

McHenry Marlins Aquatic Club Parent Code of Conduct

McHenry Marlins Aquatic Club is fortunate to have highly experienced, professional coaches working to develop our children into better swimmers, and more importantly, teaching and instilling important life skills. These skills include time management, self-discipline, and sportsmanship. Your child will reap the benefits of swimming long after his/her participation with MMAC ends.

As parents, it is absolutely essential that we give our McHenry Parks & Recreation staff the respect and authority they deserve to run our swim team. Our coaches are hired for that purpose and the McHenry Parks and Recreation Department oversees the direction of the staff.

Conduct Expected of All Parents

- Set the right example for our children by showing respect and common courtesy at all times to the team members, coaches, competitors, officials, parents, and for all facilities and other property used during practice or competition.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship during all practices, competitions and team activities.
- Be an active participant in all fundraising events and other team activities and encourage and support your child by permitting them to be timely for practices and competitions.
- Recognize the MMAC coaches are professionals and allow them to coach your child without interference during workouts and meets, including not being present on deck during practice or competition unless you are working at a meet.
- Attempt to minimize the pressure of competition and place the emotional and physical well-being of swimmers ahead of a desire to win.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from youth swimming. A knowledge that any intimidation by parents towards coaching staff, swimmers, or other MMAC participants will not be tolerated.
- If you have concerns, you will address it with the appropriate coach, staff member, parent or supervisor in private.
- Insist that your child refrain from using alcohol, tobacco, drugs, other prohibited substances, violence, abusive or foul language, inappropriate sexual conduct, or any other behavior deemed dishonest, discourteous, offensive, or disrespectful of others.
- An understanding that any harassment or abusive behavior towards other MMAC members is in immediate violation of our team philosophy and can result in immediate removal from the team. No refunds will be issued.

Basic Responsibilities

- Practice teamwork with all parents, swimmers and coaches by supporting the values of discipline, loyalty, commitment and hard work. Support the team goal of transparency and equal opportunities for all.
- See that your swimmer is on time for practice and arrives on time for meet warm-ups.
- Provide an email address that is used consistently to receive information regarding the team.
- Consistently check website for current pertinent information related to the team.
- Maintain self-control at all times.
- Know your roles. Swimmers-Swim/Coaches-Coach/Officials-Officiate/Parents-Parent
- Call or meet with coaches during normal business hours before or after practice/meets to discuss issues.
- Do not coach your child at practice or during meets, that is the coach's job.
- Do not interrupt or confront the coaching staff or other parents on the pool deck during practice or meets, especially when other swimmers or parents are present.
- Trust and support your swimmer's and coach's decisions around goal-setting, training commitments, swim event entries and meet schedules. Do not impose your ambitions on your child.
- Ensure that meets are declared on time and understand that any meet fees are due immediately upon the declaration closing date. Understanding that failure to pay dues or meet fees can restrict your child's ability to practice or attend future meets.
- If you have any questions about disqualifications, judging, etc. direct these to your swimmer's coach.
- Understand that any program offerings will be offered through the McHenry Parks & Recreation department office. Any parents found approaching or recruiting coaches for outside practices or private trainings of MMAC swimmers by MMAC coaches will be removed from the team immediately.
- Support and understand that all coaching decisions will be made by the Head Coach, Aquatics Supervisor, and McHenry Parks & Recreation department in regards to practices, meets, line-ups, practice times, trainings, program details, and additional offerings.
- A knowledge that MMAC is first and foremost a recreational swim team that includes limited USA/ISI swim meets.
- Understand that you are not to knowingly disseminate false information regarding McHenry Marlins Aquatic Club, McHenry Parks & Recreation, or its members to other MMAC players, parents, coaches, officials and opponents through any social media outlets.
- Share the workload of meet responsibilities by volunteering at home meets and be a timer at away meets.