



**Welcome to your “Summer Home”**

**PO Box 1473, Hockessin DE 19707**

**100 Saturn Drive, Newark DE 19711  
(302) 239-7611**

**[www.northstarpool.org](http://www.northstarpool.org)**

# 2022 Board Members

## **President**

Chet Benham

[presidentnorthstarswimclub@gmail.com](mailto:presidentnorthstarswimclub@gmail.com)

## **Vice President**

Wes Haigh

[vicepresidentnorthstarpool@gmail.com](mailto:vicepresidentnorthstarpool@gmail.com)

## **Treasurer**

Stacy Leccia

[treasurernorthstarpool@gmail.com](mailto:treasurernorthstarpool@gmail.com)

## **Secretary**

Erin Pudlo

[secretarynorthstarpool@gmail.com](mailto:secretarynorthstarpool@gmail.com)

## **Membership Director**

Holly Ballard

[membershipnorthstarswimclub@gmail.com](mailto:membershipnorthstarswimclub@gmail.com)

## **Pool & Grounds Director**

Steve Correale

[poolsandgroundsnorthstarpool@gmail.com](mailto:poolsandgroundsnorthstarpool@gmail.com)

## **Activities Coordinator**

Erin Gavin

[activitiesnorthstarpool@gmail.com](mailto:activitiesnorthstarpool@gmail.com)

## **Swim Team Coordinator**

Loni Maynerich

[swimteamnorthstarswimclub@gmail.com](mailto:swimteamnorthstarswimclub@gmail.com)

***Your Board and Pool Staff welcomes you, and  
thanks you, for choosing North Star Swim Club as  
your "summer home".  
We're glad to have you with us!***

# Pool Facilities

While the pool season runs for just a few months, many people work hard all year round to make sure that North Star is a well-managed and maintained swim club. Our board works hard in the off-season reviewing pool infrastructure and planning for necessary repairs and replacements. You, our members, work hard on spring work dates to help ready the pool for the upcoming swim season. And throughout the summer, our Pool & Grounds director, our pool manager and our guards, our lawn service, our pool management company and dedicated volunteers do a great job keeping the pool and grounds looking and running great.

One of the key benefits of belonging to a member-owned pool is that North Star belongs to all of us, so we all have great respect and responsibility for the property and each other to take care of things as we would at our own homes. While the pool manager and guards do a great job with daily cleaning and maintenance, we do remind all members that we need to pick up after ourselves throughout the day.

## **Picnic pavilion and Gas grills**

The picnic pavilion is a favorite place at North Star for families and friends to gather for planned or last-minute meals. There are gas grills available for members' use at any time. Grilling utensils are available in the pool office. While we don't expect anyone to spend their day at the pool scrubbing, we do ask each grill master to brush off the grill and clean the utensils, leaving them ready for the next member to use. Additional propane is available for the grills; please see the manager or guards.



## **North Star Recycles**

Trash cans and blue recycling bins with yellow lids are placed around the pool grounds. Please do not put grease-stained or food covered items (including cans with liquid still in them or pizza boxes) in the recycling cans.

## **Picnic tables, Pool chairs/lounges**

There are several picnic tables, pool chairs and lounges available in both sunny and shady locations for members' use. Help yourself! You are welcome to move a chair or lounge to a spot that will be more comfortable. If you move several chairs to create a new grouping in a different location, we ask that you return them to their original location when you are finished with them so the guards don't have to move them once the pool closes.

# Social Events/Activities

*North Star is THE place to be for summer fun!*

**Early Morning Lap Swim Membership Option** (*confirmed mornings will be announced*)

Start your day off early and right with a bit of exercise. Each morning you'll find a few other die-hards to encourage you in your laps. Adults only please.

**Rockin' Raft Nights** (*dates will be announced*)

You will LOVE this event! Music is playing while the kids (and adults!) float around in the pool. Bring your own raft or use ours.

**Pool Movie Nights** (*dates will be announced*)

Enjoy a family friendly flick on the big screen while lounging poolside or floating in the pool on one of our rafts!

**Annual Crab and Shrimp Feast** (*Saturday night date will be announced*)

Bring your family and friends to enjoy delicious crabs and spicy shrimp poolside. *This is an adult-only event.*

**Member Appreciation Ice Cream Social** (*date will be announced*)

You, **OUR MEMBERS**, are what make North Star the best pool in the area! Stop by the pool after dinner for dessert, hand-scooped by the board members, as our way of saying "thank you".

**Annual Labor Day Luau** (*Labor Day Weekend*)

Count on good food, great friends and a fun way to wrap up the pool season. Annual Member Meeting immediately follows the festivities (*come and have your voice heard!*).

