

## It's Always Sunny at Avalon

While we cannot always guarantee perfect weather conditions for Avalon on a daily basis, I can assure you that the Avalon Community provides a warm and friendly atmosphere to have fun and make memories that last for years with our friends and families. As a neighbor of the property, I have the great opportunity of hearing the sounds of laughter, excitement, competition and companionship occurring on a regular basis at Avalon. I also get to witness, just like each of you, the smiling faces of all the members as they enter the club for their activities. From the toddlers in the baby pool to seniors on the tennis courts, you would be hard pressed to find anyone without a smile on their face while enjoying their time at the club. The Membership of Avalon truly understands the purpose of a recreation association and is extremely talented in executing the mission of having fun and building strong bonds within our community.

It is no surprise that Avalon is such a strong community. We have over 60 years of experience in the art and business of operating a recreation association. We are extremely fortunate to have a tenured staff that is fully invested in the long term success of the club, a group of outstanding volunteers serving on various boards, committees and projects and a Membership that is actively engaged in seeing that Avalon remains a premier association in today's fast pace world with endless entertainment options. The strength of the community is our people and what really makes Avalon such a special place to gather.

The 2018 schedule is packed full of activities and special events just like in years past. The Board of Directors have been busy since the winter planning and organizing the year for everyone's enjoyment. We have the competitive events like the Swim/Dive teams starting in late May, the Autumn Cup and the McCarty which are 2 of leading tennis tournaments in the Richmond area and a highly competitive Corn Hole tournament that has gained momentum based purely on bragging rights. The team has our Gator Camps planned and lessons are available for both swimming and tennis. Additionally, we have a full social schedule with numerous events for folks of all ages to enjoy. Please review the full social calendar and mark those dates down now so that you don't miss out on any of the excitement.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of the members of Avalon for making it a special place to a part of. I truly appreciate all of the effort that goes into making our Community a success on many levels and understand that it doesn't happen by accident or without commitment from our people. With members like you, the 2018 forecast is definitely SUNNY. We look forward to seeing everyone enjoying themselves again this year at Avalon and please don't hesitate to stop me or the other Directors to offer your feedback.

**Todd Brookshier**

## Avalon Manager's Report 2018

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome all Avalon members and guests to the upcoming summer activity season. The staff and I are looking forward to another safe, enjoyable and activity packed time of fun and relaxation. I enjoy the pleasure of seeing the many familiar faces once again after the long winter months. I consider the great strength of Avalon is its family friendly environment. Each year new members are coupled with the "old timers" to create a unique and special atmosphere. Please make a point to introduce yourself to anyone you have not been acquainted with. I think you will find the relationships you can build at Avalon to be quite positive.

Speaking of new people, the Avalon family would like to extend a special welcome to our new assistant swim coach Sean Moore. He will be joining head coach Katie Baxa and assistant coaches Cristina Muncy and Willow Clark. Sean Reynolds will continue to lead our exceptional tennis program. He is an active member of the Richmond area tennis community and possesses a great deal of instructional knowledge. Sean is committed to providing programs for all ages and ability levels. Kenley Smalkowski will continue to serve as our very capable dive team head coach. Kenley has positively represented Avalon's dive team as a participant and assistant coach for many years. Helping Kenley again this year will be assistant coach, Joe O'Connor.

Once again Gator Camp will be up and running under the leadership of director, Carley Wren. Carley is a long time member of the full-time staff at Avalon. She is delightful with children and is poised to lead a program that provides outstanding activity for children that incorporates swimming, tennis and other fun activities. Veteran swim lesson instructor Sharon Ligon will continue providing outstanding swim instruction at a both clinic and private level.

