



THE CUDA NATION

JANUARY 2011

NEWSLETTER FOR THE BRIDGELAND BARRACUDAS SWIM TEAM

ISSUE ONE



Introducing the first issue of THE CUDA NATION newsletter. Find highlights of meets, pep rallies and events. Speeding Ticket results, and Swimmers of the Week will be future additions.



Enjoy!



Welcome Coach Adkins!



The Bridgeland Barracudas Swim Team Announces Our New Coach

Ashley is thrilled to be coaching the Barracudas! As a relatively new Bridgeland resident she is excited to lead her home swim team in their new division. Ashley has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Communications from Texas Tech University and a Masters in Sports Psychology from Florida State University. Her love for swimming started at a young age with her neighborhood swim team, Terranova West, then grew into dedication while swimming for USA club team, Atex, and then became devoted, swimming for Klein high school. After time off in college, she knew the sport lived inside her and it was time to return. Since 2003, Ashley hasn't left the pool deck. For several years she was the head swim coach for 3 5A high school teams, while teaching speech, debate, and communication courses and directing debate programs. Ashley was honored to receive multiple coaching awards, state appearances, and championships throughout her swimming career. She has also coached a variety of summer league and competitive club teams in Fort Worth, Houston, and Tallahassee. In recent years, Ashley worked with FSU's swim team, Strength & Conditioning department and Sport Psychology department. These days, she speaks at various conferences, develops workshops, and conducts performance psychology consulting services for all different levels of athletes and individuals. She still can't get enough of swimming, so she competes in triathlons as much as possible and looks forward to every summer when relays are intense, pep rallies are spirited, cars are painted, the ready bench is rocking, and cheers are roaring with that neighborhood pride!

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Everybody into the Pool! Registration for the 2011 Season

Registration for returning swimmers and new Bridgeland residents will begin Saturday, March 26th from 9 to 2 at the Lakeland Activity Center. DJ's will be on hand selling and measuring for our new team suits and any other gear you may need. Remember to bring a few extra checks for payment of volunteer fees, enrollment and Cuda Spirit Gear. Registration forms will soon be posted on the BBST website. Registration ENDS April 29th!

F.A.Q.

I have a friend who doesn't live in Bridgeland. Can they join our team?

Unless they are a sibling of a current Barracuda, they must live in Bridgeland to join.

How much do I have to volunteer?

We require each family to pay a volunteer deposit. This check is not cashed until the end of the season. If you work 20 documented hours, your check will be returned to you. If you do not meet your volunteer requirements your check will be cashed. We can't stress enough, that we don't want your money - we want your time! Swim meets cannot run without a large number of volunteers.

How well does my child have to swim and what are the age limitations?

Swim Team is not the same as "swim lessons". Your child should be able to swim across the pool lane with little assistance from the lane lines. Our coaches will evaluate your child will let you know if they aren't ready. We enroll ages 4-18 (high school senior). The deadline to get a refund is May 1st.

How is our fundraising money spent?

Last year our fundraisers rocked! We use the funds to pay for pep rallies, social events, replacement of equipment, our PA system and our team party at the end of the season. This year we are evaluating wireless timing systems, a pool record board and locked storage for our gear. We are also developing a plan to offer a BBST Scholarship program for a deserving swimmer or swimmers.

What if I'm involved in other sports?

Several of our swimmers participate in other activities, too. Our practices are usually offered several days a week to allow for more opportunities to participate.

Are meets held every weekend?

Typically, there are 5-6 meets starting in mid May with Divisional and Invitational meets after the regular season has ended. Most of our meets are in the Northwest Houston area and at our home pool.

Where are practices held?

Practices are held at the Lakeland Village Aquatics Center in Bridgeland.

Do the boys have to wear "Speedos"?

No, although they are still around, most boys opt for the knee-length "jammer" suit.

2011 Meet Schedule*

	MAY 21	MAY 28	JUNE 4	JUNE 11	JUNE 18	JUNE 25	JULY 1-3
Bridgeland (A)	Home v. B	Away v. F	Away v. C	Home v. E	Away v. D	DIVN'L	INVTL
Concord (B)	Away v. A	Home v. C	Away v. E	Home v. D	Away v. F	DIVN'L	INVTL
Blue Marlins (C)	Home v. D	Away v. A	Home v. A	Home v. F	Away v. E	DIVN'L	INVTL
Cypress Mills (D)	Away v. C	Home v. E	Home v. F	Away v. B	Home v. A	DIVN'L	INVTL
Ravens Way (E)	Home v. F	Away v. D	Home v. B	Away v. A	Home v. C	DIVN'L	INVTL
Cypress Point (F)	Away v. E	Home v. A	Away v. D	Away v. C	Home v. B	DIVN'L	INVTL

* As of 2/3/11. We will post any changes.

