

# COTTONTAIL COBIA TEAM HANDBOOK Revisions May 2015

The Cobia Team Handbook dated 2014 is revised as follows to reflect changes in League Rules and to address issues which have arisen in regard to the availability of volunteers at some meets.

**Section A.6 – Parent Participation** (p. 4) of the 2014 handbook is replaced by the following:

## ***6. Family Participation***

Volunteers are critical to the success of the swim team. Unlike other youth sports (where generally a handful of people can run the team), you simply can't run a swim program without help from all families, and lots of it!

Every Cobia family (except those with only Mini/Junior Cobia swimmers) is expected to volunteer throughout the season as follows:

1. **Each family must volunteer for a minimum of 1.5 hours for every dual meet (“A” meet) and every developmental meet (“B” meet) in which one (or more) of their swimmer(s) participates.**

**In addition to requirement 1 above, every family must provide volunteers as follows:**

2. All Cobia families must volunteer during Time Trials if their swimmers are participating. Failure to meet this requirement will result in the forfeiture of the volunteer fee.
3. If a swimmer is selected to participate in any of the special NVSL-sanctioned meets during the season (Relay Carnival; All-Star Relay Carnival; Invitational Relay Carnival, Individual Divisionals; Individual All-Stars), their family must provide one adult volunteer for each of the meets in which the swimmer participates. Volunteers will be assigned to duties at these meets by the Team Representative according to the requirements of the League. It is possible that not all available Cobia volunteers will be used at these meets. A swimmer whose family is unable or unwilling to provide a volunteer may be replaced by another swimmer, provided such replacement is in accordance with League rules. Exceptions may be made by the Team Representative in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. family emergency, illness or injury).
4. If a swimmer chooses to participate in a non-NVSL-sanctioned special meet during the season (e.g. Rally in the Alley; IM Carnival), their family must provide one volunteer for each such meet, with the available volunteers to be assigned to duties by the Team Representative. A swimmer whose family is unable or unwilling to provide a volunteer will not be entered into these meets. It is possible that not all available Cobia volunteers will be used at these meets. Exceptions may be made by the Team Representative in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. family emergency, illness or injury).
5. If Cottontail is hosting any special NVSL-sanctioned meet (e.g. Individual Divisionals, Relay Carnival), **all Cobia families must provide a minimum of one volunteer for one shift at**

**that meet.** Failure to meet this requirement will result in the forfeiture of the volunteer fee. Families with only Mini/Junior Cobias are exempt from this requirement. Waivers of this requirement may be granted at the discretion of the Team Rep in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. family emergency, illness or injury).

A refundable volunteer fee is collected each season and will be returned to those families who:

1. Complete their minimum volunteer hours requirements as provided in items 1 through 5 above, **and**
2. Document these hours by completing and returning (to the Team Rep folder in the swim team box) a volunteer log sheet at the end of the season.

There are many ways to complete the volunteer hours requirement. First, all Cobia families must help out at meets. It takes more than 40 individuals to officiate, time, label ribbons and score a typical swim meet! Additionally, there are numerous other “behind the scenes” jobs including both meet and non-meet activities that may match your interests or schedule. Examples include pool set up and take down, running the concession stand, and volunteering at social activities.

**Section C.4.b – “B” Meet Swimmer Eligibility Guidelines** (p. 10) is replaced by the following:

The Springfield-Burke Developmental League has established guidelines to determine swimmers’ eligibility to participate in developmental meets. The purpose of these guidelines is to keep the focus of these meets on those swimmers who do not usually take part in the dual “A” meets.

1. Swimmers shall not swim any event swum at the preceding NVSL-sanctioned dual meet.
2. Swimmers shall swim no more than two events.
3. Swimmers shall not be entered in events in which the swimmer has no likelihood of swimming legally.
5. Swimmers shall swim in their age groups at Developmental Meets.