



Wakefield Chapel Recreation Association – Spring 2019 Newsletter

Message from the President

Daniel Heltzel, President

Just when we thought spring was never coming – lookout it's time for an exciting 2019 season! Your WCRA Board, Wahoo Team Reps, and many volunteers are hard at work to make this upcoming year even better than the last! Our volunteers are putting in countless hours installing new signs, landscaping, developing and organizing team events, and lining up fun activities. Please thank them when you see them! And though it seemed like WCRA couldn't get any better after last season, our Board and volunteers stepped up huge this spring and totally out did themselves. Our members, working together help make WCRA the best club in the area for our members, families, and kids to enjoy.

We are nearly at Membership capacity and are looking to be on a waitlist by May, so if you have friends or neighbors who are on the fence about joining, please put them in contact with our Director of Membership right away! We have a membership limit and facility capacity limit for a reason, and want to ensure WCRA can be enjoyed by all members.

As many of you know, I enjoy playing tennis and this year we have brought in someone who started playing at WCRA years ago and is ranked as high as #503 in the world – Mitchell Frank. In the tennis section, please check out his bio along with lesson and clinic information for kids and adults. He will be our head pro and is looking to take our tennis program to new heights.

Most of our WCRA volunteers have full-time jobs, busy family schedules, and other volunteer commitments, but they make time to contribute to WCRA, to keep our club great for themselves, their families, their friends, and their neighbors. **Please consider where you can help out and volunteer with WCRA – we need YOU!**

Please contact me with any questions – I am confident we can find a good fit for your talents and interests. Email me directly at president@wakefieldchapelrec.org about volunteering, or any other issues or concerns.

I'm looking forward to an amazing season and can't wait to see you at the pool or on the courts.

Board Notes

OPENING WEEKEND: For a second year, the Board has decided to open WCRA for the season on the Friday of Memorial Day Weekend. The pool will be open from 4pm to 9pm on Friday, May 24th and we'll have our first Food Truck Friday of the summer – no pre-registration required. Just grab the family and your favorite Friday night beverage and head on over to kick off the season with your friends at WCRA!

The Hill: The WCRA Hill will open for reservation requests on April 25th. The Board has decided that no reservations will be permitted on holidays, when pool use is highest – Monday, 5/27, Thursday, 7/4, and Monday, 9/2.

As a reminder, only the HILL area above the bleachers can be reserved, and reservations are limited a maximum of 4 hours. Guest passes are required for any non-WCRA members. Additionally, Hill reservations are not necessarily exclusive – you may be asked to share the Hill with another group if there are multiple requests. Set-up and clean-up of the Hill are your responsibility – please enjoy yourself but remember to keep it nice for everyone.

Board Meetings: The WCRA Board meets on the third Thursday of each month from 7pm-9pm at the Sprague Center. Open discussion for membership is 7pm-7:15pm. All members are welcome to attend! If you wish to include an item on the agenda, please submit your request via email one week in advance of the meeting (send to secretary@wakefieldchapelrec.org).

Questions? Various governing and organizational documents (i.e. Bylaws, Rules & Regulations and other WCRA policies) and all Meeting Minutes can be found on the website, www.wakefieldchapelrec.org as well as contact information for your volunteer Board Members.

IMPORTANT Dates:

- Dues Paid – before midnight on May 1st
- Family Profile completed – by May 23rd
- Opening Day – May 24th
- Opening Weekend Picnic – May 26th

**WCRA Opening Day:
Friday, May 24th**

Please see the last page for pool closings/partial closings and other events and check the website regularly during the season for updated information.

PLEASE NOTE: WCRA Pool Closings for 2019 season

Saturday, 6/15	Wahoos Swim Time Trials, closed until 11:30am (½ hour after regular opening)
Monday, 7/1	Wahoos Swim B Meet, closed at 4pm
Monday, 7/15	Wahoos Swim B Meet, closed at 4pm
Monday, 7/22	Wahoos Swim B Meet, closed at 4pm
Saturday, 7/27	Wahoos Swim Banquet, closed at 3pm
Sunday, 7/28	Wahoos Dive Divisional Meet, pool opens at 2pm

(All dates are subject to change – please be sure to visit the Events Calendar at www.wakefieldchapelrec.org for the latest information and to see where/reciprocal pools that WCRA Members may use during closures.)

