



# Gator Tales

APRIL 17, 2016

## IMPORTANT DATES

4/18 (5 p.m.) – Rookie Camp Water-Safety Test

4/19 – Ice Breakers Practice begins for all swimmers

4/29 – Swim Shops sells team swim suits at the pool

5/7 – Time Trials

5/14 – 1st Dual Meet vs. Summerwood - AWAY

## Top 7 Reasons to Become an Official

- You get the best view of the pool during meets.
- Training is provided at no cost and is offered at multiple locations.
- You will fulfill your volunteer commitment.
- You serve in a critical role to our team.
- You get to spend time with Sandy Jordan, Kevin Canales and our other awesome officials.
- You'll look official in your white shirt and NWAL cap.
- You get to blow a whistle.

If you are interested in becoming an official, please contact our NWAL Representative, Sandy Jordan.

## Gators Are Ready to Get Wet!

We are ready for a great swim season and are excited to have so many returning swimmers and lots to rookies too! Here are some reminders to get the season off to a great start.

### What to Bring to Practice

- Your swimmer in their swimsuit (any suit will do)
- Goggles
- Towel
- Swim cap for your swimmer (optional for practice)
- Sweats or warm clothing and shoes for after practice. Air temperatures may be warm, but we expect the water will still be cool.

**LABEL EVERYTHING!** Our lost and found bucket overflows every season—it's easier to find the owners of items when they are marked with a name.

### Practice Times

Please arrive 10 minutes early. We will be checking swimmers in and marking their name with sharpie on their arms. Practice times are:

9-10 year olds: 4-4:45 p.m. M-F

6 & unders: 4:45-5:30 p.m. M-F

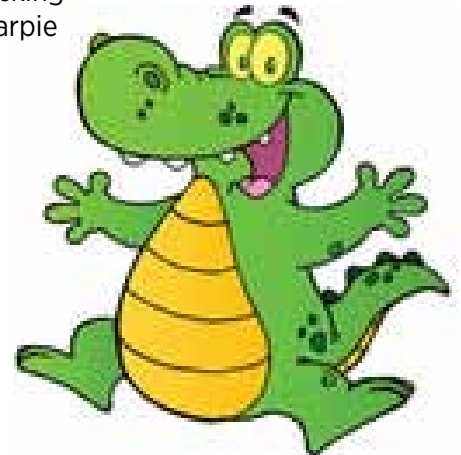
7 & 8 year olds: 5:30-6:15 p.m. M-F

11 & ups: 6:15-7:15 p.m. M-F

### Watching Practice

Parents are not allowed inside the pool area. If you like, you can set up chairs on the perimeter of the gate to watch your swimmer or hang out in the park.

See you at the pool! CHOMP!



## News & Practice Notifications

We will post news to the team website throughout the season, visit the site often to stay current on Gator news. If there are any practice cancellations, we will post notices to the website and Facebook and notify you by e-mail. Gators don't mind swimming in the rain, but if there is lightning and thunder at the pool practice will be delayed or cancelled.

## Get Your Team Swim Suit

Our team swim suits will be the Speedo Solar Strobe in green. This is the same as last year. Swim Shops of the Southwest will be at our pool on Friday, April 29 from 4:40–6:30 p.m. so swimmers can try on and purchase suits.

Team suits are in stock at the Swim Shops in Atascocita if you would like to go ahead and purchase your suit. At the shop swimmers can try on suits in air conditioned dressing rooms. Team suits are already discounted, but if you purchase goggles or other non-sale items you can get a 10% team discount on those items.

Swim Shops is located at 8041 FM 1960 East (two lights east of West Lake Houston, in the Pinehurst shopping center just in front of Atascocita Library). They are open 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. on weekdays and 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. of Saturdays. Their phone number is 281-540-4460.

### Speedo Solar Strobe

Gators wear green!



### Junior Coaches Needed

We need our older Gator swimmers (ages 13 and up) to volunteer as Junior Swim Coaches for the first few weeks of practice. This is a great way to earn community service hours and mentor our newest Gators. Plus, it will be FUN!!! Interested Gators should email Nicole Green.

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



## WELCOME COACHES

We have a great group of coaches this season who are ready to work with our swimmers and help them have a great season in and out of the water. Our coaches are:

Jen Watkins, Head Coach  
Abby Tackett  
Hunter Lang  
David Amoruso  
Bailey Janik  
Sara Hays, Rookie Camp Coach

Many of our coaches will offer private lessons. Check out the About Us page on our website for the coaches contact information and to find out which coaches are offering private lessons. Payment for private lessons should be made directly to the coach providing the lessons.

## Board Positions Available We Need You!

Do you want to get more involved in our awesome team? The following board positions are available:

**Computers** – Head Computers personnel needed. Must have good working knowledge of computers and the ability to learn new system/software easily.

### Equipment Trainee

### Concessions Trainee

Joining the board is a great way to be more involved with the team and earn your volunteer hours. Trainee positions will work with our experienced board members, who are in their final year on the board, to learn the ropes of these important positions and be ready to take over next year.

If you have questions or are interested in volunteering, please contact Nicole Green.