

Sharks Swim Team Parent Code of Conduct

As a proud member of the Sharks Swim Team community, we ask all parents to support a culture that is positive, respectful, and focused on the development and enjoyment of our youth athletes. We commit to the core values, expressed by the acronym F.L.I.P.P.E.R.S.:

F.L.I.P.P.E.R.S. – Our Core Principles

- **F – Fun Comes First:** Swimming should be a joyful, rewarding experience. Every practice and meet should reflect the excitement of being in the water.
- **L – Learn the Sport:** Parents are encouraged to understand the rules, structure, and flow of competitive swimming to support their child responsibly.
- **I – Inspire Positivity:** Focus on lifting others up through words, actions, and energy. Encourage rather than criticize.
- **P – Positive Participation:** Be a role model by engaging in ways that contribute to a healthy, upbeat team culture.
- **P – Play Your Role:** Parents are supporters, not coaches or officials. Respect the boundaries of your role and allow coaches to coach.
- **E – Everyone Deserves Respect:** Treat all swimmers, coaches, officials, and families with dignity—regardless of role, ability, or background.
- **R – Remain Substance-Free:** Team spaces and events must be free from drugs, alcohol, and any substances that undermine safety and integrity.
- **S – Support the Team:** Celebrate not only your child's achievements, but those of teammates. Build others up and help maintain a welcoming, drama-free environment.

Parent Expectations

As a parent/guardian of a Sharks swimmer, I agree to the following:

1. Prioritize enjoyment. I will ensure my child is having fun and that I contribute to a fun, engaging environment for all swimmers.
2. Let sport be for the youth. I will not use the swim team for my own personal gain, competition, or ego. I understand this experience is for my child, not for me.
3. Model good sportsmanship. I will lead with encouragement, support all swimmers, and refrain from negative comments toward any athlete, coach, or official.
4. Respect all team members and volunteers. Regardless of their role, background, or ability, every individual deserves respect.

5. Keep it clean. I will not possess or be under the influence of drugs or alcohol at any team-related events.
6. Let coaches coach. I will not attempt to coach or instruct my child or any other swimmer during practices or meets. I understand that this is the role of certified coaches and officials.
7. Be responsible for guests. I understand that any guest I bring to a practice, meet, or team function is expected to follow this Code of Conduct. I am responsible for ensuring they do so.

Creating a Positive Environment

- I will encourage effort, improvement, and teamwork over winning.
- I will help foster a welcoming and inclusive team spirit.
- I will avoid gossip, drama, or negativity that undermines the team's values.
- I will celebrate all swimmers' successes, big and small.

Disciplinary Actions

Failure to follow the Parent Code of Conduct may result in the following progressive actions:

1. Verbal Warning – A coach or team official will address the behavior with you directly.
2. Written Warning & Parent Meeting – A formal meeting will be scheduled, and a written document will outline the behavior and expectations moving forward.
3. Meet Forfeit – You may be asked to leave a meet, and your child may forfeit participation for that event.
4. Parent Suspension – You may be temporarily banned from attending team events or practices.

Agreement

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and agreed to follow the Sharks Swim Team Parent Code of Conduct.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____