

Newsplash: A Weekly Update

Issue 6 · May 24, 2026

The countdown is on - only **22** practices left this season! Make each practice count!



Please be sure to check the dry erase board located near the girls restroom for up-to-date reminders! Also, in that area, you will find our [Sea Otters of the Week!](#)

WEEK-AT-A-GLANCE

- **Monday, May 25** - No practice, all age groups (Memorial Day)
- **Tuesday, May 26**
 - [Declare your swimmer\(s\) by 5pm](#)
 - Deadline to [order taco plates for the team dinner](#)
- **Wed, May 27** - [Nations Burgers, restaurant night \(1 of 2\)](#)
- **Thu, May 28**
 - [Nations Burgers, restaurant night \(2 of 2\)](#)
 - [Tie dye shirt preorders close](#)
- **Friday, May 29** - [Annual Team Dinner!](#) No practice, all age groups.
- **Saturday, May 30** - [Dual meet @ Pinehurst](#)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS NEWSPLASH

- [Pictures are available for pick up on Tuesday.](#)
- CHAMPS
 - [Deadline to declare is June 6.](#)
 - [Info on Programs, Good Luck Ads, Sponsorships & Team pages - and deadlines](#)
- Meet timeline for ST & Pinehurst will be sent out later this week

★ **2026 TEAM CAPTAINS:** We're pleased to announce our Team Captains for the season: *Maddie Madronio, Sierra Geringer and Colton Taylor*. These swimmers lead by example through their hard work, positive attitudes, team spirit and encouragement of others. We're proud to have them helping lead the Sea Otters this season - congratulations, Captains! 💙💛

DUAL MEET #2 vs. SHADOW BROOK

Sea Otters and Sharks came together at Rancho on Saturday for our first home dual meet of the season and it was fun and spirited! Final score: Sharks 328, Sea Otters 151. Thank you to all of our Sea Otter families, volunteers, and swimmers for being such wonderful hosts and for cheering on teammates with so much energy and team spirit throughout the meet. 💙💛

PICTURES ARE IN - Available on Tuesday, May 26

Pick up your pictures at practice on Tuesday - available next to the ribbons, near the office.

RIBBONS - Available on Tuesday, May 26

Dual Meet ribbons will be available on Tuesday this week in the file boxes near the office. There is one folder for each family. **Please recycle unwanted ribbons in the designated container.** The names on the ribbon stickers will be the names on the trophies at the end of the season, so please notify us no later than June 1 if name corrections need to be made. Volunteers process over 1200 ribbons at each meet and mistakes sometimes happen.

Please email requests for corrections/missing ribbons to our Awards volunteer, [Sun Lee](#).

CHAMPS

Swimmer Eligibility

We need and want all of our athletes to swim at CHAMPS on June 27. To be eligible for CHAMPS swimmers must meet the following criteria:

- Must swim at a minimum of three Dual Meets (Time Trials does not count).
- Must have a legal time for any stroke they plan to swim at CHAMPS.

Declare for CHAMPS by Saturday, June 6

The deadline to declare your swimmer for CHAMPS is **Saturday, June 6**. Families can now declare for all remaining Dual Meets and CHAMPS in SwimTopia.

Need help? Use the [swim meet sign-up instructions](#) linked here.

Programs, Good Luck Ads, Sponsorships & Team pages

Information is now available for the [2026 CHAMPS Program](#), including:


- Program purchases
- "Good Luck" swimmer ads
- Business sponsorship ads
- Team pages, senior pages, and photo submissions

Important Deadline: Most submissions, ads, and payments are due by **Monday, June 15**. Program orders are due by **Wednesday, June 17**.

Please review the link carefully for pricing, submission requirements, photo specifications, and ordering information.






<https://www.creeksidecudas.com/page/news/572599/2026-champs-program-information>

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

-  **Otter Team Dinner, May 29 - Fun, Food and Sea Otters Spirit! -**
All Sea Otters families are invited to our annual team dinner located on the upper deck on Friday, May 29 at 5:30pm. Raquel's Tacos will be back this year due to popular demand! **Bring your own dinner, or [purchase a taco/quesadilla plate](#),**
 - **\$10.50 (6 & unders)**
 - **\$15.75 for kids 7+ and adults**

Click the link above and complete payment by this Tuesday, May 26. A very limited number of plates will be available for \$20 at the door.