While minor year-round maintenance is a continued priority, we do have some new exciting developments of note related to facilities that took place over the winter. First, we resurfaced the two diving boards so as to provide our competition and recreation divers a proper and safe performance finish. Secondly, the swim team starting blocks have been refurbished in order to maintain a quality platform for our swim team members. Also, the four sand filters in the upper pool have been gutted and replaced with new silica gravel, sand and filtration laterals. This will enable our circulation system to operate efficiently as it cleans/filters the pool water in such a way as to provide maximum healthy water quality. The fencing surrounding the baby pool has been reinforced and repainted.

In the tennis arena at Avalon, several upgrades have taken place. The lower courts 1,2 and 3 had been in significant disrepair for quite some time. There was severe cracking and surface damage as a result of years of wear. Last August the courts were repaired and painted with two coats of a high quality acrylic professional grade sport surface paint. New nets were purchased, hardware was reconditioned, and high density white lines were painted to complete the project.

Many members and guests have availed themselves to the upgrade and are pleased with the playability and overall quality of the courts. Currently, we are in the process of restoring to showcase quality all five upper courts. These courts will be, after cracks are repaired, coated with a top grade professional surface sealer which prolongs the life of the courts. They will then be given two coats of outstanding quality acrylic color (courts-blue, apron-light green), refurbished hardware and will be relined in bright white border.

The tennis office has been often flooded after severe rain storms which caused damage to the office and bathroom floors. This problem has been eliminated with the construction of a new drainage grate in the patio area. This drain is connected to our existing underground drainage system and will remove high quantities of run-off water which will eliminate flooding and erosion. Lastly, new foliage will be planted in the upper pool grass area adjacent to courts 4 and 5 as well as the front pool gate area.

***Please make note that tennis keys will be \$5 per key. If you do not have one, you can start picking up the tennis keys on May 1 in the manager's office.***

Opening day this year is Saturday May 26 (11 am to 8 pm). Regular hours of operation will be Sunday to Thursday from 12 to 7 pm and Friday and Saturday 12 to 8 pm through June 14. Starting June 15 through July 29, the regular operating hours will be from 11 am to 9 pm. Then Starting on July 30 to Labor Day (Sept. 3), our hours from Sunday to Thursday are from 10 am to 8 pm and on Friday and Saturdays, 10 am to 9 pm.

We will continue our very popular Friday evening grilling starting when Henrico County schools are closed for the summer. On all Friday nights through Labor Day we will be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs for sale for members and guests between the hours of 5:30 to 7:30 PM. Bring down your family and friends on Fridays to relax by the pool and enjoy a fresh grilled burger and/or hotdog.

In conclusion, I would like to remind the membership of the following:

- The speed limit on Avalon property is 5 mph at all times.
- The tennis key will unlock both the tennis gate and tennis bathroom.

- Apart from Avalon's sanctioned activities, anyone on the property after 10:00 PM will be considered trespassing.
- Each member of Avalon has a responsibility to encourage others to abide by the rules governing facility use to ensure the enjoyment and safety of all members and guests.
- Consumption of alcohol is prohibited on Avalon property apart from Avalon Board sanctioned approved activities.
- The Adolf Room is available for rental during the summer swim season only. See the manager on duty for details.
- Members are encouraged to get updates on all Avalon activities on our website, **[www.avalonclub.org](http://www.avalonclub.org)**
- Shutting down the pool area on the last day of the season is hard for some, but because many of our staff start school before Labor Day and the remainder start the day after, we want our membership to be aware of the following: On Labor Day the baby pool will close at 4 pm, the lower pool at 5 pm and the upper pool will close at 6 pm.

My primary objective and greatest priority continues to be an ongoing commitment to facility safety. Members are expected to assist in this commitment as we enjoy the summer swim season. And while it is impossible to be all things to all people, my goal is to provide an environment at Avalon that, as much as possible, safely fulfills the many expectations of our diverse membership. Therefore, if any matter surfaces that needs management attention, please come to the office and notify us immediately.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun season at Avalon!

