



Virginia Vale Membership Handbook

Virginia Vale Swim Club
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MEMBER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Members are expected to review the Membership Handbook and stay current on pool rules and regulations. As part of the annual registration process, members review and acknowledge the Membership Handbook and, by completing payment, agree to the rules and regulations outlined in the Membership Handbook and posted on the Virginia Vale website.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Virginia Vale Swim Club is a private, non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors in accordance with the Club Bylaws. The Board of Directors is elected by the membership from among active members of the Club at the Annual Meeting each August. Three Board members are elected each year for a two-year term. The officers of the Club – President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer – are elected by the Board from among its members annually. No Director or Officer shall serve more than three consecutive two-year terms.

The Bylaws and a list of current Board members and their contact information can be found on the Virginia Vale website. If you have any suggestions or questions regarding the Board or the pool in general, please contact the President at president@virginiavale.info.

POOL MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

The Board of Directors hires a General Manager to administer the day-to-day activities and to enforce the club's health, safety and other regulations. The General Manager hires and supervises staff capable of carrying out these objectives. The Board of Directors gives full authority to the General Manager and staff to enforce the club's rules and regulations.

The General Manager or an assistant manager is on duty at all times. The name of the manager on duty at any given time is posted at the front desk.

MEMBERSHIP

Two classes of membership are provided for in the Bylaws– Regular and Senior. The rules and policies in this handbook apply to all members.

The Bylaws allow for up to 375 regular members. A member may be an individual or a head of household. Regular membership includes the member's spouse and any children and grandchildren residing in the member's household who are considered dependents of the member. A partner, fiancé(e) or other non-dependent who resides in a member household should direct any questions about membership status to the Membership Chair.

Senior memberships are limited to a maximum of the two heads of household during regular membership. Guest policies apply to all guests of senior members including other family members living in the member's household.

All memberships are non-transferrable. Memberships may not be transferred, sold, leased, or conveyed to, or used by, any person other than a head of household named in the membership registration.

In the event of divorce or separation, the couple must determine who retains the membership and inform the Membership Chair immediately. While only one former spouse will remain a member, the non-member may accompany any children from that marriage to the pool on occasion at no cost, provided the former spouse member does not object. However, the non-member former spouse may not bring any guests under any circumstances.

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

It is each member's responsibility to ensure that the club has your correct contact information for communication purposes. If at any time your contact information changes, please make sure to update your profile online.

In addition to email communications, the Board and Management rely heavily on the club website (www.virginiavaleswimclub.com) and bulletin boards by the front office to provide the most up-to-date information. It is members' responsibility to check these sources regularly for updates.

MEMBERSHIP AND DISCIPLINE

Whenever, in the judgment of a majority of the Board of Directors, any member has violated the spirit or letter of the rules of the pool, or has otherwise acted in a disrespectful manner toward any other member, staff or guest, the Board is authorized to suspend or limit any of the privileges of the club or to execute any other disciplinary measures it deems appropriate, up to and including expulsion from the membership and the pool facilities as a member or guest. If a member is expelled from membership, all dues, initiation fees, or fees paid for lessons, teams, social events, guests or other activities are forfeited. Any such disciplinary actions apply to everyone in the member's household.

USE OF POOL AND FACILITIES

Members must be in good standing in order to enjoy the use of the pool and facilities, including participation in teams, lessons, and other events.

All persons using the club facilities do so at their own risk. Virginia Vale Swim Club assumes no responsibility for loss or damage to personal property or injury to anyone.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Virginia Vale Swim Club is open each year from the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day. With the exception of team practices as early as May 15th, pool facilities are NOT available for any use during the pre- or post-season.

Regular hours will be posted on the website.

In general, from May through July the pool is used during the week by teams and lessons until noon. August hours will be announced later in the summer based on staffing availability. Typically, the pool opens earlier on weekdays in August, at least until most of the local schools start.

Guards will clear the pool no later than 15 minutes before closing time. Members are expected to clear the grounds by closing time, or earlier in the event of weather or other circumstances.