MEMBERSHIP

Katherine Schultz, Director for Membership

WCRA membership has continued to grow over the winter as Temporary Members from 2018 have converted to Bonded. At the present time WCRA has:

- 475 Bonded Members
- 25 military families (3-year limit)
- 3 Temporary Families
- 503 Total Member Families

For the second year in a row we opened the Membership dues system up in January. This year we also introduced an Early Bird discount by which members could save \$25. This was advertised in the Winter newsletter and online. 99 Bonded Families took advantage of this offer, which enabled us to collect funds early for the first payment to the pool management company. Thanks to everyone who has paid their dues already!

Do you have a new neighbor who needs a WCRA brochure? Let us know and we'll drop one by. Word-of-mouth continues to be our best source of recruitment for the pool!

All membership dues must be paid by midnight on May 1st. This year, the required late fee of \$100 dollars is built into the software and will be applied automatically to any payment received after the 5/1 deadline. If you need assistance with your log-in credentials, please email membership@wakefieldchapelrec.org.

Members paying by check MUST mail it, postmarked by May 1st, to: WCRA, PO BOX 1248, Springfield, VA 22151. (Members may NOT drop the check at a Board Member's house or at the pool itself. The Board cannot be responsible for personal checks that go missing and you put yourself at risk of identity theft by putting them in unsecured locations.)

Summer Check-in: please be sure to give the front desk staff your Membership ID number each time you enter the pool. The guards will verify your pool membership and the system will track facility usage, which helps the Board to plan for future seasons. Remember – you will need a guest pass for each person who is not listed on your membership in the system and for any planned event you may host at the pool.

If you have questions or need further information, please email membership@wakefieldchapelrec.org.

OPERATIONS

Brian Collins, VP for Operations

We have continued to make improvements throughout the grounds of WCRA. Many of you have noticed the new WCRA entrance sign, to help the entrance stand out more along the roadway. We are also working with landscapers to improve sections of the facility that need some TLC, as well as clearing out some of the invasive ivy that is taking over some of the trees. We began with the area immediately around the tennis deck and plan to focus on a different area each year to keep our facility and grounds looking their best. If you have landscaping design skills, please email me at: operations@wakefieldchapelrec.org.

We hope to continue to grow the mini-library and board game collection in the Pavilion, so if you have any books or games in good condition that you would like to donate, we would be glad to put them to use! We could also use a new bookshelf if you are looking to clear out some space in your home.

May 4th from 9:00am to 1:00pm will be a Community Clean-up Day. We need help with a multitude of easy projects like painting, cleaning, power washing, and general straightening up and tidying to get ready for another

fun summer season. WCRA belongs to each of us as members, so even if you can only come for a short time, please plan to stop by and help out in some way!

Want a free garden plot? We have several spots remaining in the WCRA community garden, simply come out, stake a flag with your name on it in a plot, and it is yours. The plots that are bordered with wood have already been claimed, and we encourage any new plot owners to do the same.

We always welcome Member feedback, so please e-mail operations@wakefieldchapelrec.org with your constructive comments and suggestions to help keep our club the best in Northern Virginia. Looking forward to another great summer season at WCRA! Go Wahoos!

SNACK BAR

Volunteer Needed, WCRA Snack Bar

The WCRA Snack Bar adds enjoyment to our members and their guests by offering a variety of snacks and beverages during pool operating hours, in a clean and friendly environment. Each year, the snack bar grows in popularity, and requires a group of hardworking teens to run and oversee the operation.

In order to provide a snack bar to our members, we MUST HAVE an adult supervisor overseeing the overall operation – we NEED A VOLUNTEER to step forward ASAP, or we may not be able to continue to offer this amenity to our WCRA community. Great student employees make this an easy position for the Adult Supervisor volunteer and additional volunteers may be used for organizing and setting up, as well as counting the cash/deposits bi-weekly and shopping for supplies.

EMPLOYMENT

We are thrilled to announce that Matthew Ferrari will be returning as Student Snack Bar Manager. We will also be hiring two student assistant managers and 10 student workers for the snack bar. The due date for applications is May 1, 2019 – NO EXCEPTIONS please! This is an excellent first job for our neighborhood teens, but please understand that a good work ethic is expected; the snack bar is managed like a business, and timeliness, responsibility, and quality customer service are required. Parents are asked to sign an expectation form, but otherwise this job is the student's responsibility. APPLICATIONS ARE ONLINE at WCRA – please note if your application is for assistant manager or student worker.