Entry is free. You won't want to miss this! The evening will include music by our own DJ Matt and a chat with the coaches. This is a fantastic opportunity to bring our swim team community together for fun, fellowship and food! *Note: Rancho will be open for summer hours, so bring your suits and towels too!*

-  **Tie Dye, June 11 - Preorder Shirts by this Thursday!** Join our annual tie dye party after morning practice on June 11. *Back by popular demand: save time and skip the line by preordering your 100% cotton shirt through the Team Store before this Thursday, May 28!* Ordered shirts will be shaped to the design of your choosing and presoaked so that they are ready for immediate dye application. Purchase via <https://stseaotters.square.site/>.
-  **Secret Sea Otters - Delivery Friday, May 29!** Questions/comments, please reach out to [Emily Becker](#).
-  **Otter Buddies:** Cheer your buddy at Pinehurst!
-  Start saving your cardboard for the **7th Annual Cardboard Boat Regatta, June 13!** Stay tuned for more details in the next week.
-  Save the date for our other upcoming events: June 6, Dads' Night Out | | June 13: Cardboard Boat Regatta and Midnight Madness | June 18, Swim Up Movie Night

Questions/comments, please reach out to [Emily Becker](#) at activities.stseaotters@gmail.com.

FUNDRAISING

- **Weekly Drawings:** Purchase tickets and enter to win a Pop-up-Spot at home meets and/or a Spot-In-The-Lot at all dual meets, home and away! Tickets will be sold at home meets and select away meets. Tickets prices,
 - 1 ticket for \$1
 - 12 tickets for \$10
 - 25 tickets for \$20
- **Restaurant Night, May 27-28:** Our first restaurant night will be at Nation's Giant Hamburgers from May 27-28, so mark your calendars! Proceeds from sales directly support ST Sea Otters.
- **Corporate & Family Sponsorships:** For \$250, your company logo or family name will be displayed on a banner at Rancho and on our website.
- **Special Project Donation:** Help create a scholarship fund to keep the team accessible to all. Let us know if you'd like to contribute to this project.

Thank you for your support! If you have questions or want to make a donation, contact [Tracy Raivio](#) at stseaotters.fundraising@gmail.com.

SEA OTTERS MERCHANDISE

- **Check Out Sea Otters Merchandise:** At our home meets, stop by the Merchandise pop-up (located near the hot tub) to check out all our Sea Otters merchandise! Quantities and sizes are limited so stop by early for the best selection.
- **Online Orders:** If you placed an online order through our Sea Otters Square site, we hope that you are enjoying your new Sea Otters gear! You can pick up any outstanding merchandise orders, including the personalized swim towels, at the Taco Otter Team Dinner on Friday, May, 29!
- **Extra Swim Caps:** At away meets, swim caps will be available for purchase for \$10 from our merchandise lead, Kelly Hodge
- **Team Swimsuits:** Sea Otters custom team suits are still available for individual order at [Agon Swimmer Storefront](#) Just a reminder that custom swimsuits are not required, but swimmers should wear suits in team colors of navy, yellow and/or white at swim meets.
 - An alternate resource is [SwimOutlet](#), for suits, team parkas, goggles and more. If purchased at the Sea Otters page, the team receives a small percentage of the sales. [https:// www.swimoutlet.com/collections/stseaotters](https://www.swimoutlet.com/collections/stseaotters).








Questions? reach out to our merchandise lead [Kelly Hodge](#), merch.stseaotters@gmail.com.

Santa Teresa @ Pinehurst - Saturday, May 30

Online meet sign-up process: You can now declare for all Dual Meets and CHAMPS! **"Declare" for your swimmers status and sign up for individual events by 5pm on Tuesday, 5/26.** This [link](#) has swim meet sign-up instructions.

