



DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 26th June – Safety Week – Footy (sports club) colours or pyjamas in the water

12noon, Friday 30th June – *deadline* to provide us with Active Kids Vouchers and First Lap Vouchers. None will be accepted after this as we need time to process them for redemption.

Saturday 1st July – Last day of Term 2

Monday 17th July - Term 3 Starts

Saturday 29th July - Due Date for payment of fees in full to receive EBD \$10/child; arrange payment plan; pay holding fees

Saturday 23rd September – Last day of Term 3

SAFETY WEEK

This week!!!! Please wear your favourite footy team or sports club colours in the pool! If not, then pyjamas are great too. We ask that no goggles be worn so you know your eyes will be okay in the water without them. All children will partake in safety activities.



ALL CURRENT ENROLMENTS FROM TERM 2 ARE AUTOMATICALLY ROLLED OVER TO TERM 3...so your child/ren will continue to swim in their current lesson unless you have advised us otherwise.

HOLDING FEE

If you are considering a break during a particular term but would like to resume lessons in a later term then we offer a holding fee. This means your child shall remain in their current class, we note their absence for the term, then they resume swimming in the same class in the following term. The cost is \$90 per child for the term and is in lieu of a full-paying student taking your child's position. This cost does not come off or credit towards the following term. Please advise reception if you wish to take up this option at any time so we can follow up administratively.

Please note, if you opt to take your child out of lessons altogether then we cannot guarantee you will get back in. We operate at capacity and have a waiting list.

CHANGING CLASSES

Do you need to change class times/days? We ask that you advise us of this as soon as is practicable. It assists us to arrange classes and instructors for the term. We understand that family commitments change throughout the year and are happy to support these if we can. We cannot always guarantee the change will occur immediately however we are able to advise when availability arises.

SQUAD SWIMMERS INTERESTED IN ADVANCING TO A SWIMMING CLUB

Is your child currently swimming in a 45-minute Sharks squad? Are they keen to join an outdoor swimming club in the summer? Please let us know, so we may work effectively with your child to meet their goal. There is no obligation as to which club your child joins, and there is no obligation for your child to continue to swim beyond GSA. We just want you to be aware that a pathway exists should your child wish to advance their swimming. Albury Swim Club will hold a trial session at GSA in early September. Please advise reception if your child would like to attend. Further details to be issued.

SCHOOL STARTERS IN 2024

Is your child starting primary school next year? Do they currently swim in a morning class? If so, then please advise reception. We shall be compiling a list so we can then determine an afternoon lesson for them in Term 1 2024. This is done before the year's end.

Going on holidays?? Injured?? Illness??

Please let us know in advance if you will be going away during the term, this helps us to ensure that you are getting enough make-up lessons for your child/ren and ensures that we can provide the appropriate teaching for your child if they have been away for some time.

If a child is injured, please do not hesitate to let us know. We are more than happy to discuss how we can best manage the situation so when your child heals, they can return to swimming. We find that doctors generally allow children to swim sooner with most injuries because of the hydrotherapy it can provide.

We really love that families are staying home when a child or parent is unwell! Your consideration for the community is most appreciated. It is also the best place to take some quiet time to recover comfortably. Please let us know you will not be coming in so we can arrange a make-up lesson for you. (See policy below.)

Staff Roles

There have been a few changes throughout this term, and we apologise for the disruption to the continuity of instructor in some classes. It is not ideal, nor what we would like to have.

We extend a big welcome to Bell and Seth, who have taken on several shifts and settled in superbly to their roles. We also welcome Jess, Tanisha, Emily, Harriet and Sofia who you shall see more of as the terms roll on. We know that you will give them the opportunity to learn the GSA craft and your children will be rewarded with amazing swim instructors.

We very sadly farewell Harrison from our team. We are so grateful for the five years Harrison had with us and the passion, care and kindness he contributed to GSA and your children's lessons. We wish Harrison the absolute best for his future.

Make-Up Lesson policy

Notice must be given to the reception staff by phone, email or in person, or a message left on the answering machine at least two (2) hours prior to the lesson. If notice is received, then a Make-Up lesson shall be granted.

- # A Make-Up lesson shall only be given when notice of absence is given 2 hours prior to lesson.
- # No Make-Up lesson shall be granted if notice of absence is given during or after the missed lesson.
- # All Make-Up lessons must be taken within the term. They are not transferable to the following term.
- # We cannot guarantee the same instructor and the day and time shall be determined by availability.
- # If you miss your Make-Up lesson then the lesson is forfeited.
- # Make-Up lessons cannot be used as credits for the next term.
- # Refunds are not given if you are unable to arrange a Make-Up lesson.

Operating at Capacity!

