



Greater Tampa Swim Association Travel Policies & Code of Conduct

1. Each GTSA team member is reminded that when traveling on trips, competing in meets, and attending other meet related functions, you are representing both the GTSA program and yourself.
2. All swimmers are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip. Swimmers are not to leave the pool, the hotel, restaurant, or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission of a coach or chaperone.
3. All swimmers and chaperones traveling with the team must attend all team functions and are expected to know all travel/meeting schedules and strictly adhere to them. Coaches will establish warm-up times and other trip-related time tables as needed. **Team Managers and Chaperones must be members of USA Swimming and have successfully passed a USA Swimming administered criminal background check. (305.5.B)**
4. 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. **Furthermore, 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)**
5. Rooms and travel vehicles are to be treated with respect and kept neat. Any damage to rooms or vehicles will be the responsibility of the parties involved and may result in being sent home early from the trip at the parent's cost. **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.**
6. 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 11 & over, chaperones and/or team managers would ideally stay in nearby rooms. When athletes are age 10 & 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 should be given by athlete's parents (or legal guardian).
7. 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). **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)**
8. All swimmers are expected to strictly adhere to the curfew established by the coaching staff. At curfew, all lights, TV's, electronic equipment must be turned off.

9. Swimmers are expected to be quiet and respect the rights of teammates and other hotel guests during evening hours and during rest time between prelims and finals. There is to be no telephone or cell phone use (this includes texting) and no computer use (this includes facebook, twitter, skype, etc.) after curfew and also during afternoon rest time.
10. All GTSA Swim Club swimmers must abide by the Drug, Alcohol, and Tobacco Policy. Violation of this Code will result in disciplinary action, including the possibility of being sent home from a meet at the expense of the swimmer's family.
11. **Club travel policies must be signed and agreed to by all athletes, parents, coaches and other adults traveling with the club. (305.5.D)**