***TIP:** You can sign-up your Sea Otter(s) for all of the meets at one time. And if needed, you can make changes prior to each week's deadline.*

Additional Meet Information:

-  **Spot-in-the-Lot at Pinehurst**
 - [Spot-in-the-Lot: Congratulations, Garza Family!](#)
-  **Relays:** Swimmers will be notified by Thursday practice if they are on a relay team. If your swimmer will miss a relay, please notify your coach ASAP. Because relays are carefully planned team events, **swimmers who are not at morning warm-ups may be removed from relay assignments.** Check our website for information on [relays](#).
-  **Photo Reminder:** For the safety and privacy of our swimmers, photos may not be taken from behind the starting blocks. Please help remind guests as well.
-  **Swim Caps:** Swimmers should wear their personalized Sea Otters swim cap. High school and competitive team caps are not allowed at cabana club meets.
-  **Be Weather-Ready:** Bring layers, blankets, sunscreen, hats, and plenty of water. Mornings can be chilly, and afternoons heat up quickly.
-  **Swimmers Don't Forget:** Goggles, towels, and team spirit!
-  **Most of All... Have FUN!**

Please note: There should be 2-3 families per pop-up. This helps with space, and increases community and team spirit!

2026 SUMMER SCHEDULE

2026 Summer Practice Schedule		
June 10 - 26		
MONDAY-FRIDAY		
Age Group	Time	Coaches
13-18 Yellow	7:30am - 8:30am	Coaches Mark, David & Mia
13-18 Blue	8:30am - 9:30am	Coaches Mark, David & Mia
11-12	9:30am - 10:30am	Coaches David & Mia
9-10	10:30am - 11:30am	Coaches Kim & Jr. Coaches
7-8	11:30am - 12:15pm	Coaches David & Mia
6 & Under	11:30am - 12:15pm	Coach Abi & Jr. Coaches

***MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** There will be no Friday practice on May 29 and June 5.

WHATSAPP GROUP

To help foster a safe and supportive community, we ask that all members joining the WhatsApp group use their full name (and a photo, if possible) in their profile. We may need to remove anyone who is not clearly identified. Please take a moment to review and update your profile.

Need help? [How to edit your WhatsApp profile](#)

- Announcements – key updates and important events
- General – team-wide chat
- Age Group Chats – updates specific to your swimmer's group
- Parents Relay Participants – ready to jump in and have some fun
- New Families – a space to connect and ask questions

https://chat.whatsapp.com/FGnS2lw553l64B8JFAL3Dp?mode=gi_t

2026 SEASON ACTIVITIES/SCHEDULE

<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 5/27-28: Restaurant Night @ Nations Burgers● 5/29: Annual Otter Dinner, Rancho● 5/30: ST @ Pinehurst - Dual Meet● 6/6: ST @ Crossgates - Dual Meet● 6/6: Dads' Night, Adult Pool● 6/10: Shift to summer schedule● 6/11: Tie Dye, at practice● 6/13: Almaden @ ST - Dual Meet	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 6/13: Cardboard Boat Regatta & Midnight Madness, Rancho● 6/18: Swim-up Movie Night, Rancho● 6/22-25: Spirit Week● 6/26: Pancake Breakfast, at practice● 6/27: CHAMPS hosted by Creekside, Independence High School● 6/29: Awards Night, Rancho
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SEA OTTERS INFORMATION ON-DEMAND

Bookmark the team website, <https://stseaotters.swimtopia.com/>

Follow us on Facebook - Santa Teresa Sea Otters

Reference the [Rancho Newsletters](#)

The Santa Teresa Sea Otters, Inc. is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. To make a tax-deductible donation, please contact treasurer.stseaotters@gmail.com for information on payment options and to receive a receipt.

Board Members & Operational Leads

- President, [Edie Fischer](#)
- VP & New Otter Liaison, [Dina Mansuy](#)
 - Membership, [Lynda Stahl](#)
- Secretary & Historian, [Alicia LaMarche](#)
 - Awards, [Sun Lee](#)
 - Web & Social Media, [Lauren Sullivan](#)
- Treasurer, [Anuja Burns](#)
 - Fundraising, [Tracy Raivio](#)
 - Merchandise, [Kelly Hodge](#)
 - Snack Shack, [Jenna Collen](#)
- Activities, [Emily Becker](#)
 - Spirit Lead & Events, [Christie Moore](#)
 - Senior Recognition Lead & Events, [Cindy Sperry](#)

- Meet Operations Director, [Iqbal Chadda](#)
 - Equipment, [Scott Fischer](#)
 - Technical Records, [Kumar Virwani](#)
 - Stroke & Turn, [Jodi Taylor](#)
- Volunteer Director, [Nina DeSimone](#)
 - Volunteer Coordinator, [Michelle Senner](#)