



Hollidaysburg Area YMCA Swimming Lessons FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

MAY I REQUEST A SPECIFIC TEACHER?

Our instructors are scheduled based on their availability.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM PUT ON A WAITLIST?

Student/teacher ratios ensure the safety of the students and the instructor in all classes. When a class is at maximum capacity, other students interested in the class will be put on the waitlist provided that they are not already registered for another class. The waitlist will allow us to contact you if any space opens up within a reasonable amount of time after the start of the session. There is no charge for being put on the waitlist.

I THINK MY CHILD IS IN THE WRONG CLASS, WHAT DO I DO?

There is a difference between class and level. Progression to the next swim level is based on how effectively the child meets the skill requirements through the entire session. The class your child is in is based on what time and day work best for your family at the time of sign up. Moving a child to a different class in the middle of a session is not usually an option because every class moves at a different pace, the child would have a new instructor. If the instructor makes the decision a child would fit better in another class, that instructor will discuss with the parents what other options are available within the first week of the session.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF MY CHILD CRIES AND IS AFRAID AT SWIMMING LESSONS?

Tell the child that you know that they are scared but can do the things that the instructor is asking them to try. Try to come to swim at the pool at a time other than swimming lessons, and even prior to the first day of class, so that the environment will be familiar.

Be persistent and don't give up! Crying is usually toughest on the parent. After the first few lessons children usually become comfortable in the class. Be sure to share with the instructor if the child has had any negative experiences in an aquatic environment. It is usually best for parents to stay somewhere where the child cannot see the parent, but the parent can still be observing the lesson. Allow the instructor to have a few minutes alone with the child to try to change the direction of the child's thinking. If a child cries for more than half the class, it is best to remove them and try again another day.

WHY DO SOME INSTRUCTORS TEACH FROM THE DECK AND SOME FROM THE WATER?

Frequently with the higher levels, instructors need to be on deck to properly observe the students' strokes and to safely be able to watch the class as a whole. If a student needs demonstration, the instructor will enter the water. Middle level youth, the instructor may start the session inside the water. As the session progresses, the class may be able to be independent enough in the water that the instructor can approach the class more from the deck. For all preschool levels and beginner levels, the instructors will be in the water for the duration of the session.

MAY I OBSERVE MY CHILD'S CLASS?

You may watch from observation area located right off both lap and warm pool.

WHEN CAN I TAKE PICTURES OF MY CHILD?

Pictures and videos are permitted, but inform instructor your plans before class for the safety and privacy of all our participants please be brief. Camera and cell phones are not permitted in the locker rooms for any reason, except when they are turned off and stored.

MAY I USE THE REST OF THE FACILITY WHILE MY CHILD IS IN CLASS?

If your child is a preschooler, you must remain in the viewing area during class to be available for bathroom breaks, etc. If your child is in 1st grade or above and if you have a family membership please inform your instructor where you will be in case of an emergency or pool closure. Please make sure you arrive on the pool deck before the end of class to pick up your child, they will not be released until the parent has arrived on the deck. Parents are not allowed to leave the facility and leave the child in the class.

MY CHILD IS ILL AND CAN'T ATTEND CLASS; CAN WE SCHEDULE A MAKE-UP LESSON?

It is the general policy of the Hollidaysburg Area YMCA that participants cannot make up classes missed due to short-term illness or vacation. This policy holds especially true in the aquatic programs due to the ratio of instructors to swimmers. We do issue credits for medically based misses with a doctor's note. Please have your doctor fax the note directly to the Y.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE POOL CLOSES DUE TO VOMIT OR A FECAL INCIDENT?

We must clear the pool immediately. Board of Health sets the allotted time we must wait before re-entry, depending on the accident and chlorine levels in the pool. During lessons, each class does have sections, like basic first aid and understanding rescues and safety that can be taught on the pool deck. A class will only be cancelled if no form of a lesson, whether on the deck or in the pool, can be held. Please feel free to call the Welcome Center before leaving your home for your lesson if there is bad weather. Make ups will be offered if time allows. Credits will not be issued for weather related cancellations.

HOW DO I REGISTER FOR THE NEXT SESSION?

Progression to the next swim level is based on how effectively the child meets the skill requirements set forth by the YMCA of the USA. Progress reports will be issued before registration opens. It is not unusual for a swimmer to need to repeat a level more than once because swimming is progressive. Classes can fill up fast, particularly in popular time slots, so register early. You may register online or at the Welcome Center.