**Charity Event** (*date will be announced*)

Each season, NSSC will partner with a charitable organization to help raise funds for our pool and donate to a great cause, all while having fun!

*\*all of the above is subject to change & new events may be added*

## **Join the activities committee!**

We even have fun *planning* the fun at North Star!

If you can help with organizing or volunteering during one of our social events

(or if you have an idea for a new activity)

e-mail our Activities Coordinator at  
activities@northstarpool.com

# North Star Swim Team

The North Star Swim Team is a positive, supportive and inclusive swim team. We strive to provide each team member with a quality summer swimming experience which emphasizes fundamentals along with fun. Our first priority is to give all members the opportunity to participate and the skills to allow them to become a better swimmer. Many team spirit-building activities are held to enhance the social aspect of being a swim team member. We are committed to providing a summer of fun and sport with friends, under the direction of dedicated and experienced coaches.

Swimmers of all experience levels are encouraged to join the North Star Swim Team. Children must be 18 or under as of May 30, 2022, members of North Star Swim Club, and be able to swim at least one lap without the assistance of another person or a flotation device. The team is composed of three swimming groups. Our excellent coaching staff will assist with the placement of your child in the appropriate group:

- **Little Dippers**

Swimmers receive in-water coach assistance for the entire practice. The focus is strictly on mechanics and the primary goal is a 25-yard lap of each stroke legally.

- **Rising Suns**

These swimmers are capable of swimming 10 consecutive laps and are legal, or working toward legality in all four strokes. The focus is split between mechanics and training, with the ultimate goal of developing a strong basis of mechanics for all four strokes and an understanding of the importance of training to improve one's skills.

- **Shooting Stars**

Shooting Stars swimmers are legal in all four strokes and capable of swimming 20 consecutive laps. This is primarily a training group with mechanics worked into the training. The goal of this group is to continue to improve mechanics and to drop time while becoming better at maintaining speed for distances.

## Swim Meets

Except for special meets, dual meets are held every Saturday and Wednesday of the swim season.

## Registration

Swim team registration is charged per swimmer. Team suits, swim caps and goggles are extra. *\*subject to change*

## Practices

Morning and evening swim team practices are available. See the swim team link at [www.northstarpool.org](http://www.northstarpool.org) for scheduled times for each swim group.

### **Suburban Swim League**

North Star Swim Team is in the red division team of the Suburban Swim League.

### **Volunteer Hours for Swim Team**

Our swim team is able to run solely on volunteers. North Star will not be able to have a swim team without these volunteers. Thank you for all that you do to help our swim team run smoothly!

**Private swim lessons** may be arranged throughout the summer with one of our certified swim instructors. Contact the pool manager to make arrangements at [managernorthstarswimclub@gmail.com](mailto:managernorthstarswimclub@gmail.com) (*\*Private swim lesson price is subject to change.*)

See the swim team link at [www.northstarpool.com](http://www.northstarpool.com) for the full swim team information packet and registration form. You can also visit our webpage at [www.northstar.swimtopia.com](http://www.northstar.swimtopia.com).

For more information, contact our swim team coordinator at [swimteam@northstarpool.com](mailto:swimteam@northstarpool.com).

# Pool Rentals

Who doesn't love a pool party? North Star is the perfect place to hold a party for special events such as a graduation, birthday, anniversary, family reunion or a gathering for your business or community organization, to give you just a few ideas. Further information and contracts are available on our website – [www.northstarpool.org](http://www.northstarpool.org).

At North Star pool we offer two party options:

## 1. *Private parties*

Private parties may be held before or after regular pool hours and are scheduled on a first-come basis. Please reserve the pool at least two weeks in advance to allow time for us to book the required number of guards for your party.

Cancellations must be made at least 3 business days in advance of your scheduled event to be considered for a full refund. In the event of inclement weather, we will reschedule your party at a convenient later date.

The cost is just \$75/hour for pool members and \$150/hour for non-pool members for before and after hours parties. Your private party includes two lifeguards. Two guards are required for the first 50 guests. If you have over 50 guests, you will need one additional guard for each additional 25 guests. Additional guards are billed at \$25 per guard per hour and are not included in the party fee. The rental fee also includes use of the facilities (picnic pavilion, grills, refrigerators, volleyball court, restrooms and showers, pool chairs, lounges and picnic tables, etc.). For more information, or to check the availability of your special private party date, email the Activities Coordinator at [activitiesnorthstarpool@gmail.com](mailto:activitiesnorthstarpool@gmail.com).