**Jack Cox, General Manager**

## Avalon 2018 Socials

Open House	Sun., May 6	2–4pm
Adult Social	Fri., May 18	6:30–11pm
Pool Opens	Sat., May 26	11am–8pm
Memorial Day Tennis Social	Mon., May 28	9–11am
Memorial Day Cookout	Mon., May 28	12–2pm
Brian McCarty Memorial Tennis Tournament	Sat., June 9	8am–11pm party starts at 5pm
Pizza Party	Fri., June 15	12:30pm
Father’s Day Fun-Day	Sun., June 17	3pm
Middle School Social	Wed., June 20	7–9pm
Thirsty Friday Trivia Night	Fri., June 22	6–9pm
Ladies Night Out	Thurs, June 28	7–11pm Pool CLOSED
July 4th Parade & Cookout	Wed., July 4	12–4pm
Family Float Night	Fri., July 13	7–9pm
Thirsty Friday Hawaiian Night	Fri., July 20	6–9pm
Nerf Battle	Fri., July 20	6–8pm grass next to playground
Family Float Night	Fri., August 10	7–9pm
Thirsty Friday Board Game Night	Fri., August 17	6–9pm
Teen Night (6th–12th Grade)	Thurs., August 23	7–9pm
Family Movie Night	Fri., August 24	8–10pm
3rd–5th Grade Social	Mon., August 27	5–7pm
Labor Day “Fun Day Sun-Dae”	Mon., September	12–2pm
Corn-Hole Tournament	Sat., September 15	4pm tentative date

*The grill will be open every Friday night throughout the summer! Every Wednesday in August is Noodle Night!*

If you have any questions or if you would like to help plan an event please contact Emmy Woody at [emmywoody@hotmail.com](mailto:emmywoody@hotmail.com).

E-vites will be sent for the adult events. All checks payable to *Avalon Recreation Association*. Cash will be accepted (be sure to put \$ in an envelope with name).

Note: All events subject to change (including cancellation due to weather). Check website often for updates and more details.



# Avalon Swim Lesson Schedule for 2018

## Swim Lesson Schedule for 2018

Monday, 6/4 - Friday, 6/8  
Monday, 6/11 - Friday, 6/15  
Monday, 6/18 - Friday, 6/22  
Monday, 6/25 - Friday, 6/29  
Monday, 7/2 - Friday, 7/6  
NO CLASS - VACATION!!!  
Monday, 7/9 - Friday, 7/13  
Monday, 7/16 - Friday, 7/20  
Monday, 7/23 - Friday, 7/27  
Monday, 7/30 - Friday, 8/3  
Monday, 8/6 - Friday, 8/10

**For all weeks, except noted, the class schedules are:**

- Level I & II & III 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- Level IV & V - scheduled individually

### Cost:

- Group Lessons - \$60.00/week
- Private Lessons - \$20.00/half hour or \$35/hour

Due to low demand, there are no evening classes scheduled! All instructors are available for private lessons to set up with you and the individual instructor.

Private lessons may start Wednesday, May 30th, just call, text or email to set up. Remember, even the Dive and Swim Coaches will teach private lessons; contact them directly to set up.

Sign-up for classes and private lessons at Avalon on Sunday, May 6th (2 p.m. - 4 p.m.), OR call, text or email Sharon Ligon 804-338-0501, OR at the pool office when the pool opens on Saturday, May 26th. There is a registration binder on the shelf to the left when you enter the pool office. You must sign up your child for the class that works for you. Again, private lessons are set up directly with the instructors. Payment for classes can be made anytime before the class begins to the instructor

or the pool office! We must have at least four students to make the class!

Summer is coming soon, hopefully! I am definitely looking forward to some warm weather that sticks around; remember, when it is hot and humid, this keeps your children warm and it warms the pool water, too. I have been teaching children to swim since I was 16 years old and I love to see the excitement, the expressions and the accomplishment of the children. When I am not in the water, you will find me at The Steele Group Sotheby's International Realty; I am a licensed real estate agent. So, if you do not get me on the phone, please leave a message; I will return your call or text as soon as possible. As I enter my fifteenth summer of teaching at Avalon, I look forward to teaching your children and sharing in their excitement to learn. I truly love it!

