

TIGER TALES

*The strength of our team is each individual member.
The strength of each member is the team*

Coaches Corner-

DATES & TIMES:

APRIL 15TH-
Tri-Meet with
Anacortes and
Team Dolphins @
Anacortes

APRIL 22ND-
Ferry Boat
Sprints @
Bainbridge
Island

APRIL 24TH-
GENERAL MEETING
7P AT THE POOL

APRIL 30TH-
SPRING T-BIRD
ENTRIES DUE

CHECK OUT OUR
WEBSITE AT-
www.tigersharksswimming.org

Wow, what a great month March was for us! Not only did our swimmers do very well in meets, but we added 12 new swimmers, that's awesome! Welcome to our newest members.

With this growth, we'd like to encourage all of you to take a minute to get to know each other. Do you know everyone's name that is swimming in your lane? Do you know everyone that is in the pool on a nightly basis? If not, you may want to find out something interesting about each and every one of our newer faces. What a great group of kids we have new and old!

Now a couple of reminder, PLEASE bring water to practice. It is vital that your bodies get enough water during your workout to stay hydrated. It is also very important that you are eating properly so that you don't increase your risk of injury. Remember, bananas, oranges, and things of that nature are great snacks!

We are in the process of creating our summer swim meet schedule, so stay tuned and get ready for a summer of fun!

Thanks for all your hard work~

Coach Patty

WELCOME NEW TIGERSHARKS!

Alex, Eric, Alanna, Matthew, Haylee, Nicholas, Kevin, Justin,
Samantha, Jill, Brittney, & Dana

WAY TO GROW TIGERSHARKS!!!

BIRTHDAYS!!

APRIL-
2nd- Emily- 15
4th- Thomas- 13
22nd- Katy O.- 18



From the President-

Pick-up after practice - All parents should come inside to pick up your children. This will give opportunity for you to ask questions of the coaches (and see your children in action, if you're early enough), and for the coaches to provide observations on your youngsters' swimming.

Participation - Please keep in mind that our team needs the participation and help of everyone, including all the parents, to operate smoothly. With a group our size, everyone should be doing something. Most of what we need help with can be done in just a few hours a month. Please ask how you can help out.

Help for our coaches at practice - It would be a big help to have at least one parent volunteer on deck during each practice, available to help the coaches as required. Please let one of the coaches know what days you would be able to help. Board members are preferred, but all parents are encouraged to assist.

Fundraising and publicity - We need people and ideas for these.

If you know of any businesses that would be willing to sponsor our team, please let us know. This can be a big source of support.

We hope to have flyers to distribute in area schools. When these become available, we will need people to deliver them.

Recruiting - The biggest need for our team at present is more swimmers. If everyone can recruit one new swimmer, that would double the size of our club, and in a short time. Parents and swimmers, please consider any friends or neighbors who might be interested and ask them to give it a try for a week.

EEC (Everett Events Center) - At the most recent board meeting, November 26th, 2005, we re-considered how fundraising work at the EEC is to be applied. We decided to continue the option of allowing this to be applied quarterly, instead of having the first 12 EEC sessions be applied to satisfy the fundraising commitment for the swim year (September through August) with no other option. However, once a method is selected, please do not ask that this be changed, as it becomes a headache for the treasurers. We thank the parents who provided the constructive feedback on this issue.

Stroke and turn officials - The judges that you see at swim meets are all parent volunteers. Without them, it would not be possible to have meets. More judges make it easier for the ones who are working, and all clubs should be offering at least one official for each 8 to 10 swimmers. Currently, I am the only one who regularly works at meets as a judge. I highly recommend this activity for any interested parent. You will understand the sport a lot better; it helps our club's relations with other clubs; it gives you something worthwhile to do at meets; you are treated to good snacks for your efforts; and most important, your youngster will likely have a boost in motivation seeing Mom or Dad so involved.

A couple of parents have expressed interest in becoming an official. The process is straightforward, and the first step is a training clinic (about three hours). I can help set one up at a convenient time. Please let me know if you are interested.

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The kid gave away his spot in his final race, the 4X100 medley relay, to Ian Crocker, the teammate whose sore-throat, cement-Speedo leg in the 4X100 freestyle relay at the start of the week cost Phelps his chance at seven golds and a \$1 million bonus from Speedo. "I wanted him to show the world what he was really made of," Phelps said. Wait a minute. A pro athlete giving up a worldwide prime-time moment to a lesser swimmer out of simple kindness? Uh, driver, what planet are we on?

"All he said was, 'Thanks,'" Phelps recalled, "but you could see in his eyes what it meant to him."

No wonder Phlipper Phelps was the focus of 10 press conferences. Toward the end his answers all started sounding like warmed-up Spackle. He said, "a dream come true," about 1,006 times and declared even more often, "I'm having a blast" -- maybe not the best phrase to use in terrorist-wary Athens.

When asked if he will try different events in Beijing in 2008, he said, "No, I don't think so." Wouldn't it have been great if he'd said, "Absolutely. I'm going for the pommel horse"?

And is there anybody he'd like to meet now that he can meet anybody? "Well," he said, grinning like a schoolboy, "Lindsay Lohan would be nice."

Hard to believe, all this from a kid with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, a kid whose mother was once told by a teacher, "Debbie, he will never be able to focus on a *thing* in his life."

"I'm just different in the water," Phelps says. "I just feel at home in it. I work with autistic kids a little, and there's this one kid, once he gets in the water, he's relaxed. He gets happy. That's how I am."

Watching him tear off after that stupid dinghy, you knew that was true -- with one little difference.

When Michael Phelps gets in the water, everybody *else* gets happy.

Issue date: August 30, 2004

I would like to take a moment to share something about the past couple of years with everyone. Our family has gone through a lot over the last couple of years. We were living a modest, but good living for quite a few years before. Then my husband was let go from his job. I immediately went back to work, and had to quit coaching for TSS. I ended up working the swing shift, and was working while practice was going on. I missed working with the kids terribly.

We have been through quite a struggle trying to figure out how to keep our kids in the water. It was a big debate trying to decide where to put money you don't have. Because I was able to work at the Events Center, I worked all of my dues that I owed off. I was able to work my account down from over six hundred dollars to nothing. I know this is the only reason I was able to keep my kids in the water. In a time of our need, it was good to have the option to work my balance down, without having to pull my kids out of the water due to money. It was a wonderful gesture on behalf of Tigersharks Swimming to let our family keep going even when things got rough for us.

I would encourage any parents that have balances and are unable to pay, to please use the Events Center to work your balances down. Please feel free to call me with any questions you may have regarding this opportunity.