

## **Shady Hollow Stingrays Swim Team Charter & Bylaws**

The Shady Hollow Stingrays Swim Team was established in 1984 by board members of the Shady Hollow Homeowners Association. In April 2005 the team applied for and was granted a non-profit charter status. The Shady Hollow Stingrays is one of many teams affiliated with a central Texas based, Summer Swim League in Travis County, Texas. Other members of the league include South Austin Barracudas, Jewish Community Association of Austin, Granada Hills/Western Oaks, Travis Country, Circle C Ranch and others in the surrounding Austin area.

### **Our purpose:**

Since our children's welfare to be our first consideration, we have established an atmosphere of friendly competition and personal satisfaction for our swimmers. The design and management of our team will stress individual and team competition, timed measurements, and improvement in a sportsmanlike fashion that will enhance each child's satisfaction and team spirit. The rewards and intrinsic value of the swim team to our neighborhood, families, coaches, and individual swimmers shall require a commitment from all involved to ensure all events will be conducted with the highest level of virtues of healthy activities, clean competition, and good sportsmanship.

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## I. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Shady Hollow Stingrays (SH) Swim Team shall operate organized swimming competitions for the benefit of the swimmers involved. It shall maintain a summer program of competitive swimming which shall be designed to allow the participating children to learn how best to seek the personal rewards offered by participating in the sport; to challenge themselves, measure growth of their strengths and know the satisfaction of accomplishment without being subjected to destructive pressures; to learn how to think and act in a sportsmanlike fashion; to belong to a team; and to enjoy the experience of competitive swimming.

All competition shall be conducted on the highest level and every adult associated with the program should emphasize by word and action the virtues of clean competition and sportsmanship.

## II. THE TEAM

The team shall be called the Shady Hollow Stingrays (SH) Swim Team. The team is organized in Travis County, Texas.

The team is open to children up to the age of 18 who have the swimming skills necessary to swim one length of the pool in 1 minute or less without touching the bottom or sides of the pool. Time trials will be available until the last day of the week prior to the week preceding the first meet of the season. All children will be from Shady Hollow and their parents/guardian's Homeowners' Association dues shall be paid in full at the time of swim team registration. Due to the size of the training pool, the team will be limited to approximately 215 swimmers +/- 10. No child will be denied membership because of race, color, national origin, or ethnic origin.

## III. TEAM OFFICIALS

The team shall have a Board of Directors comprised of seven (7) voting members. Elected board members include a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Elected member terms shall last for two years. Appointed board members include a League Representative, Official Meet Director, and Development Director.

### Job Descriptions:

1. The President shall preside over all business meetings of the team and have all the powers normally delegated to such office.
2. The Vice-President shall conduct business for the team as requested by the President, chair the By-Laws Committee, maintain an up-to-date copy of the By-Laws, and conduct investigations of formal protests.

The Vice-President shall maintain computer software and an up-to-date copy of team records.

The Vice-President shall ensure that a yearly inventory is conducted for all of the team's assets. The inventory shall be completed at the close of the swim season, but no later than August of the current year.

3. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse the team's funds. The Treasurer shall care for and record all fees and assessments and provide a detailed accounting of all transactions. The Treasurer will present the team's books to an audit committee at the close of the swim season, but no later than August of the current year.
4. The Secretary shall take the minutes of any meetings and send a copy to each member of the board.
5. The Meet Director shall act as arbitrator for any questions or conflicts concerning eligibility and sportsmanship. The Meet Director shall maintain the team's strobe starting systems and will attend the League's Stroke and Turn Clinic each year.
6. The League Representative shall attend the League meetings, shall represent the Stingrays' interests at those meetings and report to the swim team board.
7. The Development Director shall communicate with business members and individuals of the surrounding community and encourage sponsorships and fund raising opportunities for the organization.

#### **IV. FEES AND ASSESSMENTS**

The primary source of income is from swimmer registration fees. We will also receive income from sponsor donations, spirit merchandise sales, and concessions. Our expenses include league fees, meet expenses, insurance, coaching staff salaries, pool equipment, swimmers' equipment, signs, and office equipment (computer, software, copies, and miscellaneous office supplies).

#### **V. CONDUCT OF SWIMMERS**

As ambassadors for the sport of swimming and the participating neighborhood, SH members are expected to project themselves as positive role models and with a conservative, well-groomed image during all practice sessions and meets.

**We will:**

- Demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- Have a clean and neat appearance with no torn, frayed, faded, soiled, or wrinkled garments.

**We will not:**

- Use angry or vulgar language, including swearing, name-calling or shouting.

- Have physical contact with another person in any angry or threatening way.
- Behave in a manner that in the opinion of the coaches or team representative is contrary to normally accepted behavior.

**VI. ELIGIBILITY**

- A. All swimmers must have a legal recorded time per event they wish to swim at Championships.
- B. No ineligible swimmer shall compete in any league meet.
- C. A swimmer must be age 18 years or younger on May 1st of the current swim season; OR a currently enrolled high school Senior on May 1st of the current swim season.
- D. A swimmer's age as of May 1st of the current season will fix the level at which he or she may compete during the season.
- E. All age groups are defined as being open to swimmers of that age group or any younger age.
- F. Swimmers shall score only against members of their own sex.
- G. A swimmer must possess the skills necessary to swim one length of the pool in 1 minute or less without touching the bottom or sides of the pool. Time trials will be available until the last day of the week prior to the week preceding the first meet of the season.
- H. Age Groups for Individual Events shall be:

<u>In-Season Neighborhood Meets</u>	<u>Championship Meet</u>
6 and under	6 and under
8 and under	7 and under
10 and under	8 and under
12 and under	9 and under
14 and under	10 and under
18 and under	11 and under
	12 and under
	14 and under
	16 and under
	18 and under

I. Age Groups for Relay Events shall be:

In-Season Neighborhood Meets

6 and under (Freestyle Only)

8 and under

10 and under

12 and under

14 and under

18 and under

Championship Meet)

6 and under (Freestyle Only)

8 and under

10 and under

12 and under

14 and under

18 and under

VII. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Typically there will be five swim meets between the end of May and the end of June. Normally the meets are held on Saturdays, starting about 8:00 AM.

Other members of the league include South Austin Barracudas, Jewish Community Association of Austin, Granada Hills/Western Oaks, Travis Country, Circle C Ranch and others in the surrounding Austin area.

VIII. DISSOLUTION

Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to a state or local government, for a public purpose.

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Terry McCarthy  
President, Shady Hollow Stingrays

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Valerie Heikes  
Vice-President, Shady Hollow Stingrays