

What is a swimming club and why join?

Did your child enjoy competing at their recent school swimming carnival and had some success they would like to try out in a bigger arena? Have they enjoyed Dragon racing and want to compete at more events but don't know how to go about it? Then read on....

Currently your child is training and learning to swim technically and maybe even racing casually as part of a training squad with Watkins swimming. Like any sport (footy, hockey, cricket) you must join a club affiliated with the relevant state /national association. For swimming it's SSPW. We are affiliated with Swimming W.A (SWA) and Swimming Australia (SAL) to compete at an amateur level.

In summary, SSPW membership gives you access to compete at organised meets and state and national levels, clubs meets and championships, SWA & SAL membership, social activities and a family of friends. Training and squads are managed through Watkins Swimming

Read on for further detail of what it means to be part of a swimming club. Detailed information is also on our website.

Website: https://sspw.au
Contact SSPW_Registrar@outlook.com. We are happy to call you to discuss any questions.

Who can join SSPW

If ready to compete, SouthSide Penrhos Wesley Swimming club (SSPW) is the club you will join if you are in a Watkins squad. While you can join SSPW when you are between 5-8 years old; more serious racing is only available once a swimmer is 9 years old.

You do not have to be a student of Wesley or Penrhos College. These schools are part of our club name because they are representative of our two training pools and facilities. All Watkins swimmers, regardless of school are welcome to join.

When do I join SSPW

Ideally by the time a swimmer is in competition squad they will have considered club membership. See the table to see what is available. This is a guide only. Every swimmer has their own path and you can discuss with your child's coach the best time for them to join SSPW to compete.

Membership for SSPW covers a 12month period from 1st October to 30th September although swimmers can join at any time during the year.

The current membership fees are located on our website. If you join after April, part way through the season, some fees are discounted.

This is where I train - with Watkins Swimming	This is where I race & compete	
Squad	Racing	Do I need to join the SSPW Club?
Junior	Dragon racing	Encouraged to be SSPW club member
Intermediate	Dragon racing	Encouraged to be SSPW club member
Competition	Dragon, SSPW Club & SWA racing	Encouraged to be SSPW club member
Junior Development	Dragon, SSPW Club & SWA racing	Expected to be SSPW member
Junior Transition	SSPW Club & SWA racing	Compulsory be SSPW club member
Age Performance	SSPW Club & SWA & Interstate & SAL	Compulsory be SSPW club member
Age Development	SSPW Club & SWA racing	Expected to be SSPW member
Open Performance	SSPW Club & SWA & Interstate & SAL	Compulsory be SSPW club member
Strength & Speed	SSPW Club & SWA racing	Optional to be SSPW member
	SSPW runs regular club meets at either Wesley or Penrhos pools. These are great to practice racing techniques in a fun, social and coach supported setting. SSPW also has club trophy events and championships through the year.	
	*SWA is Swimming Western Australia. There are many competitions run by SWA or other swimming clubs. All swim club members can participate in lots of peer competition. There is both a summer and winter season. Many competitions are held at HBF Stadium at Claremont. If you join SSPW club you can compete at meets at all different levels.	
	* SAL is Swimming Australia. Some of Age swimmers (Age means 13-17 y/old girls and 14-17 y/old boys) and Open swimmers (aged 18 and over) may qualify and swim at interstate, national and international events. The club has participated in South Australian or Victorian championships as practice for larger swim meets, time in different pools and with different competitors which is great preparation for racing at national events.	

When can I compete?

All year, including through winter. Most competitions are at HBF Stadium, Claremont in an indoor pool. The squads do train through winter at Wesley in an outdoor, well-heated pool. Some swimmers elect to train only in summer and this is ok. However, SSPW club membership is annual only, not seasonal. There is winter racing!



There are two major competition seasons:

Long course which means racing is done in a 50m length pool. The season runs from 1 October to early -mid April with a break before short course.

Short course racing is done in a 25 metre pool. It is still a 50m pool but a wall is put in to divide the pool into the "shorter course". It runs end May – 30 Sept of same year.

SSPW club members compete regularly through both summer and winter seasons in anticipation for end of season or state championships and for seniors, some for nationals level competitions. All competitions targeted by the SSPW have coaches supporting the swimmers through the meet.





Additionally we have club meets at our training pools. This is a fun and supported environment to practice racing and to mix with team members socially.





SSPW Social Side

Belonging to SSPW is not just about racing. There is a fun, social and family friendly culture. SSPW members get together for both swimming and non-swimming events throughout the year. Some include Xmas and celebration parties with fun activities, parades, fundraising events and sausage sizzles after club meets for example. We have an annual trophy series of events running mainly through summer culminating in a social trophy presentation event for swimmers and their families. Swimmers make life long friendships and senior swimmers have opportunities for leadership & role modelling/mentoring younger swimmers.







I'd like to follow up for more information

For more information, please look at our website at https://sspw.au there is a comprehensive membership booklet under the documents tab.

If you have any questions or would like to simply have a discussion more relevant to your child, please contact our membership registrar, Megan on email at SSPW_Registrar@outlook.com

I have enough information, I'd like to join up my child

Go to our website at https://sspw.au and click the site's JOIN NOW TAB

JOIN NOW tab