For questions or to volunteer for this critical WCRA role, please email president@wakefieldchapelrec.org

SWIM TEAM

Kris Anderson and Kyle Durbin, Swim Team Representatives

This summer, the Wakefield Chapel Wahoos is back in Division 1 of the [Northern Virginia Swim League](#) (NVSL) as well as swimming in Monday night developmental meets! Our goal for 2019 is to continue the Wahoo tradition of creating a fun, supportive environment where swimmers of *all* ages and abilities improve their swimming technique while embracing the enthusiastic spirit of the Great Wahoo!

Please visit www.wakefieldchapelswimteam.org for detailed information on practice and event dates and times. In addition to swim meets, we will continue to host spirited Wahoo social activities including a team picnic, pasta dinner, ice cream socials, pancake breakfasts, and pep rallies. **Daily practice starts on Tuesday, May 28th in the afternoon and moves to mornings on Friday, June 14th.**

This year, the Swim Team Representatives are Kris Anderson and Kyle Durbin and the Developmental Meet Team Representatives are Sarah Giddens and Erica Pinkston.

REGISTRATION & FEES

Swim team registration is online at www.wakefieldchapelswimteam.org. To participate on swim team, a child **must** be between the ages of four and 18 on June 1, 2019. (NVSL swimmer eligibility is determined by the swimmer's age on June 1st – a swimmer age 18 on June 1st is considered an 18-year-old swimmer the entire season. Per NVSL rules, a swimmer's age on June 1st is their age for the full 2019 summer swim season.)

Swim team registration fees remain the same – \$170 for one swimmer; \$320 for two swimmers; \$450 for three \$560 for four; \$650 for five or more swimmers. The Minnow Program (for all four- and five-year-olds) is an additional \$60 fee per swimmer, to support a higher coach to swimmer ratio.

During online registration, the system will ask for your swimmer's t-shirt size (included with registration) and if you would like to order personalized swim caps (an additional \$30 for two). Register by May 13th to order personalized caps and guarantee your preferred t-shirt size!

COACHES

We're happy to announce that Aubrey May is returning as the Wahoos Head Coach for 2019 and Micah McIntyre and Jason Gerber will be Assistant Coaches. We are also excited to have a large crew of capable lane coaches on deck and in the pool, to help each swimmer develop their inner Wahoo.

TEAM SUIT & CAPS

The Wahoos **new team swimsuit for 2019 is the Arena Shattered Glass in navy**. You can view and order the suit on www.wakefieldchapelswimteam.org see Team Suit Ordering. The suit is also available for try-ons and purchase at Suit Up (10631 Braddock Road). Purchase of the team suit is optional. (To get Wahoos team swim caps personalized with your swimmer's name, they must be ordered by May 13th through the online registration process.)

VOLUNTEERS

A summer swim team cannot operate without many volunteers, and summer swim is one of the only teams you can be a member of for up to 14 years! Parents must volunteer a minimum of 10 hours per swimmer, 20 hours for families with two or more swimmers. There are many ways to support the team and volunteer sign up (events/meets) will be on www.wakefieldchapelswimteam.org in late May, after registration is complete.

We also need volunteers (hours are assigned) for some of our most popular Wahoo events: **Team Picnic coordinator, Lollipop Meet coordinator, Medals/Awards coordinator**. Please let us know how you can help – it's a great way to support your swimmer's summer team experience and spend time with your neighbors!

More detailed information about the Wahoos Swim Team is available in the Wahoos handbook, which is available at www.wakefieldchapelswimteam.org, see Documents. If you have any questions about Wahoos Swim team or the volunteer opportunities, please email us at wakefieldchapelswimteam@gmail.com. **Go Wahoos!**

DIVE TEAM

David Grannis, WCRA Dive Team Representative

The Wahoos are looking forward to another fun-filled dive season this summer. We happily welcome back our returning divers and want to extend a warm welcome to anyone age 5-18 who wants to give diving a try. We are always looking for new recruits and put the emphasis on fun and development. All you need is an interest in the sport, a willingness to learn, and the ability to swim the length of the diving well. Additional information about the league is available at <https://dive.mynvsl.com>.

We are thrilled to introduce a new head coach to the Wahoos this year. Ciara Summersgill will be a rising junior at Virginia Tech and has spent the last several years coaching and diving at Sideburn Run pool. We are equally fortunate to have two of our home-grown WCRA divers, Bridget Cassata and Aidan Thomas, returning as assistant coaches for 2019.

