Polar Bears Swim Team
Parent Information Packet

Information for Parents:
Starting this season, ALL Polar Bear swimmers will be required to attend a Try Out for the PYPB Swim Team. Coach Tim Grace will place participants in the appropriate category for their skill level and age. Once the child is placed, parents will be provided with a registration form (from and signed by the coach), which they can then use to register their child for swim team at the Pittsfield Family YMCA Welcome Center.

PYPB Swim Team Try Outs will be held:
Sept. 12-28th, 6:15-6:30pm MWF. Later tryouts must be scheduled with the coach.

***Please Closely Read the requirements and structure for each level below.

Swim Categories:

1. Cubs (Ages 5-8):
   Requirements:
   - Swimmer MUST be able to swim 25 meters on front demonstrating some knowledge of freestyle AND 25 meters on back demonstrating some knowledge of backstroke, unassisted.
   - Swimmers MUST be able to tread water for at least 1 minute unassisted.
   **Cubs are expected to participate in weekend swim meets.
   Cub Practices: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 6:30-7:30 p.m.
   Cost: $225, plus YMCA youth membership: $36/year

2. Juniors (Ages 9-12):
   Requirements:
   - Swimmer MUST demonstrate knowledge of Freestyle and Backstroke, and be comfortable in deep water.
   - Swimmers may practice up to 5 days/week.
   **Juniors are expected to participate in weekend swim meets.
   Junior Practices: M-F 6:30-7:30 p.m.
   Cost: $325, plus YMCA youth membership: $36/year

3. Junior A’s(Ages 9-12, Coach invite)
   Requirements: Must be invited by coach
   Junior A Practices: M-F 6:30-8pm
   Cost: $350
4. **Seniors (Ages 13-18):**
   Requirements:
   - Swimmer MUST demonstrate knowledge of all four strokes and be comfortable in deep water.
   - Swimmers may practice up to 6 days/week.
   **Seniors are REQUIRED to attend ATLEAST 2 weekend swim meets.**
   **Senior Practices:** M-F, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Sundays (depending on Interest) 2-4 p.m.
   **Cost:** $385, plus YMCA teen membership: $180/year

**Discounts:**
- 20% OFF additional siblings(highest level youth pays full price) if paid by Dec. 12, 2012
- $800 maximum for families registering (3+) swimmers by Dec. 12, 2012
*BE ADVISED: Discounts can not be combined.*

**Additional Info:**
- Try Outs are a safety requirement. Coaches need to be confident in swimmers ability and skill level. NO CHILD WILL BE ALLOWED TO REGISTER/PARTICIPATE WITHOUT HAVING ATTENDED A TRYOUT. Children who do not meet requirements for Swim Team are encouraged to register for YMCA swim lessons.
- All Practices take place at the Y’s indoor swimming pool. Parents are asked to watch from the pool balcony.
- All swimmers are required to attend 5 practices before they can participate in a Swim Meet.
- Some Swimmers WILL qualify for Championships and New England Championships. The extended season (Approx. mid February 2012-Late March 2012) will cost $125, and swimmers will be expected to participate in practices based on their skill level and ability.

**RECAP PROCEDURE FOR REGISTERING FOR PYPB SWIM TEAM 2012-2013:**
**Step 1:** Attend a try out. Sept 12-28th 6:15-6:30pm MWF or schedule one with coach.
**Step 2:** Receive a SIGNED registration form from Coach Tim Grace.
**Step 3:** Fill out Registration form and return to Pittsfield Family YMCA Welcome Center, along with payment of membership and program fees.
**Step 4:** Attend appropriate practices for your child’s swim category.

**Contact**
Call Aquatics at 413-499-7650 x11 or email at gkeator@pittsfieldfamilyymca.org

**PITTSFIELD FAMILY YMCA**
292 North Street, Pittsfield MA 01201
P 413-499-7650 F 413-443-6791 www.pittsfieldfamilyymca.org