

Kid Pusher

Job Description:

On Arrival:

Check in with the volunteer coordinator and receive your folder and sign.

You have two main jobs at the meet.

- 1) Gather your swimmers at the correct time
- 2) Get them lined up in the correct sequence so they are ready for their events

To collect your swimmers you will use your sign. Timing will be discussed in more detail in the examples below. At the right time put your sign up and wave it around. Often the kids like to do this themselves. Sometimes they like to walk around the pool deck waving the sign to collect people. Anything goes as long as you are gathering them up. Please don't put your sign up unless you want to get the kids together. Parents and kids use it as a signal and false alarms can lead to not getting the kids ready on time.

Your folder will contain a list of the swimmers assigned by heat and lane. Count the number of swimmers in your current event to make sure you have collected them all. Each event will be listed on a separate page.

The 6 and under will have 3 pages and the 7-8 and 9-10 will have 5. The format of the information is chosen by the coach, but here are two possible examples.

Example 1

6-Under Boys --- Freestyle

	Lane 1	Lane 3	Lane 5
Main Event	Michael Smith (123)	Joe Jones (145)	Frank Miller (445)
Heat 2	Justin Case (155)	Kevin Keene (195)	Dave Dunn (232)
Heat 3		Alex Cross (162)	Noah Thompson (111)

Timing: The first event of the meet is the 7-8 boys medley relay. 6 and under boys first event will follow the 15-18 medley relay. Start gathering them up by waving the sign around the 11-12 relay or the 13-14. (figure out what works for you and how long it takes your group of boys take to get ready).

Organization: Count and make sure you have all your kids. The kids numbers are written next to their names on the sheet and on the kids arms and or back if you do not recognize everyone. Confirm that each child knows where to go.

“Okay in lane one first is Michael, second is Justin. In Lane 3 First we have Joe then second Kevin and third Alex. In Lane 5 First is Frank, then Dave then Noah. “

Walk them over to the starting blocks. There will be a selection of chair behind the blocks. Make sure they know which lane is theirs and get them seated in the correct order. The Clerk of Course will come around before your even starts and confirm that your Main event/Heat 1 swimmers are in place. Encourage your swimmers to move up in line as the chairs in front of them empty.

If you have an empty spot in your line up, leave the chair empty. Make sure your kids go in the correct heats, so that the times get assigned to the correct child. Rarely the Clerk of Course will change which heat the swimmer swims in- to

combine down to fewer heats for example. Assume that they told the timers and the times will be recorded correctly. Or perhaps they may ask you to go tell the timers that a child has been moved.

Kid Catchers: Some 6 and under swimmers need/want a kid catcher. Kid Catchers are one of the two people that are standing behind the 15 yard rope during the 6 and under events. Usually (but not always) kids in heat one won't need a catcher. Ask your kids if you don't know. They will tell you. When it is time for that child to go, wave to the kids catchers and the end of that lane and indicate that the swimmer needs assistance. I'd recommend waving then pointing at the child.

Example 2

7-8 boys Medley Relay

- Lane 1: Brian One, Charlie two Dan Three Elliot Four.
- Lane 3: Frank Five, Gilbert six, Harry Seven, Issac Eight
- Lane 5: Jason Nine, Kyle Ten, Liam Eleven, Mark Twelve

Timing: This is the first event of the meet. Start gathering your boys before meet start at 6 PM. They should be in place by the time the National Anthem is sung so that the meet will start on time.

Organization: The order of events in the Medley Relay is Back, Breast, Butterfly then Freestyle. You will have either one or two or I suppose 3 if we have a lot of boys. Each group will need to be lined up on the correct side of the pool. Back and Fly line up on the Blocks side and Breast and free line up on the far side of the lane. We recommend having one pusher on each side for this event to make sure the swimmers know where to stand. Remind them of what stroke they are swimming if they don't know.

	Block side:	Far side:
Lane 1	(Back Stroke) Brian One	(Breast) Charlie Two
	(Fly) Dan Three	(Free) Elliot Four
Lane 3	(Back Stroke) Frank Five	(Breast) Gilbert Six
	(Fly) Harry Seven	(Free) Issac Eight
Lane 5	(Backstroke) Jason Nine	(Breast) Kyle Ten
	(Fly) Liam Eleven	(Free) Mark Twelve

At the end of your events: Don't forget to turn in your folder and sign to the volunteer table. Thanks for helping!

Tips:

6-Unders: They only swim three events after that you are done. (Thanks for helping!)

7-8: For the boys especially - be aware of a timing change - after 15-18 breast stroke y'all are up with 7-8 boys Butterfly, since 6- under don't swim that stroke. Also Freestyle relay at the end of the meet has swimmers lining up on both sides similar to the medley relay.

9-10: You do everything the 7-8's do, but following them and with older kids, including the relays and lining up on both sides of the pool. If you see the 7-8's signs up you can know you need to get ready soon.

Length of time commitment at the meet:

The whole meet until your swimmers have completed their events. There are lots of breaks.