**Northbrook – Summer of 2020!**

**Guidelines and Updates for Reopening**

We hope everyone is enjoying the long weekend! The Northbrook staff and board are targeting June 1 for opening, but we may delay in order to be confident that all systems are in place to ensure appropriate safety measures and social distancing. We promise to update you all as soon as we’re able about the opening date.

Please read this document about what guidelines will be in place upon opening in its entirety. Everyone will need to work together to ensure success, and that starts with knowing the policies and procedures. In short, like many other pools, we are using a reservation system to schedule your time at the pool and limiting the number of people who can be at the pool at once. The details of how the reservation system will work, general guidelines while at the pool, as well as how teams will operate this summer are spelled out below.

Additionally, we ask for your flexibility. We expect to adjust these protocols as the summer progresses. The ending of school, family vacations, and a possible move into Phase III will dictate changes, as well as simply watching how our plans play out in “real life.”

Please also practice patience with our staff and lifeguards. We have been using tried and true procedures to keep you safe and our facility clean for decades. Our staff and guards need training and time to master the new, improved routines. We especially want to make sure that the lifeguards can continue to monitor the pool and deck without distractions. **If questions or unforeseen issues arise, seek out the assistance of our manager on duty.** The non-lifeguard staff can help you locate him. For the first few weeks, a board member may also be at the pool during swim hours, and they can also answer any questions you may have. They will be wearing black wristbands to stand out (a little). Many of our staff and guards are not only working their first jobs but also are the children of our members and have grown up at Northbrook. They are our family, and we ask that you treat them as such.

**SCHEDULING TIME AT THE POOL**

Families will initially be able to sign up for two of these two-hour periods per week. If spaces remain available prior to the beginning of the week, you will be allowed to sign up for additional times. Please continue reading for details on how this will work.

**Periods of Pool Time:**

**8:00-10:00 Swim and Dive Team Practices (Monday-Friday only)**

30-minute break for cleaning

**10:30-12:30 Period 1/Pool Open**

30-minute break for cleaning

**1:00-3:00 Period 2**

30-minute break for cleaning

**3:30-5:30 Period 3**

30-minute break for cleaning

**6:00-8:00 Period 4/Pool Close**

Note that the opening and closing times of the pool are the same every day.

**Reservations:**

Reservations (online via SignUpGenius) for pool times will open a week in advance and on a weekly (Monday - Sunday) basis. Each Sunday the reservation link will be emailed, posted on the website, and shared on social media.

Here’s an example of how this will work:

* Sunday 6/7: Reservations open for the week of 6/15-6/21. Each member will be allowed to reserve **up to two periods per week** during this round.
* Wednesday 6/10: Reservations for the week of 6/15-6/21 close to allow for internal audit and staff planning.
* If openings remain, reservations will open back up on Sunday 6/14 for members to fill empty spots for the week of 6/15-6/21. Additionally, on that date, reservations will open for the week of 6/22-6/28.
* If your plans change and you are unable to take advantage of your time slot, please take your name off the sign up. Even if the weather is overcast or rainy, that might be the perfect opportunity for another member to swim laps, take a lesson, etc.
* No walk-ins will be admitted

If there are any members of Northbrook who wish to use the pool and feel that they are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (e.g. older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions), please contact Elizabeth Smith contact@northbrookpool.com for details about dedicated swim times.

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**COMING TO THE POOL**

We are following the recommendations of Governor Cooper as well as guidance from the NC Department of Health and Human Services, the CDC, and USA Swimming to ensure that the pool and our facilities are as safe as possible. Even with new protocols, there is no way to guarantee that someone does not come to the pool asymptomatic and spreads the virus to others. We are doing what we can on our end to ensure frequent cleaning, and we expect our members to practice social distancing while at the pool in an effort to minimize risk. In addition, we ask that you follow the following protocols prior to coming to the pool.

* On your particular day(s), take your temperature and the temperature of all those in your household. If you, or any member of your household, has a temperature in excess of 100° Fahrenheit, please do not come.
* Do not come to the pool if you, or any family member, has a suspected or diagnosed/confirmed case of COVID-19.
* Do not come to the pool if you, or any family member, experiences any symptoms of COVID-19 including without limitation, fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat or the loss of taste and/or smell (or any other symptom later determined to be a symptom of COVID-19).
* Do not come to the pool if you, or any family member, within the last 14 days has been exposed to someone who exhibits the symptoms set forth above or has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

**Social Distancing and Personal Protective Equipment**

We ask that you maintain 6-feet of space between yourself and other people outside of your family at all times. This includes while in the pool as well as on the pool deck, tennis courts, restrooms, and parking lot.

