Why Swim Long Course?

10 Reasons

1. **It is more ‘bang for your buck’**. Being a current member of the Sharks Team means that you have already paid your yearly registration and USA Swimming fee’s and there is no additional fundraising or volunteering over the long course season.

2. **Summer Clubs are not the same as year round programs**. Although fun, as well as beneficial for younger swimmers; summer clubs will only give your younger swimmers a fraction of the instruction and training that the Sharks Team will provide. In general, summer clubs are coached by non-professional coaches who in many cases are not familiar with your child. Summer practices will be very easy for your child once they have been a member of the Sharks team.

3. **Group progression can be compromised**. Swimmers who are progressing through the Sharks program, but do not swim long course, face an uphill battle when or if they move to a higher level training group.

4. **Swimmer/Coach ratio**. The Sharks Long Course season will have a smaller number of members; which makes the Swimmer/Coach ratio even better.

5. **Structure is good for all kids**. The continued structure that the Sharks team provides in many cases is what young kids need.

6. **Continued team building/social aspect**. Shark swimmers make valuable friendships and bonds with other team members as well as with their coaches. These bonds continue to strengthen over the summer with their teammates/coaches during the Long Course season.

7. **Long Course competitions are in 50 meters**. Swim meets over the summer take place in 50 meter pools. This is the size of pool used in Olympic competitions as well as National competitions for the Senior level swimmers. Swimming in this longer pool makes 25 yard pool events seem much easier. Many swimmers prefer to race in the 50 meter pool. You
may never know what your child is better at if they do not get a chance to compete in it.

8. **Swimming is a competitive sport.** Swimmers excel in the sport of swimming through consistency and hard work. Just because your swimmer might be taking a break, it does not mean that his or her competitors are.

9. **Techniques learned can be lost.** The swimmers have put in a lot of hard work to refine their swimming skills. Those skills can erode.

10. **It’s awesome.** Swimming is fun and exciting. To some extent, it becomes a way of life for those swimmers who become involved in it. Why stop that in the summer?