



REGISTRATION

2025-2026 Fall/Winter Season

September 8, 2025 – March 15, 2026



Swim team **registration is an annual process**, with the year split into two seasons: fall/winter season (Sep-Mar) and spring/summer season (April-July). The following information is specific to the fall/winter portion of the year. Spring/summer information will be emailed to each account prior to March 1.

Swimmers who only wish to participate during the fall/winter season need to see the Cancellation Policy below and be sure to **provide notice of cancellation at least 30 days before April 1**, otherwise active accounts will continue to bill through the spring/summer season.

YMCA MEMBERSHIP DUES

Per the *Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports*, all swim team participants **must maintain a full YMCA facility membership** in good standing to be eligible to participate and compete. **The joiner's fee is waived** for swim team (only if membership is set up in person at the branch).

Visit the Joliet YMCA website at www.jolietymca.org for current YMCA membership rates, benefits, facility information and programming options.

PROGRAM FEES

Swim team program fees may be paid in full at registration or paid in monthly installments.

- During the fall/winter season, all practice levels pay over 6 months (Sep-Feb), except for swimmers active on their high school swim team, who will pay over 4 months:
 - High School girls pay the following months: Nov 1, Dec 1, Jan 1, Feb 1
 - High School boys pay the following months: Sep 1, Oct 1, Nov 1, Dec 1
 - During the spring/summer season, all practice levels pay over 4 months (April 1, May 1, June 1, July 1).
 - Families who register 3 athletes will receive a 10% discount; 15% for 4 athletes; 20% discount for 5 athletes.
 - Program fees will be waived for our college athletes up through age 21.
 - Monthly program fees and any outstanding invoice items will be auto-billed on the 1st of each month.
- Regardless of which billing option you choose, a valid credit card must be kept up to date on your account.

2025-2026 Fall/Winter Program Fees

Group	Monthly (Opt IN to Fundraising)*	Pay in Full (Opt IN to Fundraising)*	Monthly Draft (Opt OUT of Fundraising)	Pay in Full (Opt OUT of Fundraising)
Zeppelin	\$72	\$432	\$102	\$612
Glider	\$85	\$510	\$115	\$690
Stunt Pilot	\$100	\$600	\$130	\$780
Mach 1	\$120	\$720	\$150	\$900
Mach 1 - HS	\$120	\$480	\$165	\$660
Mach 2	\$140	\$840	\$170	\$1020
Mach 2 - HS	\$140	\$560	\$185	\$740
Mach 3	\$150	\$900	\$180	\$1080
Mach 3 - HS	\$150	\$600	\$195	\$780
Moon Lander	\$155	\$930	\$185	\$1110
Moon Lander - HS	\$155	\$620	\$200	\$800

*Families who **opt IN to the FUNDRAISING** billing plan will pay lower monthly fees, but will be required to raise a minimum amount via our seasonal fundraiser (see fundraising information below).

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The YMCA does not turn anyone away for the inability to pay. Families may apply for financial assistance through a YMCA branch or online at <https://www.jolietymca.org/membership/financial-assistance/>. If a family qualifies, the YMCA membership fees and swim team program fees will be discounted (up to 75% off membership dues and up to 50% off program fees). Families who qualify for a YMCA scholarship also qualify for USA Swimming's discounted Outreach Membership. Meet entry fees, fundraising requirements and volunteer requirements will not be discounted.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Cancellation can only be done by contacting the Director of Competitive Aquatics, Dave Hedden at 815-782-0805 or dhedden@jolietymca.org. Cancellation requests must be received in writing with at least 30 days advance notice, and all outstanding balances must be paid before cancellation is final. Program fees, USA Swimming membership fees and meet entry fees are non-refundable. Families who also wish to cancel their YMCA membership must contact the YMCA membership office or the front desk staff at a YMCA branch.



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USA SWIMMING ATHLETE REGISTRATION

All athletes must be registered with USA Swimming in order to practice and compete. All returning swimmers will have their USA Swimming membership renewed in a bulk batch by the team, and the annual membership fee will be charged at registration. For all new swimmers, families will register their swimmers for a USA Swimming membership separately through the USA Swimming website. More instructions, and link to register, will be sent via email. Families who receive financial assistance from the YMCA qualify for the USA Swimming Outreach Membership. Athletes who are transferring from another USA Swimming team must complete an athlete transfer via their USA Swimming account.

2026 USA Swimming Membership Fees

Athlete Membership	\$92/year
Outreach Membership	\$7/year (for families receiving financial assistance)

APPAREL FEE

A fee of \$30 will be charged at registration and all swimmers will receive two t-shirts for the 2025-2026 season. These shirts are considered part of the apparel uniform for swim meets. Swimmers will be asked to wear them at meets and on the podium at championship meets.

