

Paseo Aquatics Electronic Communication Policy

All forms of digital communication between a “coach/athlete” or and “adult/athlete” must be for the sole purpose of distributing activities involving the team. The content of such must adhere to USA Swimming MAAP regarding Athlete Protection.

THE MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PROTECTION POLICY – MAAPP ALWAYS REMAINS IN EFFECT ABOVE THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION POLICY

• **Note:** *Any communication concerning an athlete's personal life, social activities, relationship or family issues or personal problems must be Available at all times and Transparent. (A.T.)*

Purpose

Paseo Aquatics recognizes that electronic communication and **social media** is a large part of today's world and does hold merit as a means of communication but also holds risk when Adults use these methods to communicate with minors. Many of our swimmers find ease in using social media as a primary method of communication.

When communicating via social media ask yourself;

1. Is this appropriate and acceptable
2. Would you say this out loud to an athlete if their parents were around.
3. It must be Available and Transparent at all times
4. Remain Professional

SOCIAL MEDIA SITES– FACEBOOK, MYSPACE, BLOGS, TWITTER, INSTAGRAM, YOU TUBE AND SIMILAR SITES

1. Coaches not allowed to have athlete/ member join their pages as a “friend”
2. Coaches do not accept and “friend” requests from athlete/ member
3. No private messaging, instant messaging, or direct messaging via social media to athlete/member.
4. Coaches when in doubt set your pages to private this will block your personal information.
5. Coaches are not permitted to follow athlete/members on twitter

Paseo Aquatics has an official Facebook page that athletes and their parents can “friend” for information and updates on team-related matters.

Paseo Aquatics has an official Twitter page that coaches, athletes and parents can follow for information and updates on team-related matters.

SMS/TEXTING, EMAIL

Texting only shall be used for the purpose of communicating information directly related to team activities and is subject to the general guidelines and USA Swimming MAAP for Athlete Protection. A third party Adult must be attached, included or cc'd when texting and athlete/member. Appropriate hours are between 7:00AM and 9:00pm.

REQUEST TO “OPT OUT” ALL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

The parents or guardians of an athlete may request in writing to opt their athlete out of digital communication.