swimmer, understands our Champ Series, and most importantly, has promised to crank up the A/C! We should be in good shape, though we may be rubbing shoulders in our seating area. Come prepared to keep wet swimmers comfortable in the air conditioning!