* We ask that our members wear masks when in situations that require or could result in interactions with staff or other members, i.e. entrance and exit, restrooms, snack bar, etc.
* Please leave the furniture where it is placed. The chairs are deliberately arranged at the pool to maintain social distance.
* Leave two chairs in between family groups to maintain the social distance.
* Only members of the same family unit should share tables.

Please understand that it is difficult for our guards and staff to enforce social distancing. They will not be able to identify whether the children are siblings or friends or whether two adults are from the same household. We expect our members to assist us with this process. If there is an issue with social distancing, please alert our staff.

**Children** under 12 must be accompanied by a parent. Although this rule is not new, it is critically important to ensure social distancing this summer.

**Protocol for Entering and Exiting the Pool**

* Members will enter the pool at the guard hut.
* Member(s) will receive a wristband. Wristbands will indicate that the member counts towards our emergency maximum capacity, thereby allowing tennis players to use the facility, snack bar, bottle filler, etc.
* Members will exit through the basketball courts.
* Wristbands **must** be turned in as members leave. They will be cleaned for future use.
* If there are lines at the entrance or exit, please social distance if waiting in line or remain in your car until the line has cleared.

**Floats:** Flotation devices including kickboards, noodles, inflatables, rafts, etc. should not be used in or brought to the pool.

**Pool Toys:** Pool toys including water guns, balls, dive sticks, etc. should not be used in the pool.

**Grill:** The grill is closed for the summer.

**Guests:** No guests at this point to allow maximum use of the pool by our members.

**Parties**: No parties at this point to allow maximum use of the pool by our members.

**Lost and Found:** Lost and Found will be discarded daily.

**Playground:** The playground will be closed and off-limits. When state guidance indicates playgrounds may be opened, we will issue new guidelines for use and safety.

**Snack Bar:** The snack bar will open at a future date with no-touch, low-touch procedures. For now, we have a new no-touch bottle filler for water.

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**TEAMS**

Swim, Dive, and Tennis teams will practice and compete this summer.

**Tennis:** Tennisbloc is proceeding with their summer registration and season as planned. Registration information, practice times, and specific Tennisbloc safety guidelines are on their web site- [www.tennisbloc.com](http://www.tennisbloc.com/).

**Swim and Dive Practice-**

* Practice times will be from 8:00-10:00 am.
* Swim and Dive practices will be capped to maintain social distancing in and out of the water. Actual breakdowns will be determined after registration is complete.
* In order to participate on the swim or dive teams, athletes must be able to swim 25 meters unassisted.
* If athletes are comfortable attending practice without an adult present, we ask that parents and/or caregivers remain in the parking lot or drop off/pick up in order to keep the bather load as low as possible.
* In swim team practice, swimmers will be divided into lanes. They will be spaced 6 feet apart behind the blocks and swim in one direction only. Coaches will be at each end and on the sides to keep swimmers spaced as they hop out of the pool and return to their lane to swim again.

**Swim Meets**: Tuesday nights, June 23 to July 28

* Swim meet protocols will be determined by Northbrook’s TSA representative, Jim Moran, and the opposing teams TSA representative.
* Swim meets will not exceed our emergency maximum capacity. In order to adhere to this NC guideline, many options will be considered including but not limited to:
1. Virtual meets
2. Splitting meets between 10 and unders and 11 and ups
3. Eliminating non-essential volunteer positions to provide social distancing on the deck
4. Limiting spectators to one person per athlete/family

**Dive Meets:** TDA has not committed to having a season, so Northbrook is planning to host 2-3 meets on Saturday mornings.

**Lessons:**

* Lessons can occur Monday through Friday during the time slots for which families have signed up. Head Coaches Smith Moran and Carlie Perkins will schedule lessons.
* Coaches will teach lessons from the side of the pool.
* Swimmers who need physical assistance, either to swim or model technique, may be asked to have a parent and/or caregiver assist the lesson.

Thank you in advance for everything that you will do to ensure that we all have another fantastic summer at the pool! There may be differences, but let’s focus on the things that make Northbrook unique and special- the wonderful people, the laid-back vibe, and the fun!! They will never change at Northbrook! The staff, lifeguards, and board are happy to help you with anything that we can. We’ll get through this together and come out better and stronger!

Gratefully,

Jennifer Moran, President

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