



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

HUNTERDON COUNTY YMCA

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the Hunterdon County YMCA's Swimming Lesson Program. The YMCA classes offered at our facilities are designed to give your child a positive learning experience while teaching lifelong swimming and water safety skills in a fun, supportive and safe environment. Listed below are answers to common parent questions as well as basic guidelines to insure your child has a successful experience in our program.

Lesson Tips and Facility Information

1. **Arrive on time** – It is important for students to be on deck and ready to go five minutes before their class starts. Your instructor will let students and parents know where to meet each day. Your child should be neither hungry nor extremely full before swim lessons.
2. **Restroom** – Please make sure your child has used the restroom prior to class. If your child is unable to go to the restroom during their class without assistance, we ask that parents stay on deck during their class time to assist with toileting their child if the need arises.
3. **Swim Diapers** - All children who are not fully potty-trained must wear a swim diaper. Your child will not be allowed to swim in a regular diaper.
4. **First Day of Class** – The first day of class you and your child will be formally introduced to their instructor by the Aquatic Director or Deck Supervisor who will call your child's name and check their enrollment on a roster. Please wait on the bleachers before the classes start. Once your child is in the pool, the Aquatic Director or Deck Supervisor will be available to answer any unanswered questions you may have.
5. **Children with Special Needs** – it is important that you speak to the Aquatic Director or Deck Supervisor on the first day of class if your child has any special needs. (ie., hearing, sight or speech disability, ADHD, etc.) The instructor can then better tailor their teaching style to your child.
6. **First Day Evaluation** - During the first class each student will be evaluated to make sure they are properly placed. This means they will be asked to perform skills that are prerequisite for their class level. If your child is too advanced or not skilled enough for their class level, they will be assigned to another class level. The Director or Supervisor will approach you to discuss the reassignment so you understand why. If you believe your child has been improperly placed, please speak to the Aquatic Director/Supervisor on deck as soon as possible. Please be patient with this process as we are assessing all children the first day.

Deer Path Branch
144 West Woodschurch Road
Flemington, NJ 08822
P 908-782-1030
F 908-782-0871

Round Valley Branch
1410 Route 22 West
Annandale, NJ 08801
P 908-236-0055
F 908-236-4187

Administrative Office
1410 Route 22 West
Annandale, NJ 08801
P 908-236-7879
F 908-236-7073

7. **Parent Observation** –Parents are asked to sit away from the lesson on the bleachers so as not to distract their child and the other children in the class. If your child needs special reassurance, please speak to the Aquatic Director or Deck Supervisor and they will make an exception.
8. **Make-ups** – Make-up classes will be scheduled if the YMCA cancels a class. If your child misses a lesson due to sickness or some unforeseen event, you may submit a request for a make-up. To request a make-up class you must visit the lesson page at www.hcymca.org and *complete the make-up request form*. Make-ups are a courtesy and not guaranteed. We will do our best to accommodate your request, however we must take into consideration instructor to swimmer ratios and the safety and quality of each class. *In this case, no make-up, credit or refund will be issued. We have a maximum of 2 make-ups per session.*
9. **Credit Requests** – If a serious illness occurs, a doctor’s note will enable the participant to receive a credit toward any class in the future (good for one year). Please e-mail the Aquatic Director with requests for credits to initiate the process.
10. **Report Cards and Last Day of Class** – At the end of your swim lesson session your child will receive a formal written evaluation (Report Card) as well as a Certificate of Participation or Advancement. The report card will outline what skills each child has worked on during their lessons and what they have accomplished as well as what they need to practice. In addition, we ask that you complete a program evaluation which provides us with important feedback on the quality of our program.
11. **Your Child’s Progress** - No two children develop at the same rate. Each child learns at a different pace depending on factors such as physical growth, individual development, comfort, practice and previous experience. It is important to note that **swimming is not a Pass/Fail program**. It is not unusual for a child to be in the same level for more than one session. Please respect your child’s qualities and do not compare them to their siblings or other children.

The Aquatic Staff is committed to insuring the success of your child’s swim instruction experience. If you have any questions, comments or concerns do not hesitate to contact me at (908) 483-4924 or fmannino@hcymca.org

Sincerely,

Flora Mannino
Aquatic Director