



Message from the HOA President

by Meera Desai, HOA President

As the President of the HOA, I often get asked – “Why do I need to pay dues if I don’t use the pool?” The dues, of course, help to fund all the activities and services provided, coach and lifeguard staffing, insurance, legal fees, and community property maintenance – which I think most of us in the community recognize. But I think many of us fail to appreciate the benefits in addition to the pool that having an active HOA provides. At our recent Spring Home Owners meeting I presented a list of the TOP 8 benefits for having an HOA and what the HOA does for you. If you weren’t able to attend the meeting in person, I hope you will take the time to read this and feel pride in what our HOA does for our community.

1. Helping Maintain and Appreciate Property Values
 - Homes and common areas are consistently taken care of and well-maintained which can significantly contribute to the appreciation of property values.
2. Financial Stability
 - A well-managed HOA has reserve funds in place. These funds set aside money for future common area repairs and capital improvements. By having these funds available, the HOA reduces the likelihood of needing a special assessment, which is a one-time fee charged to residents to cover unexpected expenses.
3. Community Connection through Volunteer Work
 - Opportunities to be of service to your community by volunteering to serve on the Board of Directors or for various events is not only a great way to make new friends, but it offers individual members of the association a deeper connection to the community.
4. Added Layer of Support
 - The added layer of support through our active HOA and ACC team gives residents guidance through their remodeling projects as well as protects our single-family zoned community from ordinances that can impact other neighborhoods with no active HOA or ACC.
5. Rules and Regulations Deter Nuisance Activity
 - Each resident who owns a home in the community is held to the same set of standards for the upkeep of their home's exterior, as well as the adherence to noise policies, RV and Boat parking restrictions, short-term rental guidelines, etc.
6. Increased Community Pride
 - Community activities and events help bring neighbors together. Residents in HOAs are more likely to express pride in their communities and participate in local activities, which in turn fosters a sense of belonging and engagement in the neighborhood.
 - There is a sense of camaraderie and joy among neighbors at any community event. HOAs can facilitate increased social interaction and community involvement, leading to a stronger sense of community and a higher quality of life for residents.

- 7. Access to Amenities
 - o Our community has a well-maintained pool available year-round for recreational and lap swimming, we have highly awarded Cabana swim team, access to a local competitive swim team, kitchen and BBQs for use in the summer, swim lessons, aqua fitness classes, and year-round coffee socials.
- 8. Architectural Controls
 - o HOA members are required to submit for approval any modification projects to the exterior of their home. The Architectural Control Committee (ACC) reviews each submittal to ensure consistency and continuity with original community design standards.
 - o There is a strong link between well-implemented homeowner association (HOA) architectural guidelines and higher property values due to the fact that effective enforcement of these rules helps preserve the community's visual charm and overall quality, making it a more desirable place to live.

Shadow Brook Sharks Swim Team

Our 2024 Sharks season begins April 16 and we are looking forward to having our swimmers back in the water!



Our first dual swim meet of our 2024 season will be at home against the Crossgates Gators on May 18 and we are hosting Champs on June 29 at Independence High School.

Our complete meet schedule and social activities can be found on our Sharks' dedicated website at <https://shadowbrooksharks.swimtopia.com/>. Go Sharks!

Practice Schedule

Spring: April 17 - May 30, 2024 (M-F)	Summer: June 3 - June 21, 2024 (M-F) Tentative																
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Newbie Day is Tuesday, April 16. We will have a special practice schedule. ● No practices on Monday, May 27. Please come to the pool for the Annual Memorial Day BBQ, fun & games! ● No practices on Friday, May 31 (SJUSD's last day of school). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A special practice schedule will be announced for the week of June 24. ● Evening practices for swimmers aged 8 years or older will begin the week of June 3 (Mondays & Thursdays, 8:00 - 9:00 PM). ● Tuesday Night Clinics will be held on June 4, 11 & 18. More information to come. 																



Social Corner By Sujatha Swaminathan, VP Social

Bookkeeper Wanted

Email your recommendations to: treasurer@shadowbrook.org

Easter Egg Hunt Photos:



Hello neighbors!

We had a good turnout for our Easter Egg Hunt 2024. The sky cleared up and was sunny for a few hours. It was lovely to see the excitement of all the little ones who came to search for eggs. We had a photo booth and sweet treats for all. Special thanks for all the volunteers, Matt Tenczar, Koorosh Vakhshoori, Lydia McClure, Padma Heid, Edward Kang, Toni Hale, Meera Desai, Kali Gruenhagen, Kirin Gruenhagen, and Jason Gruenhagen for volunteering their time to make the Easter Egg Hunt a big success.



Group photo of a few of Easter Egg Hunt Volunteers

Upcoming event:

Memorial Day Commemoration and BBQ

We will be having our Annual Memorial Day Commemoration and BBQ Potluck on Monday, May 27th beginning at 11:30 am. We are hoping to have a similar program as last year and are looking for high school or middle school student participants who may want to recite or read Flanders Fields. Please contact me at Email:

social@shadowbrook.org – if you are interested in helping out. Trust me – it's not just work but a lot of fun and a chance to bond with your neighbors, signup with this link or QR above:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4FA8AA2FA5FAC70-48981788-memorial>



From The Pool Deck by Joni Landine, VP Pool

We have been working to get the facility ready and staffed for a smooth start to the summer season.

The spring and summer pool schedule is up on the website at shadowbrook.org. Go to the pool tab for details on activities and hours.

We will once again offer swim lessons this summer. Swim lesson sign up begins in person at the pool on Saturday May 11 from 1:00pm - 4:00pm.

Free Library Stand at the Pool

Special thanks to our neighbor, **Jim Mason**, who has built us a new Little Free Library at the pool. Not only can you share and borrow books from the library, but your furry friend can get a treat during their walk as well.



Thanks so much, Jim!

The Board

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