

Havasus Stingrays Travel Policy

Background: As part of the enhanced athlete protection efforts by USA Swimming begun in 2010, the rules require clubs and Local Swimming Committees (LSCs) to have published policies for team travel. Team Travel is defined as overnight travel to a swim meet or other team activity that is planned and supervised by the club or LSC. Club and LSC travel policies must be signed and agreed to by all athletes, parents, coaches and other adults traveling with the club.

We strive to ensure the safety of our swimmers. It is the Havasu Stingrays policy to:

USA Swimming required policies:

Club and LSC travel policies must include these policies. These items are Code of Conduct stipulations in the USA Swimming Rulebook.

- a. Club travel policies must be signed and agreed to by all athletes, parents, coaches and other adults traveling with the club. (305.5.D)
- b. Team managers and chaperones must be members of USA Swimming and have successfully passed a USA Swimming-administered criminal background check. (305.5.B)
- c. Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an athlete (unless the coach is the parent, guardian, sibling, or spouse of that particular athlete). (305.5.A)
- d. When only one athlete and one coach travel to a competition, the athlete must have his/her parents' (or legal guardian's) written permission in advance to travel alone with the coach. (305.5C)

In addition to the above, the Havasu Stingrays adopted the following policies:

- a. During team travel, when doing room checks, attending team meetings and/or other activities, two-deep leadership and open and observable environments should be maintained.
- b. Athletes should not ride in a coach's vehicle without another adult present who is the same gender as the athlete, unless prior parental permission is obtained.
- c. During overnight team travel, if athletes are paired with other athletes they shall be of the same gender and should be a similar age. Where athletes are age 13 & Over, chaperones and/or team managers would ideally stay in nearby rooms. When athletes are age 12 & Under, chaperones and/or team managers may stay with athletes. Where chaperones/team managers are staying in a room with athletes, they should be the same gender as the athlete and written consent must be given by athlete's parent (or legal guardian).
- d. When only one athlete and one coach travel to a competition, at the competition the coach and athlete should attempt to establish a "buddy" club to associate with during the competition and when away from the venue.
- e. To ensure the propriety of the athletes and to protect the staff, there will be no male athletes in female athlete's rooms and no female athletes in male athlete's rooms (unless the other athlete is a sibling or spouse of that particular athlete).
- f. A copy of the Havasu Stingrays Code of Conduct must be signed by the athlete and his/her parent or legal guardian. Policy is completed electronically at Sign-ups and Registration for each season.
- g. The directions and decisions of coaches/chaperones are final.

I acknowledge that I have received, read and understood the Havasu Stingrays Travel Policy and/or that the Policy has been explained to me or my family. I further acknowledge and understand that agreeing to comply with the contents of this Policy is a condition of my membership with The Havasu Stingrays Swim Team (USA Swimming member club).

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____