

Hood River Valley Swim Team Parent Code of Conduct

Preamble

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles:

trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship.

The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character."

I therefore agree:

- I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the sport is for youth, not adults.
- I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every practice and swim meet.
- I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of un-sportsmanlike conduct such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by his/her performance.
- I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will get involved by volunteering, cheering at meets, and talking with my child and their coach about their progress.
- I will respect the officials and their authority during meets and practices,
- I will direct my concerns first to my child's coach; then, if not satisfied, to the Head Coach. If not satisfied I will then approach the swim team Board of Directors. I will never question, discuss, or confront coaches on deck, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
- I will encourage a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol.
- I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during practices, and swim meets unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

The privilege of having your child enjoy being a Hood River Valley Swim Team member hinges on your capacity to be a positive and reinforcing presence at the pool. The effect of a negative attitude on your swimmer, other swimmers, and the coaching staff, could sadly result in your child not being a part of this team.

Parent signature _____ Date _____