



SWIM AND DIVE TEAM INTRODUCTION

Welcome swimmers, divers and parents to Gilbert Parks and Recreation Summer Swim and Dive Team! We are thrilled you are joining us for another exciting aquatic season!

Please review this Parent Packet as it contains valuable information that will assist you in a successful summer season. Contact us at gilbertaquatics@gilbertaz.gov or (480) 503-6288 if you have questions.

Objectives of the Program

Gilbert's recreational Swim and Dive Teams enable swimmers to expand their skills, build self-confidence, and socialize in a friendly competitive atmosphere. With guidance from experienced coaches, this program focuses on improving technique, endurance, and speed. We hope that your child leaves the season feeling confident in their abilities.

Getting Started—Registration Details

To participate on the swim or dive team, participants must meet the following skills:

Swim Team: 8 & under swimmers must be able to swim one length of the pool (25 yards) without assistance (including minimal usage of touching the lane line), using the freestyle stroke. Ages 9 & up swimmers must be able to swim two lengths of the pool (50 yards) without assistance, using the freestyle stroke.

***Swim tests may be distributed at the discretion of the head or other members of Aquatics Management, including an initial swim test at the beginning of the swim season. Swimmers will be allowed only one retest if the swim test is failed. ***

Dive Team: Divers must be able to jump off the diving board swim to the side of the pool and exit without assistance. Divers must demonstrate the same basic swim skills required for the swim team requirement.

Participants must be at least 5 years of age and must register in their appropriate age group to allow for a well-balanced team environment. During the first week of practice, arrangements can be made to place your child in an appropriate swim lesson (space permitting) if your child does not appear ready for the team.

Program fee is \$110. Completed registration and fee paid in full is required to participate in the program. Participants on the waitlist may not participate until a space becomes available. If a space becomes available, you will be contacted by staff and will have 24 hours to complete registration.

Withdrawals, transfers and refunds are allowed up to ten (10) days prior to the program start date, less a \$5 administrative fee. Program withdrawals or transfers can be done online through your account on www.GilbertRecreation.com or by calling the Parks and Recreation main office at (480) 503-6200, Mondays-Thursdays, 7:00 AM-6:00 PM. If the program is canceled due to unforeseen circumstances, the full fee will be refunded to original form of payment. **No refunds available within ten (10) days of the program start date.**

Registration for Spring Swim and Dive Team opens online:

February 19, 2024 | 7:00 AM | Gilbert Foundation Members

February 20, 2024 | 7:00 AM | Gilbert Residents

February 20, 2024 | 10:00 AM | Non-Residents

Registration for Summer Swim and Dive Team opens online:

April 1, 2023 | 7:00 AM | Gilbert Foundation Members

April 2, 2023 | 7:00 AM | Gilbert Residents

April 2, 2023 | 10:00 AM | Non-Residents

What You Will Need

Team swimsuits are not required for swim meet or practice participation, but swimmers and divers should be able to move comfortably in an appropriate suit. Swim goggles and caps are recommended. Essentials such as sunscreen, towel, and water should be brought to practice daily.

Each swim/dive team is assigned a specific swimsuit color that may be purchased for the season. The team colors are:

- | | |
|---|------------|
| • Greenfield Gators | Purple |
| • Mesquite Marlins (morning team) | Light Blue |
| • Mesquite Tigersharks (afternoon team) | Blue |
| • Perry Piranhas (morning team) | Green |
| • Perry Mantarays (afternoon team) | Red |
| • Williams Field Barracudas | Yellow |

We recommend the following retailer:

[East Valley Sports](#)

Phone: (480) 832-8172

Address: 3530 E. Southern Ave., Mesa, AZ 85204

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday, 10am-6pm | Wednesday-Friday, 10am-5pm | Saturday, 10am-1pm

Sunday-Monday, Closed

UPDATED: Swim & Dive Team T-Shirts (OPTIONAL)

Team T-shirts will be available for purchase (as an optional add-on) online as part of registration.

PRACTICE AND MEET INFORMATION

Attendance is highly encouraged for practices and meets but is not mandatory to participate in the program. Roll call will be taken at each practice. If your child is not on the roster, please see the team's Head Coach. Waitlisted participants will not be allowed to participate until a spot is available on the team and registration is completed.

Practices

All teams start summer practice with unique schedules the week of May 13–May 16, 2024. These times are:

Age Groups	Day & Time
Ages 5-6	Mon-Thur: 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Ages 7-8	Mon-Thur: 5:00 PM - 5:40 PM
Ages 9-10	Mon-Thur: 5:40 PM – 6:30 PM
Ages 11-17	Mon-Thur: 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Normal practice times start on Tuesday, May 28 (the day after Memorial Day).

Practices are held Monday-Thursday with the exceptions below:

- Week of May 20–May 24 (last week of school for Gilbert Public Schools)
- Memorial Day, May 27
- Independence Day, July 4

Due to Thursday night swim meets, the Perry and Mesquite afternoon swim and dive teams will not have scheduled practice on May 16, May 30, June 6, 13, 20, and 27. Participants are encouraged to attend a morning swim or dive team practice at any pool on these days to make up practices.

