



# **Gator Gazette**

**June 2020**

## **Headlines:**

- Greetings
- Thank You Volunteers!
- Pool Manager & Guard Introductions
- NSC 60th Anniversary Spiritwear
- Social News
  - Gator Nation Parade Recap
  - Recipe Roundup
  - City of Newark Festival of Fun Home & Yard Decorating Tour
  - Food Truck Fridays
  - Other Events In the Works
- Board News
  - Financial Position Update
  - COVID Protocols & Operating Rules
  - Upcoming Board Meetings
  - Open Board positions/Nominations
  - Communication Channels

## **Greetings & Welcome**

Greetings Gators – we know we’ve communicated a lot with you this spring, given the uncertain times related to COVID-19 restrictions, regulations, and guidelines and impact on our ability to open and how we will operate. We appreciate your continued patience and support as we have worked tirelessly to get the pool operational, and evolved our operating protocols to be in line with the changing regulations and guidelines from the CDC, Governor’s office, and Delaware Health & Human Services.

We are SO thankful for all of our members, returning and new, and especially want to recognize our new member families to-date:

Donmoyer	Ferguson	Gilbert	Greso	Grimes
Gyuro	Hauser	Hausmann	Hinton	Lawhorn (Steve)
Lawhorn (Chris)	Liebl	Maichle	Marshall	McKee
Moor	Murphy	Myers	Panaccione	Puglisi
Rickmond	Rostocki	Stickley	Tackitt	Young

If you see new faces on the pool deck, please take a moment to introduce yourself and get to know our newest NSC Gators!

### Thank You Volunteers

Thanks to an AMAZING group of volunteers, led by Board Members Jeff Bonis and Jason Snyder, we were able to open the pool on June 8th without any formal volunteer workdays (& without having to pay an outside vendor to open and prepare the pool itself). We would like to thank Jeff, Jason, and the following members for their hard work and dedication to the NSC community.

The Abbott Family	Greg & Holly Ariff	Mike & Jack Baur
Andrew & Stef Bonis & family	Jeff & Chrissy Bonis & family	Ray Gardner
Kevin Hudson	Brian MacMillan	Kevin McCarthy
Roland Sharp	Jason Snyder	Alli Trotto
Lori & Brendan Wilson	Craig Young	John Zippe

### Pool Manager & Guard Staff

We are pleased to announce that our Gators head coach, Craig Young, has also accepted the position of pool manager this season. Craig has extensive experience and we are lucky to have him leading our guards in keeping our community safe. You can check out Craig's bio on our website at:

<https://www.nottinghamswimclub.com/our-lifeguard-staff>

Our guards work tirelessly to ensure member safety and to keep our grounds and facilities clean and disinfected. Here are our 2020 guards:

**Returning Guards:** Kishan Bonis, Amanda Caruccio, Sam Crook, Brady Doyle, Ben Everhart, Lyla Frueshstorfer, Kate Menzer, Jessica Trent, Alli Trotto, Kay Waltz, Emme Whisner, Riley Wilson

**New Guards:** Malakai Brotman, Rory Ostheimer, Madison Smith, Cole Zippe

### NSC Spiritwear

As previously communicated, we are offering limited edition Nottingham Swim Club Spiritwear for purchase as a pool fundraiser between now and June 28th. With this being NSC's 60th anniversary, it is a great time to celebrate our club and our Gator spirit! You can find more information about spiritwear & how to order/pay here: <https://www.nottinghamswimclub.com/nsc-spiritwear>

Orders are expected to be delivered by July 17th. Thank you for your support!

## Social News

While COVID-19 threw a wrench into social plans for the summer, our Social Chair, Melissa Abbott has been hard at work planning alternative, socially distanced events to continue to build our sense of community.

### **Gator Nation Car Parade:**

On the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, we held our first ever Gator Nation Car Parade through the Nottingham and Oaklands neighborhoods, and awarded prizes in the following categories:

- Best Costume
- Best Car Decoration
- Most Gator Spirit

We also encouraged members to chalking their own or other members' driveways & sidewalks. Check out pictures at the end of the newsletter!

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **Recipe Roundup (Tuesday, June 30th, 6:30 - 8:30):**

In a rut with what you make for dinner or have a favorite summer recipe you'd like to share? Find your favorite recipe to swap with other Gator gourmands on Tuesday, June 30th from 6:30 - 7:30 in the grass behind the large pavilion.

Please let Melissa know by midnight Monday, June 29th if you plan to attend, so enough tables can be distanced to display the recipes. Then bring 15-20 copies of your favorite recipe to share with others, along with your favorite cool beverage and come out and find some new recipes to try out at home.

#### **City of Newark Festival of Fun Home & Yard Decorating Tour (July 1st-13th):**

Decorate your yard with a family-friendly theme and sign up on the City of Newark's Parks & Rec page to be on the self-guided tour. More information about this event can be found at Facebook here:

[https://www.facebook.com/events/2700106036888900/?event\\_time\\_id=2700106046888899](https://www.facebook.com/events/2700106036888900/?event_time_id=2700106046888899)

As an NSC Gator, there are additional opportunities to participate in this event by:

##### **1. Including a 'Hidden Gator' In Your Decorations:**

Reach out to Melissa at [nottinghamswimclubsocial@gmail.com](mailto:nottinghamswimclubsocial@gmail.com) to register for a Hidden Gator. You will be provided a numbered paper gator to include in your display. Searching for Hidden Gators will be promoted on Facebook and Nextdoor apps, letting neighbors know how many Gators to look for on their self-guided tour.

