# Hydration

#### Water- the most important and most often neglected nutrient!

#### Did You Know...?

- About 60% of our body weight is water and our need for water increases greatly with exercise.
- Sweat acts as our body's 'air conditioner' and needs to be replaced, or performance can be affected.
- Adequate fluid intake before, during and after exercise is critical in preventing dehydration.
- Dehydration occurs when fluid losses exceed 1% of body weight. Symptoms include headache, irritability and fatigue.
- <u>Do Not</u> use thirst as the gauge for your body's water needs.
- Athletes lose more contests through not drinking enough water than any other nutritional cause!!!

## For Maximum hydration, follow these recommendations

- » Consume cool fluids in small volumes at regular intervals
- » For exercise lasting less than 60 minutes, cool water is the best replacement
- » For intense exercise lasting more than 60 minutes, diluted glucose and electrolyte solutions (sport drinks) are recommended to provide fuel for working muscles.

### Recommended Fluid Intake Schedule

500 mL (17oz) —

- →2 hours before exercise
- 150 mL 300 mL (5-10oz) → Every 20 minutes during exercise
- For exercise lasting less than 60 minutes ---> Water is the best replacement
- For exercise lasting more than 60 minutes > Diluted glucose and electrolyte solutions



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SNS - Sport Nutrition Specialists - Adapted from the Sport Nutrition Resource Manual (2nd Edition)

