



## HILL COUNTRY AQUATICS TRAVEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ATHLETES

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As a member of Hill Country Aquatics, I understand and will comply with the following guidelines as set forth by the Coaches and Leadership of Hill Country Aquatics.

1. The possession or use/sale/distribution of alcohol, tobacco products or controlled or illegal substances, or any type of weapon by any athlete of Hill Country Aquatics is strictly prohibited
2. Possession of inappropriate or explicit material is strictly prohibited in any form
3. Swimmers are to refrain from inappropriate physical contact at team activities and events
4. Swimmers are to refrain from use of inappropriate language
5. Curfews established by chaperones and coaches will be adhered to each day of travel and athletes will be on time for all activities/meetings
6. Team members and staff traveling with the team will attend all team functions including: meetings, practices, meals, meet sessions, etc. unless otherwise excused or instructed by the Head Coach or his/her designee
7. Swimmers are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip. Swimmers are not to leave the competition venue, the hotel, a restaurant, or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission/knowledge of the coach or chaperone.
8. When visiting public places such as shopping malls, movie theatres, etc. swimmers will stay in groups
9. Team members must wear seat belts and remain seated in vehicles
10. Team members will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrators, teammates, fellow competitors and the public at all times
11. Team members will refrain from any illegal or inappropriate behavior that would detract from a positive image of Orinda Aquatics or be detrimental to its performance
12. To ensure the propriety of the athletes and staff, there will be no male athletes in female athletes rooms and no female athletes in male athletes rooms. There will be a team area designated by the coaches and chaperones for relaxation and recreation whenever possible. In addition: Athletes must stay in assigned hotel room Athletes will not leave their first without the coach's permission No room service without permission Athletes responsible for all incidental charges Athletes responsible for any damages
13. Team members will comply with Hill Country Aquatics uniform requirements. Details of this policy are: Hill Country Aquatics clothing is required all days No "deck" changes are permitted; athletes are expected to use available change facilities Orinda Aquatics attire is to be worn to prelim and final meet events. Hill Country Aquatics team cap is to be worn in the pool at all times. Hill Country Aquatics parka if needed Competition and warm-up swimsuits that are the standard of "appropriate" attire. According to USA Swimming Rule 102.8 C : "Swimsuits worn for competition must be non-transparent and conform to the current concept of the appropriate." Hill Country Aquatics athletes are allowed to wear only one-piece suits for all practices, warm-ups and competitions.



14. Athletes will have read and understood the attached document, USA Swimming Article 305 Athlete Protection Policies.
15. Any additional guidelines for the Hill Country Aquatics Traveling Team will be established as needed by the Head Coach.
16. The directions & decisions of coaches/chaperones are final.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

1. All team members are apprised in writing of this policy. Signature of this documentation constitutes unconditional agreement to comply with the Travel Code of Conduct.
2. An evaluation system will be established to determine if all aspects of the policy have been followed by the team.
3. Failure to comply with the Travel Code of Conduct as set forth in this document for Hill Country Aquatics may result in disciplinary action or removal from the team.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## USA SWIMMING ARTICLES 304, 305, 306, 307 USA SWIMMING 2025 RULEBOOK

### ARTICLE 304 CODE OF CONDUCT

**304.1** The mission of USA Swimming is to encourage participation and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of swimming. USA Swimming grants the privilege of membership to individuals and organizations committed to that mission. The privilege of membership may, therefore, be withdrawn or denied by USA Swimming at any time where USA Swimming determines that a member or prospective member's conduct is inconsistent with the mission of the organization or the best interest of the sport and those who participate in it. In order to assist all members to better serve the interests of those who participate in swimming, USA Swimming has adopted this Code of Conduct.

**304.2** Any member, former member, or prospective member of USA Swimming is subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Review. Any member, former member, or prospective member of USA Swimming may be denied membership, censured, placed on probation, suspended for a definite or indefinite period of time with or without terms of probation, fined or expelled from USA Swimming for life if such person violates the provisions of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct, set forth in 304.3, or aids, abets or encourages another person to violate any of the provisions of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct. USA Swimming shall initiate an investigation of any former member of USA Swimming when a report required under 306.1 is received.