All hours are subject to change at the discretion of the General Manager and Board of Directors. Please check the website for pool closings due to special events, inclement weather or other safety reasons.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The pool manager on duty operates all of the pool facilities for the health and safety of the members, guests and staff. All members and guests are expected to comply with the rules, regulations, and policies described in this handbook and posted on the club grounds, as well as any modifications that are required to deal with emergency or extraordinary circumstances that may arise.

Members are personally liable for their conduct, the conduct of those under their responsibility, and the conduct of their guests. Parents must instruct their children to observe all regulations and obey instructions of the manager and staff.

Safety, common sense, and courtesy to others are always good practice.

General Health and Safety

1. Each individual entering the club must check-in at the front desk before proceeding to the pool area.
2. No running on the deck.
3. No rough play or pushing anywhere on the grounds or in the pool.
4. Virginia Vale is a no smoking facility. The use of tobacco or marijuana in any form is strictly prohibited.
5. No dogs or other pets on club grounds at any time, except service dogs.
6. Absolutely no glass containers are permitted on the pool deck or upper deck. Please keep any glass bottles in your cooler and pour drinks from bottles into plastic/paper cups.
7. No eating, drinking or chewing gum in either pool.
8. Children who are not yet toilet-trained must wear a swim diaper in either pool.
9. All members are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. Please clean your tables and dispose of trash and recycling appropriately when you leave your area.

10. The manager on duty has the authority to clear the pools and decks whenever they determine swimming to be hazardous, and to reopen when they determine it is safe to do so. The pool and grounds may also be closed if the manager on duty determines that hazardous weather conditions continue to exist.

Big Pool

11. The pool may not be used unless a lifeguard is present and on duty. Lifeguards have full authority to control swim activities while on duty.
12. The child's parent or supervising adult must be within arm's reach of any child who cannot swim without the aid of the flotation device (even if the child is using such a device).
13. Lifeguards have the authority to clear the pool of flotation devices, beach balls and other toys when deemed necessary.

Diving Well

14. Only one person at a time on the diving board.
15. Divers must go off the end of the board facing forwards, and swim directly to a ladder.
16. Swimming is not permitted in the deep end when the diving board is in use.
17. No flotation devices are allowed in the diving area.

Baby Pool

18. Adult supervision is required at all times, even when a lifeguard is on duty.
19. A supervising parent or adult must be within arm's reach of each child at all times.
20. The baby pool is intended for the use of children under the age of 6.

Upper Deck

21. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied and closely supervised by an adult or babysitter or sibling over the age of 12 at all times.
22. Candles and other flammable devices or materials (such as sterno) are strictly prohibited.
23. General use of the Upper Deck may be restricted when it has been reserved for a private party, a team event or a board meeting, or the staffing ratio does not allow for sufficient monitoring.

PARKING

Virginia Vale does not own any parking area. The Club leases parking spaces from the Leedsdale Center during the season. Parking is allowed in designated areas that are striped in red only. Violating parking rules may result in towing at the owner's expense.

If all designated spaces are full, please park on the streets immediately adjacent to the pool. Please be a good neighbor. Adhere to any parking signs and do not block or hinder access to driveways and entryways to homes and businesses.

GUEST FEES AND RULES

Members are welcome to bring guests to the pool during regular pool hours and for pool-sponsored social events, unless otherwise indicated.

Guests must be accompanied by a member at all times. Members shall be responsible for the conduct of their guests. Guests are expected to follow the rules and regulations of Virginia Vale.

Guests must check in at the front desk and fees must be paid prior to entry (cash, check or online credits).

- Guest Fees (ages 2 and up) - \$5/day
- Online guest passes – 5 passes for \$20

The full guest fee will be charged to any person regardless of time or what activity is being used. The only exceptions are: (1) during swim/dive/synchro meets and (2) for pick up or drop off of members or guests.

Members may have up to 10 guests at the pool on any given day. For more than 10 guests, private party rules apply.

NANNY/BABYSITTER POLICY

For an annual \$20 administrative fee per nanny/sitter, families may designate up to two nannies/sitters who may use the club at no additional cost while they are supervising children of the designating member family at the club. These individuals must have a current photo on file and must check in at the front desk with the children when they enter the club. Nannies/sitters do not have member privileges.

