## Elite Rays Swim Club Parent Guidelines and Expectations

As with any team, the ability of members to interact with each other in a positive, supportive manner will enhance the experiences of everyone involved. This is true for our swimmers and also their parents.

The purpose of the ERSC Parent Guidelines and Expectations is to create a supportive environment for our athletes, families, coaches and members of our Parent Board of Directors so that every athlete can achieve their full potential.

**1.** ERSC Parents are expected to uphold the ERSC Mission & Value Statement by supporting the following values: Discipline, loyalty, commitment, team volunteerism, honesty, integrity and sportsmanship.

## Mission Statement

The Elite Rays Swim Club believes that the sport of swimming can benefit our members physically, mentally, and emotionally. The club will encourage, promote, and support excellence in competitive swimming through a professional coaching staff supported by active parent involvement. Within the framework of our team, swimmers will learn life skills which can be used to make them betterequipped for success both in and out of the pool.

## Vision Statement

The Elite Rays Swim Club is committed to developing strong, confident and responsible youth through the sport of swimming with an emphasis on professional coaching and a supportive team environment where each member can reach their individual aspirations.

- 2. ERSC parents, through their actions and conduct, agree to exhibit good sportsmanship and encourage their children to do the same at all times by showing respect and common courtesy to team members, coaches, competitors, officials, parents, spectators, facility staff and board members.
- 3. ERSC parents understand that criticizing, name-calling, use of abusive language or gestures directed toward the coaches, officials, swimmers, spectators and board members will not be tolerated.
- 4. ERSC parents will abide by all policies and procedures established by Elite Rays Swim Club and USA Swimming.

- 5. ERSC parents will refrain from coaching their child, recognizing that coaches are professionals and will allow them to coach without interference. We encourage open communication between the swimming triangle of coaches, swimmers and parents. Ultimately, though, ERSC parents will leave coaching to the coaches and respect all coaching decisions such as practice group assignments, meet entries, training plans, etc.
- 6. ERSC parents will respect the integrity of swim officials and judges by assuming decisions are based on honest, objective evaluations of performance. Parents will not approach officials or judges. Questions or concerns regarding decisions made by meet officials are to be directed to a member of the ERSC coaching staff, who are authorized to follow up with the referee when necessary.
- 7. ERSC parents will get involved by volunteering, providing support for their children at home, cheering at meets, and talking with their child and their coach about their progress.

**Policy Implemented January 2024**