Meets

Swim and dive meets are not scored but times will be tracked and posted to Gilbertaz.gov. Meets will be held on Thursday evenings starting at 5:30 pm. For all swim meets, swimmers 11 and up will be swimming 50-yard events for all strokes. Swimmers aged 9 and 10 will swim 50-yard events for freestyle, backstroke, and breaststroke, and 25-yards for butterfly. Swimmers 8 and under will swim 25-yard events for all strokes. Please note: the 11 and 12 age group will compete only with the 11-12's this year during meets, although they will practice with the 13-17-year-olds.

Communication

Communication may occur during the summer via email. If you do not receive these emails, call the Parks and Recreation main office at (480) 503-6200 (Monday-Thursday, 7:00 AM–6:00 PM) so the email on your account can be verified.

Each pool has a display board located in the lobby entrance that will be updated regularly to share information. These boards also include coaches' bios so make sure to stop by and check out the boards!

Morning Swim & Dive Team Practice Schedule

	5-6 ages	7-8 ages	9-10 ages	11-17 ages
Greenfield Gators (swim & dive teams)	8:50 AM–9:20 AM	7:55 AM–8:40 AM	7:00 AM–7:50 AM	6:00 AM–7:00 AM
Mesquite Marlins	8:50 AM–9:20 AM	7:55 AM–8:40 AM	7:00 AM–7:50 AM	6:00 AM–7:00 AM
Perry Piranhas	8:50 AM–9:20 AM	7:55 AM–8:40 AM	7:00 AM–7:50 AM	6:00 AM–7:00 AM
Williams Field Barracudas	8:50 AM–9:20 AM	7:55 AM–8:40 AM	7:00 AM–7:50 AM	6:00 AM–7:00 AM

Evening Swim & Dive Team Practice Schedule

	5-6 ages	7-8 ages	9-10 ages	11-17 ages
Perry Manta Rays (swim & dive teams)	4:30 PM–5:00 PM	5:00 PM–5:40 PM	5:40 PM–6:30 PM	6:30 PM–7:30 PM
Mesquite Tigersharks	5:30 PM–6:15 PM	6:15 PM–7:00 PM	7:00 PM–8:00 PM	

Practice Locations

Greenfield Gators

Greenfield Pool
35 S. Greenfield Rd, Gilbert AZ 85296
Corner of Greenfield/Elliot

Perry Piranhas & Mantarays

Perry Pool
1775 E. Queen Creek Rd, Gilbert AZ 85297
East of Val Vista/Queen Creek

Mesquite Marlins & Tigersharks

Mesquite Aquatic Center
100 W. Mesquite St, Gilbert AZ 85233
South of Gilbert/Elliot

Williams Field Barracudas

Williams Field Pool
1900 S. Higley Rd, Gilbert AZ 85295
South of Higley/Ray

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: When does the swim and dive team season start?

The 2024 summer season begins Monday, May 13, with a unique schedule. Normal practice times start May 28. Refer to the Parent Packet for more details.

Q: Can I sign my child up for both swim and dive teams?

Yes, you must register your athlete in BOTH programs, and your athletes must be registered in their appropriate age groups for both programs. If swim/dive practice falls during the same time, you must pick and choose which practice to have your athletes attend and communicate that with the coaching staff.

Q: Can my two children who are in different age groups swim together?

A participant can only be aged up if the participant is one month or less away from the age of the desired program. We do not allow age-downs.

Q: Can I get a refund if my child does not like the program or we cannot make it to many of the practices?

No. We do not grant refunds if your child elects not to participate or attend practice. To receive a full refund for this program, withdrawals must be made before 10 days of the program start date.

Q: Does my child have to attend all the practices?

No. Although we would love to have your child attend all the practices so they can continue skill development and building confidence, we understand that life happens.

Q: What if my child practices in the evening swim/dive teams at Mesquite or Perry Pool on a Thursday, how do they practice?

Participants are encouraged to attend a morning swim or dive team practice at any pool on these days to make up practices.

Q: If my child's practice is canceled due to weather, is practice made up?

No. Due to a busy program schedule, there is no time to have a make-up practice.

Q: Where are swim meets and dive meets held?

Swim meets are held on Thursday evenings at either Mesquite Aquatic Center or Perry Pool. Dive meets are held at Williams Field Pool. Refer to the Practice & Meet Calendar for details.

Q: Can my child wear any color suit? Do they have to buy a team suit?

Although we recommend matching team swimsuits and caps, this is not required for practice or swim meet participation. Refer to page 3 of the Parent Packet for team swimsuit information.

Q: How can we get a swim team t-shirt, and do we have to get one?

We do not require a team t-shirt but the kids love being part of the group and having a shirt.

T-shirts are \$20 each and must be purchased during registration. T-shirts will be an optional add-on as part of swim/dive registration.

Q: How do you keep track of what child belongs to what team?

Roll call will be taken at the start of each practice to ensure participants are where they should be.

Q: My child is an advanced swimmer. Can my child swim in a different age group?

A participant can only be aged up if the participant is one month or less away from the age of the desired program. We do not allow age-downs.

CONNECT WITH PARKS & RECREATION

(480) 503-6200

recreation@gilbertaz.gov

Monday–Thursday: 7:00 AM–6:00 PM

Friday: Closed