Nannies/sitters not designated on a member account will be charged the guest rate when they are supervising a member child/ren at the club. They must check in (and pay) at the front desk with the children they are supervising when they enter the club.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Virginia Vale is a great place to be involved in your kids' summer activities and meet new people. The sense of community that is Virginia Vale depends upon the contributions and involvement of its members. Find a way to get involved today!

- **Teams:** If your children are on a team, you are required to volunteer at meets and/or other activities. Watch for more information from your team parents.
- **Social Committee:** If you love to socialize, decorate, cook, organize, we would love your help! Please contact social@virginiavale.info to get involved.
- **Capital Projects Committee:** Do you have expertise in building, construction, architecture and design or landscaping? Please contact president@virginiavale.info to get involved.

SWIM LESSONS

Group swim lessons are offered in June and July to teach children how to swim safely and skillfully. Lessons are held Mondays through Thursdays from 11- 11:30 am and 11:30 –12 noon. There are no classes on Fridays. Please see the Lessons section of the website for more information and to register.

Private swim lessons can be scheduled directly with instructors, coaches, or guards throughout the summer during regular pool hours.

TEAMS

Virginia Vale is the proud home to the Dolphins dive, swim and synchro teams. We strive to build life-long friendships and have fun while working hard to instill a strong sense of community, exhibit good sportsmanship and improve aquatic skills.

Pre-season practices start after school in mid-May. The seasons run from the first week of June through the end of July. Practice and meet schedules, coaches and other information will be posted on each team's webpage when it is available in the late spring.

Online registration (including payment) for teams opens in early May and must be completed prior to any child getting into the pool for practice or participating in any other team activity.

SNACK SHACK

The snack shack is operated for the convenience of members. The snack shack is generally open until ½ hour prior to club closing. It is at the Snack Shack Manager's discretion to close early if there is low attendance at the club and/or inclement weather.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Each summer Virginia Vale hosts a variety of social events for members to enjoy. A calendar of events including registration information will be posted on the Social section of the website. In addition, detailed information about all social events - including any costs and online registration - will be provided in our weekly emails. Please email social@virginiavale.info if you have any questions, suggestions, or would like to join the Social Committee.

GROUP GATHERINGS

The Board and Management seeks to balance offering the opportunity for individual members to host casual gatherings and parties at the club with the importance of providing maximum opportunity for all members to enjoy the club facilities. With that end in mind, we have established the following parameters and requirements.

Members may not exclude other members from any pool area that has not been reserved for a Private Party. If exclusive space is needed, members must register for a Private Party as described below. The Pavilion may not be reserved during regular hours; it is available on a first-come, first-served basis only.

Member Only Gathering: No special requirements apply. Table space may be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Gathering of up to 20 People (including up to 10 Guests): Guest fees apply. Manager must be notified at least 24 hours in advance. Table space may be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Gathering of More Than 20 Members & Guests Total OR More than 10 Guests: Private Party rules apply.

PRIVATE PARTIES

Only members in good standing may reserve club facilities for a private party. In the event that overcrowding becomes an issue on any day or throughout the summer, pool management may adjust the use of the facilities and these policies may be amended.

After Hours, Full Facility: The entire pool and grounds are available for exclusive rental after hours on select Thursdays (6:30 – 9:30 pm) and Saturdays (7-10pm). For up to 75 anticipated swimmers and a total of 300 attendees, the cost is \$450 on Thursday and \$500 on Saturday. A \$25 fee is charged per additional 15 anticipated swimmers. Guest fees do not apply.

Private party booking (including agreement to Terms of Use) and payment must be completed online at least one week in advance and is subject to the General Manager's approval.

Regular Hours, Reserved Area: The Upper Deck may be reserved for use during regular hours of operation for groups of up to 40 people (members and guests). In general, these spaces are available for up to two 3-hour blocks daily, except during holidays, holiday weekends or other busy times as determined by pool management. The cost is \$50 plus guest fees. Booking and payment must be made online at least 3 days in advance.

Additional information including available dates and private party registration will be available on the Social section of the website.

Payments will not be taken at the office. No phone reservations will be taken. The calendar on the website has the most updated and accurate information regarding availability. If you have any questions, please contact the General Manager.