**304.3** The following shall be considered violations of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct:  
***Measures to be adjudicated by the USA Swimming National Board of Review.***

- 1 Violation of the right to compete provisions set forth in Article 301.
- 2 Discrimination in violation of the Amateur Sports Act which requires that USA Swimming must provide an equal opportunity to athletes, coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in the sport of swimming. Athletes must be allowed to participate and compete to the fullest extent allowed by the Rules and Regulations. Discrimination against any member or participant on the basis of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, genetics, mental or physical disability, or any other status protected by federal, state or local law, where applicable, is prohibited. .
- 3 Repeated violation of any of the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies [see page 91].
- 4 Any violation of the World Aquatics Rules on the Prevention of Manipulation of Competition as found in the current World Aquatics Manual, including (i) betting; (ii) manipulating competitions; (iii) corrupt conduct; (iv) misuse of inside information; (v) failure to report; and (vi) failure to cooperate. 5 The sale or distribution of illegal drugs or the illegal sale or distribution of any substance listed on World Aquatics' recognized list of banned substances.
- 6 The use of illegal drugs in the presence of an athlete, by a coach, official, trainer, or a person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete.



- 7 The providing of alcohol to an athlete by a coach, official, trainer, manager or any other person where the athlete is under the legal age allowed to consume or purchase alcohol in the state where the alcohol is provided.
- 8 The abuse of alcohol in the presence of an athlete under the age of eighteen (18), by a coach, official, trainer, or a person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete.
- 9 Any act of fraud, deception or dishonesty in connection with any USA Swimming-related activity.
- 10 Any non-consensual physical contact, obscene language or gesture, or other threatening language or conduct directed towards any meet official and which is related to any decision made by such official in connection with a USA Swimming sanctioned competition.
- 11 Action, other than through general advertising, by a coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative, or employee of a swim club, or a USA Swimming or LSC employee, either through direct contact with an athlete or the encouragement of others, to recruit or other-wise encourage an athlete who is already a member of a USA Swimming member swim club to leave that club, unless the acting party receives prior written approval to recruit or encourage the athlete to change affiliation from the designated club representative of the athlete's existing USA Swimming-member swim club or contact is initiated by the athlete, the athlete's parent or authorized representative. General advertising includes any information that is: A Distributed to an identifiable general population where there is a reasonable expectation that the majority of that population are not current members of USA Swimming; or B Placed in or on any item that is sold. In the event of a violation of this section, a sanction may be imposed against any coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative or employee of a swim club, or against any such club, or any combination thereof, as appropriate.
- 12 Any other material and intentional act, conduct or omission not provided for above, which is detrimental to USA Swimming, an LSC or the sport of swimming. Measure to be adjudicated by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency
- 13 Violation of the anti-doping provisions set forth in 303.3. Measure to be adjudicated by the U.S. Center for SafeSport
- 14 Violation of the SafeSport Code. [See [www.usaswimming.org/code](http://www.usaswimming.org/code)]

## **ARTICLE 305**

### **MINOR ATHLETE ABUSE PREVENTION POLICIES**

- 305.1** Clubs shall establish their own action plans for implementing the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies.
- 305.2** Clubs shall establish their own anti-bullying policy. USA Swimming shall provide a model policy as an example, which shall serve as the default for any club that fails to establish its own policy. Club anti-bullying policies should be reviewed and agreed to annually by all athletes, parents, coaches and other non-athlete members of the club.
- 305.3** Clubs shall establish their own photography policy. USA Swimming shall provide a model policy as a template, which shall serve as the minimum policy for all clubs. Club photography policies shall be reviewed and agreed to annually by all athletes, parents, coaches and other nonathlete members of the club.

## **ARTICLE 306**

### **CHILD ABUSE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

- 306.1** Pursuant to federal law, it is every member's responsibility to immediately (i.e., within 24 hours) report any incident of child abuse, including physical or sexual abuse, to law enforcement



and the U.S. Center for SafeSport. Reporting must occur when an individual has firsthand knowledge of misconduct or where specific and credible information has been received from a victim or 3 92 2025 Rules & Regulations 306.1 knowledgeable third party. A report to the U.S. Center for SafeSport may be made via telephone at 720-531-0340 or online at [www.uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern](http://www.uscenterforsafesport.org/report-a-concern). Various state laws may also require reporting to law enforcement or to a designated child protection agency.

**306.2** Filing a knowingly false allegation of child abuse and sexual misconduct is prohibited and may violate state criminal law and civil defamation laws. Any person making a knowingly false allegation of sexual misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary action by USA Swimming.

306.3 Neither civil nor criminal statutes of limitation apply to reports of cases of sexual abuse.

## **ARTICLE 307**

### **PROHIBITIONS AGAINST RETALIATION FOR GOOD FAITH REPORTING OF ABUSE**

**307.1** No Member shall retaliate against any individual who has made a good faith report under 306.1 or 304.3.14. **307.2** For the purposes of 307.1, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that any adverse action regarding the employment, membership, or other material rights of an individual who has made a good faith report under 306.1 or 304.3.14 within 90 days of a report is retaliatory. An adverse action includes, without limitation: discharge or termination; demotion or reduction in compensation for services; or the removal of or from, or restrictions on, access to facilities, team activities or team membership privileges.