MEET ENTRY FEES

Swimmers who participate in swim meets are responsible for paying all meet entry fees and surcharges. Most meets charge a fee per event and/or a surcharge per swimmer. **These fees are invoiced to your team account after each swim meet and auto-billed on the 1st of the month.** Refer to the meet information on our website to view entry fees and other details for each meet. After the meet entry deadline, once entries are finalized and sent to the meet host, teams must pay for entries in advance and they are non-refundable. After that point, **families are liable for their entry fees, regardless if their swimmer competes or not.**

AUTOMATED BILLING SCHEDULE

You will be required to keep a credit card on your account which will be used for recurring payments each month. Monthly program fees (for those on the Monthly billing plan) and any outstanding invoices will be auto-billed on the 1st of each month. Fees will continue to be charged each month unless you cancel by the cancellation deadline.

FAILED PAYMENTS AND UNPAID BALANCES

If your payment on the billing date is declined for any reason, you will receive an automated email from our billing system alerting you about the issue. If this happens, you will need to log into your account to update your payment method on file and make an on-demand payment to pay off your balance.

Swimmers will not be allowed to practice or enter swim meets if they are unregistered or if there is an unpaid balance on their account older than 60 days.

To update the payment method you have on file, log into your account and go to My Account > Set Up AutoPay on the left-hand side menu. To make an on-demand payment, log into your account, go to My Account > Invoices & Payments on the left-hand side menu, then click on the Make Payment tab.

PAYMENT METHODS

The only payment option available for our billing system is credit card or debit card (Visa, MasterCard or Discover). American Express is not accepted by this system.

If the credit card you have on your account is close to expiring, you will receive an automated email from our billing system reminding you to update your payment method on file.

VIEWING YOUR INVOICE

It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that all contact information and payment methods are up-to-date. You can log into your account to update this information at any time. To check your invoice, log into your account and go to My Account > Invoices & Payments on the left-hand side menu.



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ABOUT THE JETS PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (JPAC)

Working with the Director of Competitive Aquatics and the Aquatics & Risk Management Operations Director, and reporting to the Metropolitan Board of Directors, the JETS Parent Advisory Council (JPAC) works to advise and support the Greater Joliet Area YMCA JETS Swim Team in the Will and Grundy County service areas. It is also responsible for building a strong and growing base of support for the YMCA mission and the JETS in the community in order that the program may thrive.

One of its core functions is to fundraise to help supplement the swim team operations budget. On average each year, there are around \$75,000 in operating expenses that are not covered by our program fees. The JETS Parent Advisory Council is tasked with deciding how to raise those funds each year so we do not have to significantly increase program fees.

The JPAC is a council of parent volunteers that meets one evening each month. Anyone wishing to get involved, provide feedback or simply inquire more about JPAC may contact the JPAC Chairperson Dawn Stephens (dstephens04@comcast.net).

FUNDRAISING REQUIREMENT

At registration, families can opt for the FUNDRAISING billing plan, which allows them to pay reduced program fees in exchange for participating in a seasonal fundraiser in which they must raise a minimum amount for the team.

For the 2025-2026 Fall/Winter Season, families with 1 athlete on the team must raise at least \$180 in net proceeds via the fundraising options; families with 2 or more athletes must raise at least \$360 in net proceeds. After the fundraiser, families who do not reach the minimum amount will be charged the remaining balance on December 1.

There are 2 options as a fundraiser this season for those selecting the Fundraising billing option:

1. Obtain a team sponsorship. Families who recruit a Silver or Gold level sponsor will have their spring/summer fundraising requirement waived. Sponsorship brochure and form is on the JETS website.
2. Obtain pledges for participation in the Swim-a-Thon on November 23, 2025. The event involves swimming as many laps as possible in one hour. Full details will be released later.

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

The largest portion of the JPAC fundraising comes from the swim meets we host. It takes a tremendous team effort, at least 50 volunteers for every session, to make these swim meets successful!

The JETS will host two swim meets during the 2025-2026 fall/winter season:

- JETS YMCA Thanksgiving Classic: November 15-16, 2025 at Oswego East High School
- JETS Fast 50s: January 4, 2026 at C.W. Avery Family YMCA

JETS families are required to supply a volunteer for at least 3 unique sessions throughout the fall/winter season. There will be a \$75 fine for each volunteer session that is not met (\$225 total if no volunteer sessions are met). There will be an additional fine of \$75 if a family signs up for a volunteer slot but fails to show up or provide advance notice. Fines will be assessed on March 1, 2026. Families who fulfill all volunteer requirements will have priority registration, which includes their preferred practice location.

In addition to the regular season volunteer requirements, families of swimmers who qualify for championship meets will have additional volunteer requirements. These will be communicated when the host teams release the meet information to us. Parents will be assigned to volunteer positions for championship meet positions based on their swimmer's session and events.

- Sessions will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis through the job sign-up function on the team website.
- **If two parents work during the same session, it will only be credited as one session;** sessions must be unique in order to ensure we have enough help spread throughout the meet.
- Volunteers must be at least 14 years old.
- Our highest priority is filling all volunteer roles at our hosted meets listed above. If you are unavailable to help on those dates, sessions can be filled at other meets/events where our team is required to supply volunteers.
- Families can view how many sessions they have worked throughout the season by logging into their account on the team website. If you notice any discrepancy between what is listed on the website and what you believe you have worked, please contact JPAC Chairperson Dawn Stephens (dstephens04@comcast.net).
- Becoming an official is a hugely impactful way to not only fulfill volunteer requirements but to support the team and enable meets to happen.