1. HOW DOES THE EVALUATION PROCESS WORK?
AFTER ALL OF OUR INTERESTED SWIMMERS HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO SWIM AND ALL THE PAPERWORK HAS BEEN FILLED OUT, THE COACHES SIT DOWN AND DISCUSS EACH AND EVERY SWIMMER. WE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:
- A SWIMMER’S UNDERSTANDING OF THE 4 STROKES
- THE EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE AMONG THE OTHER SWIMMERS’ QUESTIONNAIRES
- OPENINGS IN THE RAYS PRACTICE LEVELS
- OPENINGS IN EACH AGE GROUP (I.E. 8 & UNDER GIRLS, OPEN BOYS)
- COACHES COMMENTS
- THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT AND STRUCTURE OF THE RAYS PROGRAM

2. WHEN WILL I BE NOTIFIED OF THE OUTCOME OF THE EVALUATION?
LATE AUGUST, THE PARENTS OF EACH CHILD WILL BE NOTIFIED REGARDING THEIR SWIMMER’S EVALUATION RESULTS. TWO THINGS CAN HAPPEN:
- THE COACHING STAFF HAS FOUND A SPOT IN THE PROGRAM FOR A SWIMMER. IN THIS CASE, PARENTS AND SWIMMER WILL HAVE ABOUT TEN DAYS TO DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT THEY WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS YEAR’S PROGRAM.
- THE COACHING STAFF COULD NOT FIND A SPOT IN THE PROGRAM FOR A SWIMMER. IN THIS CASE, THE SWIMMER WILL BE ASSIGNED A "WAIT LIST RANK." THE WAITING LIST RANK IS OF ONLY THOSE CHILDREN WHO FELL INTO THAT CHILD’S PARTICULAR AGE GROUP. FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE SWIMMER IS A NINE YEAR OLD GIRL AND A WAIT LIST RANK OF "3" APPEARS BELOW, THAT SWIMMER IS THIRD ON THE WAITING LIST IN THE 10 & UNDER GIRLS AGE GROUP. CHILDREN WHO ARE ON THE WAITING LIST WILL BE EXTENDED AN INVITATION TO THE TEAM IF THOSE WHO WERE ORIGINALLY ACCEPTED DECLINE TO BE ON THE TEAM.

3. DO SWIMMERS WHO ARE "WAIT LISTED" MAKE THE TEAM?
USUALLY FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, THERE ARE A FEW SWIMMERS WHO TURN DOWN THEIR ACCEPTANCE INTO THE RAYS PROGRAM. IF THIS OCCURS, THE COACHING STAFF WILL GO TO THE WAIT LIST FOR THAT AGE GROUP AND SELECT THE NEXT SWIMMER. THAT SWIMMER WILL THEN BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RAYS PROGRAM.

4. OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE OTHER THAN THE COMPETITIVE TEAM?
OTHER THAN BEING A MEMBER OF THE RAYS COMPETITIVE TEAM THE RAYS WILL BE FILLING SPOTS IN THE MINI PROGRAM, DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAM, NON-COMPETITIVE TRAINING, FALL WARM-UP FOR HIGH SCHOOL SWIMMERS AND YOUTH SWIM LESSONS.

5. WHAT ABOUT PRACTICE? AND MEETS?
THE COMPETITIVE PROGRAM BEGINS PRACTICE ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2019 AND CONCLUDES ON FEBRUARY 21, 2020 FOR ALL THOSE SWIMMERS EXCEPT OUR DISTRICT QUALIFIERS. OUR DUAL MEETS ARE CONDUCTED ON SATURDAYS, BEGINNING IN MID-NOVEMBER AND LAST THROUGH THE LAST WEEKEND IN JANUARY. EACH TEAM HAS DUAL MEETS. OUR DUAL MEET SEASON ENDS WITH A DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP, USUALLY HELD ON A SATURDAY OR SUNDAY IN EARLY FEBRUARY. IF YOU CHILD QUALIFIES FOR THE DISTRICT, STATE, OR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, HIS/HER SEASON MAY BE EXTENDED INTO MARCH/EARLY APRIL.

6. HOW MUCH DOES THE RAYS PROGRAM COST?
OUR PROGRAM IS EASILY ONE OF THE MOST REASONABLE PROGRAMS YOU WILL FIND IN THE AREA. FEES VARY ACCORDING TO PRACTICE GROUPS. IN ADDITION, A TEAM SUIT [OR SIMILAR] AND A REGISTRATION FEE ARE REQUIRED. THIS INFORMATION WILL ALL BE IN THE LETTER THAT WILL BE OUT BY THE END OF AUGUST.