DIVE TEAM PRACTICES & MEETS DO NOT CONFLICT WITH SWIM TEAM! If you have a swimmer that might be interested in adding a fun summer sport, please encourage them to TRY DIVE! They'll be at the pool anyway ...

SCHEDULE

Practices begin on the afternoon of Tuesday, May 28th. There are two one-hour practices (4pm-5pm and 5pm-6pm) each afternoon, Monday through Friday until June 14th when we shift to the mornings (10am-11am and 11am-12pm). Divers can attend the practice hour that works best for their schedule – they are not separated by age or experience.

Like swim, there are two types of dive meets: A and B. A meets, held on Tuesdays at 6pm, require divers to be able to do a front dive and a back dive, plus a number of additional dives depending on age (one for 10 and under, two for 11-12, three for 13-14, and four for 15-18). B meets are informal and open to divers at all levels.

May 28:	First day of practice!
June 14:	School's out – morning practices begin
June 18:	B-meet – Sideburn Run (12 and under only) TENTATIVE
June 25:	A-meet – WCRA @ Sleepy Hollow Rec, 6pm
July 2:	A-meet – Highland Swim @ WCRA, 6pm
July 9:	A-meet – Donaldson Run @ WCRA, 6pm
July 11:	B-meet – TBD
July 14:	Wally Martin Meet (3m and 1m synchro) @ Oak Marr Rec Center
July 16:	A-meet – WCRA @ Crosspointe, 6pm
July 18:	B-meet – TBD
July 21:	Crackerjack Meet @ Sideburn Run [Beginner Diver's meet - TENTATIVE]
July 23:	A-meet – Camelot @ WCRA, 6pm
July 28:	Dive Divisionals meet @ WCRA, 9am
Aug 4:	Dive All-Stars meet @ Springfield, 9am

OTHER INFO

Dues are \$170 for one diver, \$320 for two, \$450 for three, and \$560 for four or more divers from the same family. Register online at www.wakefieldchapelswimteam.org, see DIVE tab, or you can email the Dive Team Rep (wakefieldchapeldive@gmail.com) to request a paper form.

While most of our team are WCRA members, we will continue to welcome divers from neighboring pools that don't have a dive team. WCRA Swim team members are welcome (no conflicts with swim events!), as are non-swim team members. Divers often wear the Wahoos Swim team suits for competition, but they're not required.

Volunteers are crucial to the team's success. We need parents to help referee and judge meets, work at the scoring and announcers table, sell food at meets, etc. Liz Smith and Stephanie McNamara have agreed to serve as informal team reps and to help (thank you!), but there are plenty of jobs for everyone.

Tell a friend, bring a friend, and come out and try DIVE this summer!

Any questions? Please email wakefieldchapeldive@gmail.com or contact me directly dagrannis@gmail.com; 202-365-6651 (cell)

TENNIS PROGRAM

Volunteer Needed, WCRA Tennis Representative

Drum roll please! We are very excited to announce that our very own Mitchell Frank, who grew up playing tennis at WCRA, will be coaching tennis here for the 2019 season. Mitchell brings with him a wealth of experience: ranked #503 in the world ATP rankings, ranked top five in the world as a Junior, competed in all the Junior Grand Slams, won six ITA and NCAA team National Championships as a player at UVA, and competed in the 2011 and 2014 Men's US Open. For the past year, he has been coaching tennis at esteemed Boar's Head Resort in Charlottesville, where he coached people of all ages and skill levels.

Mitchell will be offering tennis clinics **during spring break** and after school during the spring (and again in the fall), in addition to coaching our summer season tennis program. **Full details for class dates and times are posted on the Tennis tab at www.wakefieldchapelrec.org.** You can click through there to Mitchell's secure website for clinic / lesson registration and payment. You'll receive registration confirmation by email prior to the start of the first class. If you have a group of members that would prefer another time, let us know and we will try to accommodate. We do need at least four registered players to create a clinic/class.

**Note that the summer Junior tennis program will now be 5 days a week with no match play.*

We try to organize the schedules by age groups that allow kids to participate in WCRA Tennis, as well as Wahoos Swim and/or Dive if they'd like. Most importantly, all levels of experience are welcome! The WCRA Tennis program is fun, very social and an easy way to get exercise. So, if you already enjoy tennis or are interested in trying it out for the first time, come out and play for Wakefield Chapel Tennis this summer!

We are also looking for a few helpers to organize Thursday night Tennis Socials, the annual end of season Tennis Banquet and a fun Wimbledon Breakfast event. These are all fun ways to contribute to the tennis program, without a large time commitment. Please consider how you can help make this a fun season for our Wahoo Tennis Team!

