

## Midlakes Swim League Code of Conduct

### Purpose

The Midlakes Swim League is committed to ensuring a safe, positive, and inclusive environment for all participants across our sports of Swim, Dive, and Water Polo.

This Code of Conduct outlines shared expectations for behavior and integrity among athletes, parents, coaches, officials, and volunteers to protect the spirit of competition and the well-being of every participant.

### Core Principles

All members of the Midlakes community—athletes, parents, coaches, officials, and volunteers—agree to uphold these shared values and standards:

#### 1. Respect for People

- Treat all participants with dignity, courtesy, and kindness regardless of age, ability, role, background, or identity.
- Avoid language, gestures, or behavior that could be considered disrespectful, intimidating, harassing, or discriminatory.
- Foster an atmosphere where everyone feels safe to participate and enjoy the sport.

#### 2. Respect for Roles

- Recognize and support the unique responsibilities of coaches, officials, volunteers, and parents.
- Address concerns or disagreements calmly, privately, and through the proper channels.
- Allow coaches to coach, officials to officiate, and athletes to compete without interference.

#### 3. Respect for the Sport

- Model good sportsmanship in both victory and defeat.
- Accept official decisions without argument or disruption.
- Demonstrate integrity and fairness at all times.

#### 4. Respect for Facilities and Property

- Care for all facilities, equipment, and grounds used for practices, meets, and team events.
- Leave spaces in good condition for others to use.

#### 5. Responsibility for Safety

- Abide by all Midlakes and U.S. Center for SafeSport rules and reporting requirements.

- Maintain healthy boundaries, appropriate conduct, and awareness of behaviors that could endanger or harm others.
- Prioritize athlete well-being above competition outcomes.

## Role-Specific Guidelines

### Athletes

- Give your best effort in training and competition.
- Support and encourage teammates; celebrate their successes.
- Communicate respectfully with coaches and officials through proper channels.
- Represent your team and the Midlakes League with pride and integrity.

### Parents & Guardians

- Support your child's growth and enjoyment of the sport.
- Model composure, respect, and positive sportsmanship in the stands.
- Direct concerns or feedback through coaches or team leadership, not during active meets or practices.
- Encourage your swimmer to take ownership of their behavior and effort.

### Coaches

- Create an environment that is safe, inclusive, and developmentally appropriate.
- Serve as a role model for integrity, respect, and professionalism.
- Communicate clearly with parents and athletes while maintaining appropriate boundaries.
- Support officials and volunteers in upholding league rules and fairness.

### Officials & Volunteers

- Maintain neutrality and consistency in enforcing rules.
- Communicate decisions respectfully and calmly.
- Support the positive environment and spirit of the league through fairness and professionalism.
- Report any behavior that undermines safety, equity, or sportsmanship.

## Temporary Measures and Disciplinary Action

Midlakes member teams and the League Board of Directors may take temporary or permanent action when a participant's behavior violates this Code of Conduct or compromises the safety or well-being of others.

Possible measures include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal or written warning
- Immediate removal from practice, meet, or event
- Suspension from future participation
- Removal from team or league membership

Disciplinary decisions will be made with fairness, discretion, and attention to the severity and context of the behavior. Repeated or serious violations may be referred to the Midlakes Board of Directors and, if applicable, to the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

### **Acknowledgment**

Participation in Midlakes Swim League activities signifies agreement to uphold the standards described in this Code of Conduct and to contribute to a culture of respect, integrity, and enjoyment for all.

### **REPORTING PATHWAY**

If there is an Athlete safety concern or if the Midlakes Code of Conduct has been violated:

1. Contact your team's Parent Representative or the designated athlete safety person for your team
  - If you feel that you are in need of an impartial person, contact Midlakes at [athletesafetymidlakes@gmail.com](mailto:athletesafetymidlakes@gmail.com)

If a SafeSport violation has occurred, including sexual misconduct, physical or emotional conduct:

1. Submit a violation to the US Center for SafeSport [i-Sight | Report Online](#)
2. Contact your team's parent rep or the designated athlete safety person for your team
  - a. If you feel that you need an impartial person, contact Midlakes at [athletesafetymidlakes@gmail.com](mailto:athletesafetymidlakes@gmail.com)