

CAYMAN ISLANDS AQUATIC SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Athlete Protection Supplement to the CIASA Strategic Plan APPENDIX G



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INTRODUCTION

In late 2012 Cayman Islands Aquatic Sports Association (CIASA) developed a Strategic Plan designed to move swimming forward through 2020. The purpose and objective of the CIASA Strategic Plan was to set out the most advantageous and positive direction for Cayman Islands Aquatic Sports, with clear and identified objectives for swimming at all levels.

The purpose for the CIASA Representative Team Athlete Protection Policy is to set the standard under which athletes, coaches and staff will operate during team travel and team activities when representing the Cayman Islands. CIASA recognizes that protection of the athletes, coaches and staff while they represent the Cayman Islands is the highest calling of the CIASA board and the technical director role. The CIASA board through club development program will seek to encourage clubs to form their own policies this document is not designed to be requirements dictated to the clubs themselves. However, there is an expectation that coaches who wish to also represent the Cayman Islands as staff members understand and demonstrate a willingness to follow these polices on a daily basis.

Electronic Communication:

- 1. Adult communication between a coaches or team staff member and athletes should not under any circumstances include the following:
 - a) Drugs or alcohol use
 - b) Sexually oriented conversation, sexually explicit language or sexual activity
 - c) The adult's personal life, social activities, relationship or family issues or personal problems
 - d) Inappropriate or sexually explicit pictures
- 2. At all times communication between adult staff members and athletes, regardless of the athletes age, should be transparent, accessible and professional.
- 3. Facebook, personal blogs and similar sites.
 - a) Coaches may have personal Facebook pages or similar accounts but no time are them permitted to have CIASA Representative team athletes join their personal page as a friend. In addition, coaches should remind the athlete this is not permitted.
 - b) Coaches and athletes are not permitted to "private message" each other at any time regardless of the type of account used.
 - c) Coaches and athletes are not permitted to "instant message" each other at any time regardless of the type of account used, including Facebook chat or other IM method.
- 4. Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and similar sites
 - a) Coaches are not permitted to follow CIASA athletes on Twitter, Instagram or any similar type of site.

- b) Likewise, athletes are not allowed to follow coaches on Twitter, Instagram or any similar type of site.
- c) At no time are athletes and coaches allowed to exchange pictures on Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat or any similar type of sites even such communication contains no text.
- 5. Texting.
 - a) Texting between coaches or staff and athletes in not permitted.
 - b) Texting between coaches and staff is permitted.
- 6. Email.
 - a) Email between coaches or staff and athletes in not permitted.
 - b) Email between coaches and staff is permitted.
- 7. The parents or guardians of an athlete may request in writing that their child not be contacted by coaches or Representative Team staff through any form of electronic communication.
- 8. The parents or guardians of an athlete may <u>Not</u> request in writing or in any other form of communication that their child be contacted directly by coaches, Representative Team staff or the RTC chairman through any form of electronic communication rather than the parent or guardian, regardless of the athletes age. Representative electronic communication regarding Representative Team items will follow the preferred methods as outlined below:
 - a) For members of the National Development and National Junior team with items relating to events, meets or RTC items all electronic communication will be done by email or Whatsapp directly and only with the parents or guardians of athletes during periods of time where the athlete is not actively traveling and representing the Cayman Islands.
 - b) For members of a CIASA Representative team who are over the age of 18, the athlete will be the primary contact on the electronic communication. The parents will still be copied in on all electric communication.
 - c) The preferred and only electronic communication between the RTC, Coaches, staff and athletes when the team is traveling, during competition, or on Island in preparation for a National Team event will be Whatsapp. In that case the Whatsapp chat will be set up for the duration of the athlete's representative team time and discontinued at the end of the competition or event.

The chat will be set up by the team manager and or the RTC chairman with both acting as chat administrators. In addition to the team manager and RTC chairman an additional adult from the CIASA board or the CIASA Technical Director will be set up as a member of the chat. Athletes who are under the age of 18 will also be required to have a parent or guardian as a member of the chat for them to be a member of the chat.

d) Often during Representative team events the athletes themselves may wish to have a Whatsapp to communicate within the team themselves. This has been approved in the past and will be for the future with the change that chat itself will need to be set up by the team manager at the request of the team captains. Here again the team captains may request that the team staff are included however all or none of the team staff will be included. The chat will be monitored by the team manager and a none traveling adult.

National Team Travel:

National team travel is defined as overnight travel for any reason that is planned and supervised by CIASA or the CIOC.

- 1. CIASA requires that all team members, staff and coaches sign the current RTC agreement prior to National Team Travel.
- CIASA requires that at least one member of each sex be appointed as a staff member for all CIASA only sponsored trips. In cases where the CIOC is responsible for the planning or organization of team travel CIASA will seek to insure that the event staff will include both female and male staff.
- 3. For all CIASA sponsored events regardless of gender a coach or staff member shall not share a room or sleeping agreement with athletes under the age of 21. In practice CIASA will seek to always have **separate** sleeping arrangements for athletes and staff/coaches. The exception to this may be a situation where the staff member or coach is the parent or legal guardian for the athlete.
 - a) In the case where a staff member or coaches is rooming with an athlete who is 21 years of age or older written permission will be obtained prior to the trip in question.
- 4. During overnight national team travel shared rooming or sleeping arrangements will be with athletes of the same sex and of similar ages.
- 5. Male and female athletes are not permitted to be in the same room at any time during team travel.
- 6. Curfews will be established by the staff and coaches for each day the trip.
- 7. Team members, staff and coaches will attend all team functions including meetings, practices, meals, meet sessions, etc. unless otherwise excused or instructed by the technical director or his/her designee.
- 8. Swimmers are expected to remain with the team at all times during national team trips. Swimmers are not permitted to leave the competition venue, the hotel, a restaurant, or any other place at which the team has gathered without prior the permission / knowledge of the staff or coaches.

- 9. National team members will show the proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrators, teammates, fellow competitors and the public at all times.
- 10. The directions and decisions of coaches and staff are final.

General National Team Guidelines:

- 1. All practices and team activities will be open to observation by parents and CIASA board members at all times.
- 2. One coach and at least one other adult who is not in the water will be present at all practices or team activities whenever at least one athlete is present.
- 3. During team travel, when doing room checks, attending team meetings and/or other activities two adults will be present at all times.