We have been operating at capacity for some years now. This is for a few different reasons:

- Your loyal patronage...thank you!
- We roll enrolments over at the end of each term.
- We have the best instructors! (Educated, experienced and passionate.)
- Limited swim schools and lessons in our local area.
- Morning pre-schoolers moving to afternoon lessons in the new school year as kindies.
- We are firmly established with a proven program for advancing skills.
- NSW Government funded vouchers (although we were at capacity before then).

Operating at capacity does throw up some challenges at times such as:

- Families having to attend different days for different children.
- Families not always getting ideal times/days for their schedules.
- Difficulties in assigning make up lessons and meeting your specific requests.
- Increased instructors and receptionists' workloads.

It is often interesting therefore that swimming is sometimes deemed not as important as other sports/activities and it is juggled around them. Most children at GSA, who started as toddlers, are very competent swimmers by the age of seven or so. How cool that kids can acquire a potentially life-saving skill around that age!! Other sports/activities don't require any great skill or know-how until early teens or beyond. Just food for thought next time you are forgoing your child's swimming lesson in the great juggling act.

Waiting List

Our waiting list is CLOSED, due to families being on here for three years. Rather than giving families false hope we strongly encourage you to engage with another local swim school and campaign local council for an indoor aquatic centre with the provision of lessons.

Babies 5 – 12 months are the only level we can generally accommodate straight away with toddlers maybe waiting a couple of terms.

We will continue to work through our waiting list in date order offering positions when they become available. We understand that this is frustrating for many families on the waiting list. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Just the usual inhouse tips...

Please do **not** park on our neighbours' driveways at any time or day. They have the right to run their businesses without disruption from our activities and we want to keep your families safe too. Please use our carpark at the back of the premises.

Please drive around the premises at a safe speed, it is sign posted as 5km an hour. YOUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY IS OUR PRIORITY AND EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Please remember to **mark your child/ren's names off at reception** before going swimming. This is to assist in the case of an emergency and to operate within 'child-friendly' protocols. It also assists with make-up lessons.

Feedback is welcome

Do you have any compliments for our staff? Do you think we could improve on something? Please let us know by sending an email or talking to our staff. We are more than happy to take on any feedback and try our best to make sure we are giving you and your child a wonderful experience both in the pool and on our premises. We also truly appreciate the kind words that people have sent us about their child/ren's teachers, we make sure to pass the compliments on.

If you are wanting to speak to any instructors, please speak to reception and we can organise the teachers to give you a call for feedback or to speak about your child's progress. Unfortunately, the instructors' timetable does not give them enough time to speak between lessons.

Contact: 60 400 400; janine@gouldswimacademy.com.au

Winter Swimming

Some tips to assist with keeping warm during the winter months. Please note, the pool water is still a cosy 32 degrees, and the heaters are on in the changerooms.

- Use a silicone or neoprene cap in the water to slow the loss of body heat.
- Keep moving in the water. If you need to stand still for a short time at least do some squats to keep moving.
- Bring two towels—one to wrap your child in whilst moving from pool deck to change room; and one to dry off your child.
- Warm clothing—particularly undergarments like singlets and socks. Such clothing helps to lock the warm air in close to the body. Young children tend to lose most of their heat through their head, so a beanie is great for after swimming.
- We provide a hairdryer in the female change room for your use. Please feel free to dry your child's hair. You are also welcome to bring your own to use.
- Please keep the door closed to the change rooms to retain the warm air.
- When using the showers please quickly rinse off and then move to the change rooms to get dried and dressed. The change room is warmer, and we don't want people waiting too long for a shower. Please consider the wellbeing of everyone.

CAR PARKING

Thank you to the families who use our car park located at the back of our building. Please remember to drive extremely slowly in and out of the drive as children obviously frequent the area. When the car park is full, we ask that you park on the road. Yes, you may have to walk 30, 40 maybe 50 metres! Be sure to get your child/ren out of the car on the kerb side and use this opportunity to teach road safety. Just imagine you are walking through to Kmart or Big W, the same distance.

SWIM CAPS

Children 3 years and older are required to wear a swim cap in the pool please. This has always been our policy. It supports the filtration system to work most efficiently and effectively in maintaining a high quality of water. The swim cap policy applies to all children 3 years and older regardless of gender or hair length. If your child is not used to wearing a swim cap, then have a play with the cap in the bath at home. Your cooperation is appreciated and assists us to maintain our high standards of cleanliness and water quality for your child's benefit. We sell the lycra caps for \$10 and the GSA silicone caps for \$15 each, however we don't mind where you purchase a cap from.

THANK YOU TO OUR SWIMMING FAMILIES, STAFF AND CONTRACTORS FOR A TREMENDOUS TERM! XOXO