Going for the 3-Peat in 2011

The 2010 summer swim season was a fantastic one for the Bridgeland Barracudas Swim Team. After an undefeated 2009 season we moved up to Division W-4 in the Northwest Aquatic League. We boasted 217 swimmers who worked hard at practice and even harder at our swim meets. As a result the Barracudas went undefeated once again! In June, Bridgeland was the host site for the Divisionals meet where nearly 800 swimmers and six teams from across the greater Cypress area competed for individual titles and team points. The Barracudas swam to victory and are back-to-back Divisional Champions. Eighty one of our swimmers were invited to Red, White and Blue Invitationals and eight had fast enough times to compete at the Ponderosa Invitationals meet. Congratulations to all of our swimmers!



The Barracudas held their 3rd Annual Cuda-Thon fundraiser where an iPad was raffled off and swimmers received donations for the maximum laps they completed in a 30 minute time frame. Over \$10,000 was raised for our team! We would like to express our thanks to the coaches and parents for their hours of dedication in making this season so successful. Thanks also go out to many of our sponsors including David Weekley Homes, TriPrima, Omega Custom Pools, Village Builders, and Community Self Storage for their generous support. We could not have done it without you!

TEAM SPONSORSHIP

EVERY YEAR WE STRIVE AS PARENTS TO MAKE SURE OUR KIDS HAVE THE BEST SUMMER SWIM SEASON THAT ANY TEAM CAN OFFER. WE COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH IT WITHOUT OUR LOCAL SPONSORS. THIS YEAR WE ARE LOOKING FOR AN OFFICIAL T-SHIRT SPONSOR. WITH NEARLY 225 SWIMMERS, PAYING FOR SHIRTS IS A HUGE EXPENSE. IT COSTS OUR TEAM ROUGHLY \$1000 TO BUY THE KIDS' SHIRTS. WE ARE ALSO INTRODUCING A SAVINGS CORNER WHERE BUSINESS SPONSORS CAN ADVERTISE DISCOUNTS AND COUPONS IN OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AS WELL AS IN OUR MEET PROGRAMS. IF YOU ARE A BUSINESS OWNER OR KNOW ONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO DONATE, PLEASE CALL CHRISSY BENTON, MARKETING DIRECTOR AT 281.455.9886 OR EMAIL

CHRISSE.BENTON@BRIDGELANDBARRACUDAS.ORG

2011 SPONSOR LEVELS

PLATINUM \$1000 - GOLD \$500 - SILVER \$250 - BRONZE \$100

VISIT: WWW.BRIDGELANDBARRACUDAS.ORG AND LOOK UNDER SPONSOR SECTION

David Weekley Homes



BRIDGELAND
FIND BALANCE



WANTED : 13 & UP SWIMMERS
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are having a planning meeting for a party to help recruit more 13 & older swimmers. If you are a current Barracuda, 13 & up, please come to the Lakeland Activity Center Saturday Feb 26th @ 10am and help us plan this party. RSVP to Lou Waters at 281.213.8049

Bridgeland Barracuda Swim Team
Beach Party

FRIDAY MARCH 25TH
7:00 - 11:00 pm
Lakeland Activity Center

FREE AGE 13 & UP
FOOD, MUSIC & FUN
Bring a Friend!

We need swimmers for our teenaged teams. The Barracudas are open to Bridgeland residents or siblings of past Cudas. Come Check Us Out! RSVP to Lou Waters @ 281.213.8049

New coach; New season; New gear!

Swimsuit companies make their models for only two years and our original team suit has been discontinued. This season we will have a new suit. At registration, D&J's will be on site measuring for the proper fit. We will offer the option to add our logo to your suit. If you have a solid blue suit from last season you can continue to wear it during meets. Save your team suits for the meets and wear your old ones for practice.

We will also be taking orders for Cuda Gear which includes the 2011 season t-shirt, bling shirts, caps, visors, car decals and yard signs.



2011 & 2012 New Team Suits

Open Chair Positions

Social Chair
(Pep Rallies & Team Parties)

Equipment Management
(Set Up & Tear Down)

Fundraising & Sponsorship
(Assist with Cuda-Thon & Sponsors)

Age Level Reps
(Oversee Age Group Tents)

If you are interested or want more information, please contact a board member.



Your BBST Board of Directors

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