Gator Pick-up Days will be Monday and Tuesday, June 29-30th: stop by the pool to pick up your gator.

##### **2. Register with NSC to have your house judged by a pool panel:**

Register through Melissa's email above to have your home and yard decorations judged by an NSC panel for fun prizes.

NSC Categories will include:

- Stars & Stripes Forever (Most Patriotic)
- Nothing Greater than a Gator (Best Gator Spirit)
- The Clark Griswold Over the Top Award (for the most elaborate decorations)

- Christmas Arrived Early (for best Christmas in July display)

### Food Truck Fridays (#FTFs)

Once again this year, we've tried to schedule food trucks regularly throughout the summer months for some hassle-free Friday night dinners at the pool. Our next Food Truck Friday is Friday, June 26<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 8:30, and features Crazy Rick's BBQ.

Upcoming Food Trucks Scheduled:

- June 26th: Crazy Rick's
- July 10th: The Wandering Chef (proceeds from Dumplings sales benefitting the Food Bank of DE)
- July 24th: Natalie's Fine Foods



### Other Events Being Planned:

- **Teen Night for Social Responsibility (July 9th)** - details to come - our NSC teens will put together to-go bags for the Newark Empowerment Center (volunteer hours can be earned for time assembling bags)
- **\$1 Movie Night in Field** - stay tuned for more details

### Board News

#### Updated Financial Position:

Two weeks ago we reported that the pool was on track to end the year with a nearly \$50,000 deficit. Now, dozens of membership renewals and several new memberships later, that deficit has been cut by at least half.

As of June 22, we've welcomed 25 new families and counting. We hope that more existing members will choose to be active this season, although we know that many cannot. As restrictions ease and both staff and members become practiced at the new protocols, there will be more opportunities for generating income, such as reopening the snack bar with limited pre-packaged food and beverages. We're working on fundraising ideas as well.

On the flip side, some expenses can only be guessed at this point. Our single biggest expense is payroll, which is very weather-dependent. A wet summer dampens the fun and cuts lifeguards' hours; sunny days increase both - so while we hope for many long, sunny, happy days, we also know that drives overall expenses up (but we also know that those sunny days are why we are all here in the first place!). Also, we always budget for a moderate amount of repair and maintenance. It's possible that fewer repairs will be needed this year, but there's always the possibility of needing more.

It has been asked if NSC would have been better off financially if we never opened for the season at all, as a few area pools have done. Even if we had never taken off the pool cover, leaving everything winterized and not hiring any staff, we would have ended up with at least a \$25,000 deficit (more if any repairs were needed, such as from storm damage). This is because we have to pay for taxes, insurance, lawn maintenance, and several subscriptions and maintenance fees to keep things like utilities connected. We had also already incurred some approved discretionary expenses before the pandemic hit, for tree maintenance and the fence

extension. More importantly, nobody would have been able to enjoy Nottingham Swim Club, and we could have lost members to other clubs that did open.

The Board is reasonably confident that with care and caution we will remain financially secure going forward, and we again thank those who came before us for creating this security.

**COVID Protocols and Operating Rules:** Now that we are a couple weeks into the swim season, we ask that all members take a moment to review the updated COVID Protocols and Operating Rules. They can be found here:

- COVID Protocols: <https://www.nottinghamswimclub.com/2020boardmessage-5>
- Operating Rules: <https://www.nottinghamswimclub.com/pool-rules>

**Board Meetings:** During the summer months, the NSC Board meets monthly at the pool. All NSC members are invited to attend the monthly Board meetings.

Upcoming board meeting dates (June – Sept to be held at the pool) are:

- Sunday, July 12<sup>th</sup>: 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup>: 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>: 6:30 p.m.
- October TBD: 6:15 p.m. Annual Membership Meeting (Zoom video conference)

**Three Board positions will be up for election** in 2020, and voted on at the Annual Meeting in October. Those positions are:

- President
- Treasurer
- Grounds

Interested in applying for any of these positions or learning more about the Board and how you can get involved? Please feel free to talk to any member of the Board about their role and opportunities to help or join us at a Board meeting.

**Communication Channels:** Throughout the season (and less frequently, throughout the rest of the year), we publish information a number of ways for the membership, so you know what is going on:

- **Emails** – please check your account to be sure that you’re subscribed
- **Facebook** – please follow our page, **Nottingham Swim Club (@NSCGators)** for updates about social events, as well as when the pool needs to close early due to weather
- **Website** – pool member, Dewey Donovan, graciously donates his time year-round to help the Board refresh and update our website (<https://www.nottinghamswimclub.com>) and make an easy-to-read calendar – please check out all of his hard work!



Gator Nation Parade and Driveway/Sidewalk Chalking:





