

## WHY BECOME AN ELLINGTON ORCA?

- **Everyone gets to swim regardless of ability:** Ever had your child in a sport and your child had to sit on the bench or play a less important role because he/she is not the fastest or best player on the team? Not with swimming. Everyone swims regardless of ability or age.
- **Flexible practice times:** We have practice every weekday. Since so many of our young swimmers participate in other activities and sports, you pick the days that work best for your schedule. Only able to swim 2 or 3 times a week, not all 5 days? No problem. Pick the days that work the best for you. Want to attend a practice and watch your child? No problem. We're flexible.
- **We're more than just a recreation program:** When you're a member of the Ellington Orca Swim Team, you're a part of a large swim family. Many parents, especially of the younger swimmers, come and watch their children at practice. When you do these things you get to know the parents, coaches, and swimmers and you quickly realize we are a swimming community, not just another recreation program.
- **Cost for what you get:** Compare the price of our program to other programs your child belongs to. Compare our price to the price swim teams in other communities charge. Considering what we charge and what you get we feel you are getting good value for your dollar.
- **Our swimmers:** We have been fortunate to have, over the years, older swimmers take on the responsibility of role model and mentor for our younger swimmers. Our older swimmers swim along-side the younger swimmers, helping them learn the sport and become good citizens. It's not just about swimming. Its life lessons, not just from the coaches, not just from the parents, but from the other swimmers as well. Parents from our team routinely hear comments from parents and coaches from other teams about how polite and courteous our swimmers are. It just doesn't happen overnight but starts when the children are younger and swimming in the summer program.
- **Our reputation:** We have a good reputation within our community as a well run organization.
- **We ask for and listen to your ideas and suggestions:** How many times has your child participated in an activity and at the middle or end of the season have you been asked you how's it going, what can we do to improve? Most activities don't ask for input, but we do. We incorporate the input into changes for the next season. We are here for you and your child. We want to know how it's going.
- **We work hard but we have fun doing it:** Swimming's a hard sport. Going back and forth in the pool can get monotonous. Our coaches are very good at getting your child to work hard but have fun doing it.
- **Swimming is a healthy, lifetime activity:** Some of the sports your child is in today require a team of people with special equipment to play, and will end when your child graduates from high school or college. Swimming is not one of those sports. Any age person, from age 1 to 100 can swim. All you need is a pool or lake and maybe a pair of goggles. No extra buddies to form a team (just a buddy or lifeguard for safe swimming). No special equipment. It's a very good cardiovascular activity with very few injuries (if done properly).