

Parents' Guide to the New Berlin Recreation Department Learn to Swim Program

Welcome to the New Berlin Swim Program. The New Berlin Recreation Department is dedicated to providing a safe, fun atmosphere for the development of swimming and safety skills for the youth and adults of our community. We believe in the value of swimming as a lifetime skill and as a healthy recreational activity.

First Day of Lesson

All students should report to the locker room where they should dress, shower and wait for the Locker Room Attendant to explain procedures. Please note that children 5 years of age and older must use gender appropriate dressing rooms. Please let your child know that the Locker Room Attendant will give them direction and that they can go to the locker room attendant for assistance. The locker room attendants wear name badges to identifying themselves.

Parents can come into the pool area for a few minutes at the beginning of the first lesson for roll call and then will be asked to wait in the hallway. Please note that parents are not required to come in on the first day for roll call.

Directions to the Locker Room

Eisenhower – Enter the doors on the south side of the school (nearest to the cafeteria entrance). Proceed through the cafeteria to the stair steps that lead down to the lower level. The girl's locker room is all the way down the hallway on the left, just outside the swimming pool entrance doors. The boys will need to walk down the hallway to the double doors on the left hand side of the hallway, go through the double doors, which lead to another hallway and enter the locker room on the right hand side of that hallway

Spectator Policy

To create the best possible learning environment, spectators will only be allowed in the pool area for a few minutes on the first day of class and for the entire class on the last day of the session. On the first day, parents will be excused after roll call and the introductory speech. Depending on the parent's comfort level, it is not necessary to come in to the pool area for a few minutes on the first day of lessons. Parents, grandparents, sibling, etc. are invited to watch the last day of lessons.

This policy is in place, as we do not have a secure spectator area (balcony, area behind glass) at the New Berlin High School Pools. During lessons, we want the focus to be on the participants in the program not spectators in the bleachers.

If we open the bleachers to spectators, we not only have to focus our attention on the children in the water but also must ensure the safety of the spectators. Secondly, we have this policy in place to create an environment free of distractions and interruptions.

Special note to parent/child classes – we ask only one parent participate per child as we have limited pool space.

Lightning Safety Precautions

If lightning is spotted, we will remove the participants from the water for 20 minutes and use the time out of the water to teach safety skills.

Bathroom Use

Please encourage your child to use the bathroom prior to lessons to maximize instruction time.

Hair

Students with long hair are asked to pull the hair back or wear a swim cap. This helps your child learn to swim without hair distractions.

Make – Up Classes

Unfortunately, if you miss a class, it can't be rescheduled or made up.

Goggles

We do not encourage the use of goggles in lower level lessons unless a child has a severe eye problem.

Band-aids and Gum

Please remove band-aids and gum before entering the pool.

Lockers

Lockers are provided but participants must provide their **own lock**. The New Berlin Recreation Department is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

Progress Reports

A progress report will be given at the end of each session. Please remember that swimming is a difficult skill to learn and takes time and patience. Our goal is to develop proficient swimmers that learn the skills properly from the start so they do not develop bad habits. Participants often have to repeat certain levels before advancing on to the next level. Even if a participant successfully completes a skill within a level we ask that they continue to work on the skill as we will use it and build on it in the next level.

If your child is unable to attend the last class, please send a note in advance to your child's teacher and they will give you the progress report before the last day. If you miss the last day due to illness or a family emergency, progress reports can be picked up at the New Berlin Recreation office. Please call before you come in to ensure we have the report.

Questions about the Program

If at anytime you have questions regarding the program or you notice your child becoming frustrated or confused, please inform the pool manager or contact Caitlin Vosberg at the Recreation Office (262) 797-2443.

Have a wonderful experience in our program!