Returning for twelfth summer is Nicole Ligon Jones, whom also enjoys working with each of your children. Nicole has just completed teaching her third year with Junior Kindergartens at Collegiate. As many of you know, she is a great instructor and loves to work with your children.

As a Water Safety Instructor, I am to follow a lesson plan that is given to me by the Red Cross, provide the skills checklist and give feedback after each class. If at anytime you feel that we are not accomplishing this, please contact the pool manager, Jack Cox, or myself to discuss.

If you have any questions or want a particular class taught, please contact me and we will see if it is possible. Summer really is just around the corner!

### Sharon Ligon

Swim Lesson Coordinator -  
[Sharon.ligon@sothebysrealty.com](mailto:Sharon.ligon@sothebysrealty.com)  
Cell - 804-338-0501

## Avalon Dive Team

The Avalon Dive Team ended the 2017 season on a great note, being awarded the Brandon Hall Wilburn Sportsmanship Award at Champs. We won the "B" Division regular season trophy and the "B" division champs trophy. We are looking forward to another successful season this summer.

Kenley Smalkowski will be returning as our Head Coach. Joe O'Connor will return as our assistant coach. We are very fortunate to have these experienced and fun coaches as our leaders.

Registration for Dive Team will be Sunday, May 6th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Divers must be registered in order to practice so please come to the pool on May 6th to register your diver. If you are unable to register on May 6<sup>th</sup>, you may register the first day your child attends practice. As always, parents will be asked to sign up for 2 "jobs." The sign-up sheets will be available at registration.



### Dive Team Practice Schedule

Dive practice begins on Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Come to the practices that are most convenient for you. The practice schedule is as follows:

#### May 29<sup>th</sup> - June 15<sup>th</sup>

Mondays-Fridays – 4:15 to 5:00 or 5:00 to 5:45

#### June 18<sup>th</sup> - July 18<sup>th</sup> -

Mondays – 9:00 to 11:30

Tuesdays- 9:00 to 11:30 and 4:15 to 5:45

Wednesdays-9:00 to 11:30 and 4:15 to 5:45

Thursdays-9:00 to 11:00

Fridays – 9:00 to 11:00

\*Divers may come to any of the above practices\*

### Dive Meet Schedule

1<sup>st</sup> meet – Thursday, June 21<sup>st</sup> -1:00

2<sup>nd</sup> meet - Thursday, June 28<sup>th</sup> – 1:00

3<sup>rd</sup> meet - Thursday, July 5<sup>th</sup> – 1:00

4<sup>th</sup> meet - Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>– 1:00

5<sup>th</sup> meet – Tuesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>-1:00

Monday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> – 9:00 –Girls Champs at Avalon  
Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 –Boys Champs at Avalon  
Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> – Team Dessert Banquet and Awards Reception – 6:30

Please mark your calendars with the above dates. Our coaches work very hard with the children and look forward to seeing them perform in meets so please try to schedule camps and vacations at times that will not conflict with the dive schedule.

### Questions

Contact Len Archer at 335-9791

## Gator Camp 2018 – *Revenge of the Alligator Skin Shoes*

A week-long kids camp centered around building tennis and swim skills for ages 5-10 years while having a great time making cool crafts and awesome friends. Registration is limited, so sign-up early!

### Schedule

Monday – Friday  
9:00 am – 1:00 pm (rain or shine).

Session I	June 18 – June 22
Session II	June 25 – June 29
<i>Holiday for America!</i>	<i>June 30 – July 8</i>
Session III	July 9 - July 13
Session IV	July 16 – July 20
<i>Holiday for Swim/Dive CHAMPS!</i>	<i>July 21 – July 29</i>
Session V	July 30 – August 3
Session VI	August 6 – August 10

### Gator Camp Fees

- The cost for members is \$175 per week per child.
- The cost for non-members is \$195 per week per child.
- There is a \$10 sibling discount for child number two and up.
- Daily Member drop- in rate is \$40/day with advance registration.
- Daily Non-Member drop-in rate is \$50/day with advance registration

Please make checks payable to *Avalon Recreation Association*. Payment by bank check only.  
Thank you for your cooperation!

