

# Montgomery Dive Club

*Excellence in Competitive Diving Since 1989*

## MDC National Team Parent Orientation *September 14, 2017*

### **Welcome and Introductions**

- MDC Booster Board
- MDC Staff
- Doug

### **MDC Philosophy:**

At MDC we place the long term development of our athletes first - ahead of competitive results, national titles and college scholarships. We view competitive success as a natural byproduct of the earnest pursuit of excellence. We strive to create a positive, encouraging and empowering atmosphere for our divers. We teach kids to see the connection between hard work and improved performance, to pursue excellence in a functional atmosphere, to value effort over talent, and to learn from failure at every opportunity.

### **General Expectations:**

In order for our organization to operate at its full potential, we depend on parental support. The relationship between coaches, athletes and parents lasts many years, and requires a healthy partnership based on respect and civility. Done correctly, this partnership can be a tremendous advantage to the athlete.

These expectations are provided to ensure that all parties conduct themselves in a respectful manner and that expectations are clear.

Remember:

- All parents want their children to be successful.
- All children want to please their parents (whether they act like it or not!).

The goal of the coach/parent partnership is to see the child learn and improve. Each party has responsibilities in order to create the best possible environment for the athletes.

Coaches' Responsibilities:

- Provide a safe, functional and encouraging environment for training
- Provide technical expertise
- Provide encouragement and criticism
- Provide goals and a training plan to reach those goals

Parents' Responsibilities:

- Provide an unconditional support system for your child
- Provide volunteer support to the team as needed when possible
- Provide insight on your child to the coaching staff
- Help us to improve through whatever positive contributions you can offer

### **Working Together:**

With a healthy partnership in place, coaches and parents can work together to solve many common issues. Together we can address issues of fear, motivation, and confidence on the pool deck. We can also provide outside support to parents for academic and behavioral issues off the pool deck.

With clearly defined boundaries we can form a powerful support system allowing our divers to grow and improve in a supportive environment.

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## Pitfalls

Over the years we have observed many functional and dysfunctional parent-athlete and parent-coach relationships. By avoiding some of these pitfalls you can help your child to have a positive experience in the sport of diving. Here are a few things to look out for:

- Don't complain in the stands. It makes you and the program look bad.
- Don't compare your child to other divers. Every child takes his or her own path.
- Don't put yourself between the coach and the diver. Let the coaches coach.
- Don't assume someone else will volunteer. Step up and do your share.
- Don't let yourself get behind on fees.

## Guidelines

- We cannot do this without you! We depend on volunteer support.
- If all parents do their part, no single family will be left with an unfair burden.
- Volunteer for home meets and participate in fundraising efforts to support the program.
- A minimum of 6 hours of volunteer work per family is expected for each home meet.
  
- Get your kid to the pool on time.
- Pay your fees on time.
- Do not contribute to the rumor mill.
- Stay informed - subscribe to the newsletter and check your email regularly for updates.
- **Please do not coach your child's diving**
  
- Do not communicate with your children during practice or competition. Doing this creates split attention on the part of the athlete and the coaches. It can also create a dangerous situation for the entire group, and generally results in confusion and frustration.
- Do not approach a coach during practice. If you have a question and would like to address a coach in person, wait until the conclusion of all practices, then send an e-mail or text.
- If you have a question or concern, we invite you to write us a respectfully worded e-mail articulating your concerns. If you have further issues, we will always be happy to set up a face to face meeting to address these issues.
- Aggressive and/or threatening behavior or language, either in person, e-mail, voice mail, text message, or any other form toward any member of the MDC coaching staff is grounds for dismissal from the program. Gracious professionalism is our standard.
- Because this is a family commitment, parents' behavior and conduct can have consequences for their children. Parents who are deemed detrimental to the program may be asked to leave the program, along with their children.

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## **Term of Membership, Billing and Fees**

By joining the MDC National Team, you are committing to the entirety of the season from September - August. We expect all members of the National Team to complete their commitment to the program from the beginning of the Fall session through the end of the Summer Training Camp. We expect all members of the National Team to train in the mornings for the Summer Camp. And we expect all members of the National Team to attend all required competitions.

