

Buckeye Swim Team Volunteer Policy – Revised 7.20.26

It has become common for many of the meets the Buckeye Swim Team attends to request or require Volunteers. All of the Championship meets are hosted by Ohio Swimming and require EVERY team participating to provide Volunteers. As a larger team, Buckeye is asked to provide many volunteers at these Championship meets. Buckeye also hosts our Annual Buckeye Spring Challenge meet at Ohio State in May. We require everyone to volunteer for this event.

We need ALL families to help in some capacity. We historically had the same 8% of our families covering 100% of the required volunteering for the team. Therefore, the Buckeye Swim Team implemented a Team Policy in 2025. We have made adequate revisions after more experience, feedback and expectations for 2026-27.

Team Volunteer Policy

Practice groups will be assigned to specific sessions for every meet. It is the responsibility of the families in these practice groups to cover any volunteer duties required of Buckeye. The Buckeye Swim Team will be managing the volunteer assignments and crediting every family as they participate. The Team will be policing this policy.

- 1) Specific Practice Groups are assigned to every session of every meet (regardless of if Buckeye is asked to provide Volunteers)
- 2) Jobs will be set up in Commit at the beginning of each season allowing families to voluntarily sign up for their practice group assigned meets.
- 3) VolunTELL – all remaining open spots for meets will be assigned to families. Once you are assigned, you MUST fulfill your duty.
- 4) For Championship Meets, Family Assignments will be made for swimmers. Assignments are made by prioritizing those that need to fulfill their annual requirements.
- 5) Families are required to fill the position with any family member (13 years or older) or anyone they can assign to cover the position for them.
- 6) **NO SHOW to an assignment – your swimmer is removed from the remainder of the meet. This includes Championship meets.**
- 7) Any team member that has to cover for volunteer shift for another family assigned will be credited \$35 towards their swimmer's meet fees. The NO SHOW member account is charged the \$35.
- 8) Active Team Officials will never be assigned to volunteer for other duties.
- 9) Any families on Scholarship are required to fulfill 8 volunteer duties each calendar year.

Team Volunteer Coordinator

Chris Hadden, Head Coach

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We understand that some families without Competitive Swimming experience might be timid to help because they do not understand their duties. I have given a Job Description below for the common jobs required or requested from Buckeye.

Timer – this is the most common duty. You hold a stopwatch and/or a timer button. You stand over the lane as the swimmers are finishing and stop the stopwatch or button as the swimmer's hand touches

the wall. Almost every meet Buckeye attends has Touchpads that automatically retrieve the times for the swimmers. The purpose of the Timer is as a backup in case the Timing System has a malfunction. There is a clipboard and a Timer Sheet where each Timer writes down the time on the stopwatch. There are always chairs provided for Timers to sit in during the majority of the meet session. The Meet Referee always has a Timers Meeting prior to the session to explain your duties so there is no anxiety.

Marshal – another common duty. Marshals act as Pool Deck Monitors to keep the pool deck safe. You wear a Neon Yellow Vest to stand out. You are usually assigned to a specific post with specific instructions for safety for all. Marshals are asked to help out during warm ups and sometimes during the meet session.

Hospitality – regular season meets never ask for help with Hospitality. Championship meets may ask for a Buckeye volunteer to help with Hospitality. This is the area where food and drinks are provided for Coaches and Officials. As a volunteer you will help set up the food and keep everything stocked during the meet. The meet host provides the food and drinks.

Meet Volunteer Practice Group Assignments

All Saturday at the Races – Silver 1, 2

Bobcat Spooktacular – any participating families if Buckeye is asked

UA Golden Bear – 150 sessions SS/SR, 13-14 sessions AGS/AG1, 11-12 sessions AG2A & B, 10U sessions AG3A

GCSTO November Splash – AG4

Ohio Senior Invite – prelims – SR, finals – SS

NCAT Winter Invite (never been asked) – AGS/AG2A/AG3A

GCSTO Winter Cheer – AG1/AG2B/AG3B

Ohio Virtual Distance Challenge – assignments already for participants

GCSTO Winter Open – AG4

FAST Mudsock Classic (never been asked) – Friday – swimmers competing, Sat/Sun prelims – AGS/AG1/AG2A & B, Sat/Sun 10U – AG3B/AG4

UA Classic – Friday – swimmers competing, prelims – AG1/AG2A & B, finals – AGS, 10U – AG3A

GCSTO Last Ditch – AG1/AG2B/AG3B

Barbara Kay Mini Champs – AG4

Ohio Regional Championships (SC and LC) – AG1/AG2B/AG3B

Ohio Senior Championships (SC and LC) – A flight prelims AND finals – SS, B flight – SR

Ohio Junior Championships (SC and LC) – prelims and finals 11 – 14 – AGS/AG2A, 10U – AG3A

Buckeye Spring Challenge – all team members will be assigned 1 – 2 shifts

All other Long Course meets – any participants with the fewest volunteer shifts will be prioritized as needed