How to Sign Up for Private Swim Lessons – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. I'm interested in signing up for private swim lessons. What should I do first?
   - Email swimming@bu.edu with a completed Private Swim Lesson Information Form located on our website.
   - Allow at least two business days for the private lesson office staff to respond to you.

2. I have emailed the required information to swimming@bu.edu, what happens now?
   - You will be contacted confirming that we have received your private lesson information form and you will be given an approximate time for when your private lessons will begin.
   - When we find an instructor that meets the participant’s availability and needs, the private lesson office staff will email you.

3. The private lesson office staff has found an instructor who meets my needs. What’s next?
   - You will be emailed with a schedule including lesson dates, times, the instructor’s name, and directions on how to register.
   - You will need to register at least 2 business days before the start of your first scheduled lesson.
   - If registration payment is not received on time, the lessons may be suspended or cancelled.

4. How do I register and pay for lessons?
   - Once the private lesson office staff has scheduled your lessons and given you approval to register, they will email you with registration and payment directions.

5. How will I know that my payment has been processed?
   - You will receive a receipt by email.
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1. When are the pools available for private swim lessons?
   - The competition pool is available weekdays from 6am-2pm and 6pm-10pm, on Saturdays 10am to 8:30pm, and on Sundays 8am-8:30pm for swimmers able to swim in deep water.
   - The recreation pool is available Monday-Thursday from 6am-1pm and 2pm-10pm and on Friday 6am-10:30am, 11:30am-1pm, and 2pm-10pm. This pool is also available on Saturdays from 8am-2:30pm and 5:30pm-8:30pm and on Sundays 9am-2:30pm and 5:30pm-8:30pm. These hours are subject to change due to seasonal rental groups.
   - Please be advised that we sometimes host various events that do not allow for private lessons to be held while the events are running.

3. Who are the instructors?
   - Our private lesson instructors are certified Water Safety Instructors through the American Red Cross and have experience teaching private lessons.
   - We try to tailor the instructor to the skill level and goals of the students.
   - Many of our instructors are full time undergraduate and graduate students here at BU.

4. What is the difference between the two pools?
   - The competition pool is on the south side of the building. The depth of this pool ranges from 7'-13.5'. We suggest that clients only use this pool if client is capable and comfortable. If the competition pool availability does not fit into your schedule, but the recreation pool availability does, it is acceptable for a client to have lessons in the recreation pool instead.
   - The recreation pool is on the north side of the building. The depth of this pool ranges from 3.5'-5'. We suggest that clients of intermediate swim level and below use this pool if the client is not capable and comfortable using the competition pool. If the recreation pool availability does not fit into your schedule, but the competition pool availability does, we do not recommend signing up when the competition pool is available unless the client is truly capable and comfortable swimming in the competition pool.

5. If I purchase five lessons, do I need to schedule them all at once?
   - Yes, all five lessons must be scheduled at one time. See cancellation/reschedule policy below.

6. What if I’m going to be away for a week?
   - We can certainly work around your schedule so that the lessons will accommodate your availability. See cancellation/reschedule policy below.
7. What is the cancellation/reschedule policy?
   - Cancellations must be made via email through the private lesson office staff.
   - Cancellations must be made at least 24 hours in advance. Weekend or Monday lessons must be canceled before 5pm on Friday. Only one lesson out of every 5 pack can be cancelled and rescheduled, including those in semi-private lessons; any more than one lesson cancelled will be forfeited without a refund. Allow at least 3 business days for a lesson to be officially rescheduled. Refunds will only be issued for medical reasons, in which case a doctor's note must be presented. If a participant does not show up for a scheduled lesson or cancels with less than 24-hours-notice or after 5pm on Friday, the lesson will be forfeited. If a participant in a semi-private lesson cannot attend for any reason, the lesson should be rescheduled; otherwise the missing party will forfeit the lesson.

8. Where can I wait during the private swim lesson?
   - We ask all family members and care givers to wait outside of the pool area unless the child in noticeably uncomfortable during the lesson. We have glass walls for easy viewing of the lessons.

9. What is the difference between private and semi-private swim lessons?
   - Semi-private lessons are 2 or more participants with only one instructor.
   - We do not match up semi-private lesson participants, the semi-private lessons must be with someone you know such as a friend or sibling.
   - Semi-private swim lesson pricing is based per person.

10. Do private lessons expire?
    - Yes, each lesson package has an expiration date posted on your receipt. Most private lessons expire at the end of the semester.