**Each year members of the national team must pay an Annual Membership Fee of \$300.** This fee is used to pay at least a portion of the diving program's insurance, administrative and travel expenses. All new members of the National Team will undergo a 3 month probationary period during their first session, usually the Fall session. If at the end of this time the athlete, coach and parent agree that longer term commitment is appropriate, the family will be invoiced for the full Annual Membership Fee. Each family pays one Annual Membership Fee regardless of the number of divers in that family.

**Each quarter members of the national team must pay two separate fees for training - a "Club Fee" and a "County Fee."** 100% of the Club Fee goes to the diving program. A percentage of the County Fee is kept by the Montgomery County Recreation Department (MCRD) as pool rental, with the remainder forwarded to the diving program part way through the session.

## **Club Fee**

Club Fees are paid directly to "Built by Beavers" (the parent company of MDC)

- Paid via the MDC Online Invoicing system
- Access via <https://montgomerydiveclub.freshbooks.com/>
- Invoices are sent on August 22, November 22, February 22 and May 22 each year
- Setting up automatic payment is strongly preferred
- Full payment is expected in advance of session start
- A late fee is automatically applied 21 days after invoice is issued

## **County Fee**

County Fees are paid directly to Montgomery County Recreation Department.

- Paid via the Active Montgomery Online system
- Access via <http://activemontgomery.org/>
- Full payment is expected in advance of session start
- A late fee will be assessed by MDC if County Fee is not paid in advance of training

## **Annual Membership Fee**

Annual Membership Fees are paid directly to "Built by Beavers" (parent company of MDC)

- One fee per family only regardless of number of divers in that family
- New members pay annual fee after 3 month probationary period
- Paid via the MDC Online Invoicing system
- Access via <https://montgomerydiveclub.freshbooks.com/>
- Used to fund insurance, administration and equipment upkeep expenses
- \$300 Fee for August - September
- Prorated 50% after January 1
- Prorated 75% after June 1
- Invoice Sent on August 1
- Late Fee assessed after 21 days

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## **Fee Overview:**

USAD NT 5+ days/week = Total Quarterly Fee: \$1345 (*County \$625 + Club \$720*)

USAD NT 4 days/week = Total Quarterly Fee: \$1145 (*County \$525 + Club \$620*)

USAD NT 3 days/week = Total Quarterly Fee: \$900 (*County \$420 + Club \$480*)

USAD NDP4 = Total Quarterly Fee: \$865 (*County \$400 + Club \$465*)

USAD NDP3 = Total Quarterly Fee: \$750 (*County \$400 + Club \$350*)

USAD NDP2 = Total Quarterly Fee: \$640 (*County \$400 + Club \$240*)

AAU NT 3 days per week = \$675 (*County \$675 + Optional Club Fee*)

AAUNT 2 days per week = \$400 (*County \$190, Club Fee \$210*)

## **2017-18 Events:**

- Warrior Strong Invite: November 11-12 (AAU & USAD)
- East Meets West Event: November 25-26 (AAU & USAD)
- Alexandria Invite: December 2-3 (AAU and USAD)
- Winter Session begins - County Payment Due: December 5
- Winter Break: Dec 18 - January 1
- Winter Weekend Rutgers/Stamford (AAU and USAD)
- Spring Session begins - County Payment Due: March 5
- RWB Qualifier: March (AAU and USAD)
- John Smith Meet: April 7-9 (AAU & USAD)
- USAD Junior Regionals (USAD)
- RWB Nationals: May 26-28 (Qualifiers)
- Summer Session begins - County Payment Due: June 11
- USAD Junior and Senior Zones: Early July (USAD)
- AAU Nationals: Late July (USAD and AAU)
- USAD Junior and Senior Nationals: Mid August (USAD)

## **Events to Consider:**

- Domestic Training Trip
- International Training Trip
- East West Dive Show
- AAU Nationals
- MCDL Championships