## 2. *Non-private parties*

Non-private parties are held during normal pool operating hours and are only available to current active members in good standing. The rental fee is \$100 for 2 hours with a maximum of 30 guests. This fee includes use of the pavilion area and adjoining pool seating. The rental fee includes entrance to the pool by non-members and NO guest passes are needed. Please note that only one party may be scheduled for any date. All party dates are on a first-come, first-served basis and are not reserved until a signed contract and \$50 deposit is received. The member listed on the contract is responsible for the conduct of all the persons attending the party. To book a non-private party please contact our Activities Coordinator via email at [activitiesnorthstarpool@gmail.com](mailto:activitiesnorthstarpool@gmail.com)

# Guest Passes

## *(& how they work)*

The price for a Guest Pass booklet is \$25 and it allows you to bring 10 guests to the pool. That's one of the best deals in town, and the price hasn't gone up in more than 50 years!. To help you better understand how the system works, here are the answers to some frequently asked questions:

### ***When will I receive my guest pass and do I show it when I bring a guest to the pool?***

If you are a new member you have the option of purchasing a guest pass when you join. If you purchase the guest pass prior to the pool opening it will be mailed to you. After that, you may purchase a guest pass at the check-in desk at the front gate where you will be handed the guest pass immediately upon receipt of payment.

When bringing guest(s) to the pool you will sign yourself and your guests in. Please present your guest pass at the front check-in desk when you enter the pool gate. The attendee will immediately punch your guest pass – one punch per guest – and return the card to you.

### ***What happens when I come to the pool and forget my guest pass?***

No problem! You can either purchase an additional guest pass (\$25 for 10 punches) or pay \$5/person for your guest at the check-in desk at the front gate. Please note the member is responsible for keeping the guest pass at all times. North Star Swim Club is not responsible for lost cards.

### ***Can I buy a second guest pass?***

If you use all 10 of your guest visits before the season ends, you can certainly purchase another guest pass. Simply drop a check for \$25 at the pool office or mail it to our treasurer at North Star Swim Club, PO Box 1473, Hockessin DE 19707. If you purchase a guest pass through the mail the guest pass will be filed under your family membership card which you can pick up at the check-in desk at the front gate. When you purchase the guest pass at the pool you will be handed your guest pass immediately upon receipt of payment.

### ***What happens if I have guest visits left on my pass at the end of the summer?***

At the end of the summer, if you have unused guest visits, they will carry over to the next season. So, for example, if you have a new guest pass and only bring three guests to the pool in 2021, you will start the 2022 season with 7 guest visits on your pass. Please note the member is responsible for keeping the guest pass until the next season.

### ***How often can I bring a guest?***



We love for others to experience the fun of North Star so you are always welcome to bring guests. However, per the by-laws, we do ask that guests who live in the area only come to the pool three (3) times per summer. The idea is not for your friends to use the pool all summer on your membership. If your guests like North Star enough to want to come more than that, encourage them to purchase a membership and join us! If you have a guest family visiting you from out of town during the summer, we do offer a special family guest pass that allows the whole family to use the pool for an entire week for \$25. Please contact our treasurer to make arrangements. Arrangements may also be made to add an individual guest (e.g., babysitter or grandparent) to your membership for a fee of \$50.

***Can I bring as many guests as I'd like and have a party at the pool?***

You may bring up to 10 guests in one day. If you'd like to have a gathering of more than 10 guests, please talk to our Activities Coordinator about renting the pool for a private party or hosting a non-private party during normal pool operating hours.

***What happens if I have unused guest punches at the end of the season and do not renew my membership the next season?***

Unfortunately for accounting purposes there are no refunds for unused guest punches. Guest passes are NOT transferable and are only good for the members that purchased them.

# Annual Maintenance Assessment

While we do have a great pool management company, to help keep the cost of our annual contract down (and therefore the cost of our annual dues), we take on a lot of the pool upkeep ourselves. To do so, we need help from all of our members. So, like most community pools, we charge each family an annual maintenance assessment that is due with the annual dues on the spring invoice.

Many of our families participate in our scheduled spring work days helping to weed, trim and spread mulch, power wash and clean bathrooms, hang new cabinets in the snack bar and even paint the pool (*thanks to all of you!*).

## **Our volunteers help make North Star great**

We always need willing volunteers to help make our pool the best it can be. If you have a special skill such as plumbing, carpentry or electric work, or even if you are a great weed puller or cleaner, we can always use your help. See our director of Pool & Grounds to work something out. We also need volunteers to help with social activities. Contact our Activities Coordinator to offer your party-planning skills.

# Other things that may be helpful to know...

There are so many great features to our swim club and exciting things going on that it's hard to think of everything to tell a new member. Here are a few random topics that may be helpful, but please, at any time, feel free to ask our pool manager, our guards, a board member or any of our pool members anything that will help make your experience at North Star the best it can be.

## Pool Entry

When you enter the pool gate you need to stop at the sign in desk, sign the entry log and provide your family name to the guard. The guard will then look up your family name and membership information to confirm your membership status. Please be patient while this new procedure is implemented.

## Pool hours

A copy of the current calendar is listed at the pool and is available at [www.northstarpool.org](http://www.northstarpool.org). While school is in session pool hours are abbreviated. The calendar is subject to change, be sure to check the web site and pool bulletin board regularly.

## Food and drink

You are welcome to bring your own snacks, drinks (yes, all of them!) and even meals to North Star Pool and the grills are available for your use on a first-come basis.

**\*\*No glass containers, please\*\***

Many members make it a routine to have dinner at the pool on Friday nights for grillin' and chillin' with friends. Several local restaurants deliver to North Star Pool and even offer discounts to our members. Copies of their menus are available at the office. The snack bar opens approximately every other hour for about 20 minutes and offers ice cream novelties and snacks. The guards will announce when the snack bar is open. Note to parents: this is a great time for an unofficial adult swim since the kids jump out of the pool when they hear that the snack bar is open!

## Swimming pool and more

Obviously the swimming pools are the star attraction, but we also have an open field with volleyball and tether ball. We also have a featured corn-hole area, great for all ages! You'll find a basket of pool toys for small children in the fenced in baby pool area. Help yourself, but please return them to the basket when finished so they don't get caught in the filter and the guards don't have to pick up all the toys at day's end.

## Pool tunes

North Star always has family friendly music playing in the background while everyone is enjoying their pool fun! We are also excited to make Wi-Fi available to our members and the password is posted at the pool.

## Communications

Email & Facebook are our primary method of getting the word out to members about what's going on at North Star Pool. Please be sure we have your current email address and check your inbox regularly for announcements from the pool.

*\*Please see list of Board Member emails listed in this document*

## Rafts and pool toys

For the safety and comfort of other swimmers, rafts are only permitted in the pool on Rockin' Raft Nights. The guards may permit kickboards, balls and pool noodles when the pool is not crowded. Children may wear flotation devices for safety at the discretion of the guards and pool manager. **No "swimmies" allowed on the diving board.**

## Bylaws and Pool Rules

Due to their length the by-laws are only available on the pool web site ([www.northstarpool.org](http://www.northstarpool.org)). If you would like a copy contact a board member. A copy of the pool operating rules is posted on the pool bulletin board and available on the pool web site. As a member-owned pool, you have a voice in how things are done. We hold an annual membership meeting each year on Labor Day Weekend and, occasionally, special meetings are called, as needed, for decisions requiring a membership vote that must be made at other times of the year. Each bond holding member family is entitled to one vote.

## We want to hear from you

As bond-holders of a member-owned pool, we all share the benefits and responsibilities of making North Star the best that it can be. We really do want to hear from you. Let us know what you like, what we can do better and ideas you have to improve North Star. And please remember that we can't offer the many wonderful programs we have without lots of volunteer help.

## Reactivation Fee

You will be charged a fee of \$75 if your membership has been inactive for 2 consecutive summers, and wish to be active the following season. *For example, Smith Family did not pay annual membership dues to come to the pool in 2020 and 2021. If they want to return 2022, the \$75 fee is assessed.*

# Spread the word about North Star membership

You, our members, are our best recruitment tool. Excitement is growing at North Star Swim Club and your board is working hard to advertise pool membership, but ultimately, we gain the most new members from you, our own current members, telling your friends how wonderful our pool is. So please take a few minutes to think about those who might enjoy being part of a family friendly community swim club and tell them all about North Star.

***Refer a new member and you'll receive a guest pass good for 10 visits (a \$25 value). The applicant must include your name on the referral line of the membership application; only one referral bonus will be paid per new member.***

Invite friends and neighbors to next year's Memorial Day open house. It's a great chance for families to experience the North Star difference and we always offer the best membership deal of the season that day.

Encourage pool rentals for individuals, community groups, schools and businesses. North Star pool is a great place for birthdays, graduations, family reunions, school and scout events and other summer celebrations. Members get a preferred hourly rate, but non-members may rent the pool, as well, with a member sponsor.

**Know someone who is interested in joining North Star Pool?**

**Have them contact:**  
[membershipnorthstarpool@gmail.com](mailto:membershipnorthstarpool@gmail.com)