

TAOS SWIM CLUB INC. CODE OF CONDUCT

The Taos Swim Club Inc. swimmers represent many different ages and swimming abilities. Despite the differences, the one thing shared in common by everyone is that we must conduct ourselves in a manner which shows respect for other swimmers, swim coaches, facilities and parents, whether at practice, or at a meet. The following CODE OF CONDUCT is a general outline of the type of behavior, which all participants of the team, are expected to follow at all times. The club recognizes that it is difficult to document all possible situations and therefore empowers the coaches to discipline for any instances that are disruptive to the productivity of the overall group at practice or meets.

As a SWIMMER member of the Taos Swim Club Inc., I'm expected to:

1. Listen to coaches, and I will not disrupt team practices or meetings.
2. Not use profanity (swearing).
3. Not physically, or verbally, abuse any other swimmer, coach, or official.
4. Respect the equipment and personal belongings of others, and will not use other person's equipment without permission.
5. Not take part in unsportsmanlike conduct such as taunting, poor sportsmanship, etc.
6. Not deliberately damage or misuse equipment or facilities.
7. Not make comments of derogatory nature (including comments that can be viewed as sexual harassment), nor will I take part in public displays of affections.
8. Not purchase, possess, sell, or use alcohol, tobacco, or illegal non-prescription drugs.
9. Not be part of any illegal or unlawful acts.
10. Not steal from swim club or facility.

I understand that failure to comply with these rules will subject me to immediate contact of my parents and disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the coach on deck. At the discretion of the coach, disciplinary action might include removal from up to one week of practice including any meets or club functions that may occur in that time frame. If more extensive discipline is required, the coaching staff and Swim Club Board will determine suspension and/or expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

Policy to dismiss a swimmer from club:

Any Disagreements should always first be settled between the coaching staff, swimmer and/or parents. If no agreement is reached, the issue will be brought before the board. The swimmer and/or parent coaching staff and board will discuss appropriate action. If there is a disagreement the board will vote to remove the swimmer or not.

The following are examples of actions that might be subject to disciplinary action:

Disciplinary Procedures/ Policies

All members of the Taos Swim Club Inc. team are required to comply with the Taos Swim Club Inc. Team Code of Conduct Policies and Procedures. Parents and swimmers must understand that each swimmer is responsible for his/her own actions.

Major Incidences under Taos Swim Club Inc. Team Code of Conduct Policies and Procedures include but are not limited to the following:

1. The use of drugs, alcohol or tobacco products affecting any club activity.
2. Conviction for any unlawful act.
3. Theft of club, facility or swimmer property.
4. Extreme demonstration of disrespect to property or individuals related to club activities.

All Major Incidences will be subject to the following disciplinary actions:

First Offense: Coach will be discussed with the athlete and the parents

Second Offense: The swimmer may be excused from the Taos Swim Club Inc. Team with no refund of team fees for a period up to a month. In certain situations the coach reserves the right to permanently remove the swimmer with the approval of the board.

Minor Incidences under Taos Swim Club Inc. Team Code of Conduct Policies and Procedures include but are not limited to the following:

All incidences not identified in major incidences mentioned above will be considered as minor pursuant to the Taos Swim Club Inc. Team Code of Conduct Policies and Procedures.

First Offense: Coach will be discussed with the athlete and the parents

Second Offense: Coach will discuss with the athlete and the parents. If necessary the coach will discuss the situation with the board.

Other actions are reviewed by the coaches and the Swim Club Board to determine if expulsion is appropriate.

Guidelines for parents of the Taos Swim Club Inc.

The Taos Swim Club Inc. is fortunate to have highly experienced professional coaches working to develop our children into better swimmers and more importantly, disciplined people. As parents, it is absolutely essential that we give our coaching staff the respect and authority they deserve to run our swim club. Our coaches are hired for that purpose. As a parent of a swimmer and member of the Club.

- 1.** The coaching staff strongly believes in the values of Discipline, Loyalty, Commitment, Hard Work, and Teamwork during practice, meets and other swimming events. We expect parents to support these values.
- 2.** At swim meets and practice let the coach do the coaching.
- 3.** We expect parents to exhibit good sportsmanship, self-control and respect to coaches, swimmers, and officials. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action.
- 4.** Enjoy involvement with The Taos Swim Club Inc. by supporting the swimmers, coaches and other parents with positive communication and actions.
- 5.** Understand that officials who judge meets are volunteers who have the best interest of all swimmers in mind. A parent may not agree with calls or decisions made by officials during swim meets and other competitions. If so, the parent will direct questions or concerns of meet officials to a member of our coaching staff at an appropriate time.
- 6.** Participation in meets and events shall in the best interest of the child. The coaching staff has final approval on each swimmer's meet entries. Once meet entries are submitted, we expect the parent to support their child in the races they are scheduled to swim.
- 7.** We expect parents to volunteer their time at swim meets, fundraising events and team functions to support the Taos Swim Club Inc.
- 8.** We expect parents to conduct themselves in a manner that does not discredit or bring discord to The Taos Swim Club Inc. or USA Swimming.
- 9.** We seek to create an environment of cooperation and communication between parents and the coaching staff. We welcome comments and suggestions and request that they be directed to the head coach.

Our Commitment

The Taos Swim Club Inc. is committed to providing an enjoyable swimming experience for swimmers of all ages and abilities, while also providing a challenging and positive teaching and training environment in which swimmers can develop a sense of self-esteem and pride through individual and team achievement.