For more information or to volunteer to help with any of our tennis programs, contact Danny Heltzel at president@wakefieldchapelrec.org.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Season Crawford, Director for Social Activities

Pool fun is just around the corner!

Pool season will be here before we know it and we're looking forward to pool-side relaxation, warm, sunny days, crystal-blue water, AND POOL PARTIES! We are busy pulling together WCRA's final 2019 social calendar and looking for hosts for Family Fun Night/Charity Benefit, Ladies Night, Teen Party, Adult Party, 55+ Adult Party, and Closing Weekend Picnic. Partner with other members or host solo! We will help you with logistics. If you are interested in helping our pool community by hosting a fun-filled social gathering, please email me at social@wakefieldchapelrec.org and we will find a date that fits your schedule.

It takes a village

Thank you so much to these members who have already offered to host this summer: Kris Anderson, Matt & Melissa Aune, Jenny Champagne, Brian Collins, Michelle & Rebecca Fay, Cary Fichtner-Vu, Danny Heltzel, Kim Marshall, Sommer Mostafavi, Brad Otto, and Katherine Schultz. And you help make our pool one of the best in the area too – join the fun by emailing social@wakefieldchapelrec.org with your event of interest and availability!

Mark your calendars – here are events & activities planned so far:

- 5/26 Opening Weekend Picnic (5pm – 8pm) – hosted by your WCRA Board
- 5/31 Trivia Night (7pm) – hosted by Patrick Smith (& the last Friday of every month! 6/28, 7/26, 8/30)
- 6/8 Craft Beer Tasting (7pm – 10pm) – hosted by Matt & Melissa Aune
- 6/14 Tween party (3:30pm – 5:30pm) – hosted by Jenny Champagne & Sommer Mostafavi
- 7/14 Kids party (12pm – 3pm) – hosted by Michael & Rebecca Fay
- 7/26 Pirate & Mermaid Night (6pm – 8:30pm) – hosted by Katherine Schultz
- 8/25 Crab Feast (3pm – 7pm) – hosted by Cary Fichtner-Vu
- 9/1 Closing Weekend Picnic (5pm – 8pm)
- 9/8 Dog Swim (8pm – 9pm)
- 9/13 Men’s Night (7pm – 11pm) – hosted by Brad Otto

The following dates are tentative and could change based on hosts’ availability & schedules:

- 6/15 Family Fun Night/Charity Benefit (4pm – 8:30pm)
- 6/29 Ladies Night (7pm – 11pm)
- 7/7 Teen Party (6pm – 9pm)
- 7/13 Adult Party (7pm – 11pm)
- 8/24 55+ Adult party (7pm – 10pm)

And there’s more!

- Adult AM Swim: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 5/28 through 8/29, 5am – 7am
- Food Truck Fridays: Fridays, 5/24 through 8/30, 5pm – 8pm (except 6/21)
- Grill on the Hill: Sundays, 6/2 through 8/25, 5pm – 8pm
- Movie Night: August Fridays, 8/2 through 8/30, 7pm – 9pm
- Raft Night: August Fridays, 8/2 through 8/30, 6pm – 9pm
- Synergy Bootcamp: Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays, 4/1 through 5/3, 6am – 7am (except 4/15-19)
- Yoga Class: Tuesdays & Fridays, 4/23 through 8/2, 6:15am – 7:15am
- Water Aerobics: Looking for an instructor. Do you know someone?

Dates are subject to change: Please be sure to visit www.wakefieldchapelrec.org or follow us on Facebook (wakefield.chapel.rec.assoc) for the latest information. **Hope to see you at WCRA!**

COMMUNITY NOTE

Wakefield Chapel Youth Triathlon: on hiatus for 2019

After 4 years of helping neighborhood kids “tri” something new, Melissa & I can’t take the lead organizing this year’s Wakefield Chapel Youth triathlon. While we are extremely grateful for everyone that has helped us put on this event in the past, we will have a busy summer this year with Tyler heading off to college.

If you are interested in leading the triathlon this year, **we are happy to pass along our ‘playbook.’** I can tell you it is a very rewarding experience! Please feel free to contact me at dave.french@gmail.com. Planning needs to get started soon (e.g., reserve the pool and contact sponsors).

If you’re just looking to participate, other area pools including Canterbury Woods and Lincolnia Park host youth triathlons too.

Many thanks!
Dave French