

Dear members / Dear parents of members,

I would like to thank you for your trust in the Verbier triathlon club and we are very pleased to see so many active members.

With this newsletter I would like to give you some general information about the history of the club and how it operates now and how the club will continue.

Please read this second part carefully in order to let me know your child (ren) 's choice.

Besides, we also run adult programs, please contact me if you are interested.

History of the club

Natation Entremont 2015

In April 2015, Natation Entremont was founded as a sports club in Bagnes by a small group of swimming lovers. Based on the observation that there was no real possibility of taking swimming lessons, the objective of the committee was to offer as many children as possible in Entremont a large swimming education program. The objective is not only to teach children to swim in a pool but also to be comfortable in the outdoor water, see for some to compete. We organized a children's coach training with the Swiss Swimming Federation in the Verbier swimming pool and this training was paid for out of membership fees while the teachers worked for free. All of the instructors have done this Kids Coach Training as well as the Life Saving Pool Training. We were able to develop the club and offer classes outside of public pool hours. In recent years, 3 instructors are active in the club and have also done the Jeunesse Sport training.

Verbier triathlon event / 123cross

In summer 2016, we organized the first triathlon for children in Verbier. In 2017, we organized the first cross-triathlon (swim- MTB- race) and kids triathlon in Le Châble using the private water. In 2018 and 2019, the second and third edition of the triathlon event took place. For 2020, the first road triathlon was planned with the cross triathlon, but Covid prevented us from organizing this event.

Verbier triathlon club 2019

As we set new goals to not only offer the swim education program for all children but also offer a multi-sport program and organise triathlon events for all ages in Bagnes, it was time to change the statutes of the club and we created the Verbier triathlon club in 2019 as it exist today.

In 2019, we also decided to hire a paid teacher for the swim school program, as we teach over 100 children per year to swim in small groups and in private, for at least 10 weeks per year and up to 34 weeks per year.

The new statutes and the membership type

In the statutes we mention that we have different members; swim school members and multi-sport training members. (To read the complete statutes please visit our website.)

The difference between the two memberships is the commitment and the membership fee calculation.

The two groups that swim on the Thursday night at the moment, are seen as the triathlon training groups and all the groups running on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday (morning and afternoon) are seen as swim school groups but please let us know what you wish to choose for.

For this year, your child can stay in the Thursday group even if you ask us now to change to be a swim-school member.

Multi-sport / triathlon members: 385 CHF year round fee everything included

We as a club believe in outdoor multi-sports for children. We like to bring the children towards swimming safely in the outdoor waters, riding their bike safely and enjoy using their bike for the rest of their life, run around like kids love running around.

We don't force competition but we do see a possibility for children of all ages and capabilities to enjoy 3-4 popular events per year including our own Verbier triathlon events. This summer we plan to provide several small events in the outdoor pool of Verbier.

The club invests heavily in the multi-sport training groups and provides year round training hours and events using sponsorships, subventions and voluntary work from instructors.

In order for the training courses to bear all fruit, we recommend that parents register their child for at least one hour of training per week all year round, and if possible add a second hour of training. We cordially ask parents to help the club in organizing events through a day or two half days of volunteering and to support the club in any other way possible.

Note: Swimming is always a very important part for this group and we will keep a budget to provide a minimum of 30 swimming sessions per year. We are currently examining all options to continue swimming as soon as possible but if necessary we keep this budget for the year 2021-2022 and the members receive a reduction.

Swim school members: 35 CHF administration fee plus 15 CHF per planned lesson or 90 CHF/ hour (100 CHF/ hour for non-residents) per planned private lesson.

The swim school program is also very important for the club as we believe that all the children should have the possibility to learn to swim and gain trust in the water between the age of 5 and 8. The club and their instructors have invested a lot of free time over the last years to create this program and to gain trust and support from the commune to be able to provide the programs. Instructors are now paid by the hour to teach and membership fees are based on a price per scheduled class for the group. We cordially ask parents to help the club a minimum of 1 half day per year at a club event.

We understand that our swim school members do not wish to substitute swimming lessons for other sporting activities and we will keep a budget to provide the swimming lessons our members have signed up for. We hope to deliver these lessons this school year, but realistically we will need to plan a block at the start of the next school year for those who have signed up for 34 lessons.

COVID 19

Mid march:

Mid-march until mid-June the Mondzeu pool had to close, the training groups received MTB and run training outdoors from mid-April and swim training from the end of May. The members in the swim school program were offered to reschedule the classes with Yvette and where needed, small discount were given towards the school year 2020-2021.

September:

The club started the new groups for the school year with over 70 children in the swim school program. We took measures to help stop the virus from spreading and we asked the commune to come and clean the pool during days that the pool was closed to the public as many children were receiving swim lessons with us or with the school.

End of October 2020

The Mondzeu pool closed until end of November.

Despite the Covid rules which have closed public swimming pools, we are still seeking an exemption to be able to use a private swimming pool in the region.

While waiting to obtain such an authorization and / or as long as the swimming pools remain closed, we are very motivated to offer you the following activities for the moment:

November until further notice

Training groups program

all including in the membership fee and a guarantee of minimum 30 swim sessions per year.

Wednesday MTB skills training continues: le Châble 13h45 – 15h00

Thursday night run training: le Châble 17h00- 18h00

Program of choice for the swim school groups:

This program will run on a separate budget and can only take place if there is enough interest. Through multisport games we offer to work on confidence, breathing, swimming movements, running, climbing, jumping and physical strength.

- Monday from 9.11 until further notice: between 4.30 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. in Verbier.

- Wednesday from 11.11 until further notice: between 3 p.m. and 5.30 p.m. in Le Châble.

We wish to offer a program of choice as we think about the children and all their activities that are cancelled and we believe it is important for them to be able to maintain their swimming form and to continue to see each other in the framework of the club.

The training would take place as much as possible outside, and inside in case of bad weather. Groups would be limited to a maximum of 9 children.

Multisport program finance:

The club offers to pay half of the cost and asks parents of members to pay the other half, using part of the fees already paid for the 2020-2021 season. The cost price per session will be less than a

swimming lesson because there is less infrastructure. We think with 50 CHF of the club per child and 50 CHF per parent we will be able to organize a nice series of activities for about 2 months. This depends of course on the number of children interested.

I would like to be informed by the members of the swimming school if they want to register for these additional sessions before this Sunday evening by SMS addressed to me only! I will make groups of 9 children maximum and I will confirm the exact time. First come, first served.

I hope that we have answered to your questions and we hope that we can teach your children again soon.

Stay safe.

Best regards,

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