### Questions?

Contact the director [gator.camp@avalonclub.org](mailto:gator.camp@avalonclub.org)



## Avalon Swim Team – Coach’s Message

Dear Avalon Members,

Opening Day is quickly approaching, and even before that we have the first days of swim team practice! My name is Katie Baxa and I am returning for my second summer as Head Coach of the Gator Swim Team. This is my 8th year coaching swimming, and during the school year I coach the varsity teams at St. Catherine’s and St. Christopher’s Schools.

Coaches Cristina Muncy and Willow Clark will also be returning this summer for their 3rd and 2nd years coaching, respectively. Cristina is finished her first year at the University of Virginia, and Willow is finishing her Junior year at Saint Gertrude High School.

I would also like to welcome Sean Moore as an Assistant Coach this year as well. Sean was a Avalon Gator growing up, and coached for a season in 2011. I hope you will help me in welcoming Sean back home to the Gators this summer.

After an amazingly fun and undefeated(!) season last summer, the coaches and I are excited to be back to have another fun-filled summer, and building upon our successes of last year. We have a fantastic Swim program for children ages 4 and up and it’s a great way for kids and parents alike to hang out with friends at the pool and make new ones!

If you are interested in registering your child for swim team for the first time, please don’t hesitate to reach out if you have any questions! We would love to see some new faces on the pool deck this summer!

### **Some important dates for the beginning of the season:**

4/16/18- Swim Team Registration Opens

5/21/18- First Day of Swim Team Practice

5/30/18 Swim Team Parent Meeting

6/10/18 First Swim Meet

6/24/18 Pizza Pep Rally

## Go Gators!

### **Coach Katie**





## Avalon Tennis

### Avalon's Tennis Director – Sean Reynolds

Sean Reynolds is now in his third year directing Avalon's tennis program. A PTR certified teaching professional, Sean has developed a thriving junior program and oversees over 20 adult league teams throughout the year. For all tennis related questions, contact Sean at [avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com](mailto:avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com).

### Summer Junior Tennis Clinics

Summer junior tennis clinics will be offered in the mornings and afternoons during the weekdays. Session 1 (5 weeks) will start the week of June 25. Session 2 (5 weeks) will start the week of July 30. Information for online registration will be included in the Summer Tennis Newsletter, which will be sent out via email by Friday, May 18. If you'd like to gather a group of your child's friends, private junior clinics are also available.

### Adult Tennis

In addition to adult team play, Avalon also offers private tennis lessons, group clinics, and tennis socials. Contact Sean for more information at [avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com](mailto:avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com).

### Tennis Leagues

Avalon teams compete in rated USTA tennis leagues for men, women, and mixed during the outdoor season. Avalon also participates in the Ladies' Suburban League and the Richmond Racquet League. Contact Sean at [avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com](mailto:avalonrecreationtennis@gmail.com) for help finding a team.

### Summer Tennis Socials

#### Independence Day Social

Wednesday, July 4 – 9:00-11:00 AM

#### Freaky Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> Social

Friday, July 13 – 7:00-9:00 PM

#### US Open Social

Friday, August 24 – 7:00-9:00 PM

#### Labor Day Social

Monday, September 3 – 9:00-11:00 AM

### Brian McCarty Memorial Tennis Tournament

Avalon will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Brian McCarty Tennis Tournament on Saturday, June 9. Honoring Avalon member Brian McCarty, this tournament was the largest one day tournament on the East coast last year! Visit <https://themccarty.wordpress.com/> for more information.





Avalon Recreation  
Association