



SCSC Parent Code of Conduct

Parents participating on the South Carolina Swim Club agree to abide by the standards of conduct outlined below in the Parent Code of Conduct, in addition to those established within the Team Handbook and SCSC Safe Sport Policy. This applies for the short-course, long-course, open water, and for all team related events/functions, etc.. These documents are available on the SCSC website for your review throughout the season.

1. During posted practice hours, coaches are unavailable for any discussion. Before or after practices are the only times coaches are available. Please refrain from approaching them on deck during practice hours. E-mail is the preferred form of correspondence to set up an appointment.
2. Family members are allowed to observe practices (unless practice is limited due to facility restrictions, Covid restrictions, etc); however, they must remain on the bleachers or outside the facilities. No parents are allowed to be on the pool deck, other than these specified areas.
3. Photography/filming by any parent, be it their child or another swimmer, will not be allowed during practice times. This is to comply with the SCSC Safe Sport Policy. At the discretion of the group coach, a designated parent may be allowed to take photographs for the club for club media/marketing purposes and in adherence with Safe Sport Policy.
4. When signing up for a meet, it must be noted if you cannot attend all sessions (AM and PM). Scratches are at the coaches' discretion, upon discussion with the swimmer not parents.
5. It is the responsibility of the parents to have their swimmer at the practice/meet facility 15 minutes prior to start/warm-up so their child is prepared to hop in the water on time.
6. At meets, parents should remain loving, supportive, and non-critical of their swimmer. It is the job of the coaches to critique the swimmers, not the parents.
7. When staying at a team hotel, parents are responsible for their child's behavior. There should be no running down hallways, door-slamming, or yelling in the rooms.
8. At no point during any swim meets or practice, should parents be consuming alcoholic beverages and/or illegal substances.
9. During team travel, parents will be unable to stay at the same hotel as the team, sit with the team at the meet, sit with the team at meals, or transport their child separately. In the case of extenuating circumstances, a written request must be submitted by a parent and approved by the SCSC Staff.
10. Parents should provide, to the best of their ability, correct swim gear, nutritional foods and environment to help their swimmer(s) achieve their greatest potential.
11. Parents are expected to act in a sportsmanlike manner to coaches, facility staff, volunteers, families on the team, etc., as well as those members, etc. on other teams.

The following are strictly prohibited by SCSC parents at team functions (practices, banquets, meets, travel trips and any other team-sponsored activities/events):

- Cursing, swearing, racial or sexual remarks, or any other form of verbal abuse.
- Disparaging remarks about coaches, the SCSC team, other athletes and their families, volunteers, etc.
- Fighting or any other form of physical abuse.
- Any inappropriate physical contact.
- Use or possession of any weapon.

Upon failure to adhere to the Code of Conduct, you will be requested to leave the function with your swimmer(s), and forfeiting all funds.



SCSC Parent Code of Conduct: Form

The SCSC Parent Code of Conduct ensures we create a supportive environment for our swimmers and coaches so that every athlete can achieve their full potential. The purpose of a code of conduct for parents is to establish consistent expectations for behavior by parents. As a parent/guardian, I understand the important growth and developmental support that my child's participation fosters. I also understand that it is essential to provide the coaching staff with respect and the authority to coach the team. I have read and understood the Parent Code of Conduct. In addition to abiding by the Parent Code of Conduct, I agree with the following statements:

- ☐ I, as an SCSC parent(s), through my actions and conduct, will exhibit good sportsmanship and encourage my children to do the same at all times. As a SCSC parent, I will serve as a positive role model for my children and their teammates.
- ☐ I will set the right example for my child(ren) by demonstrating sportsmanship and showing respect and common courtesy at all times to the team members, coaches, competitors, officials, parents, board members and all facilities and staff.
- ☐ I, as a SCSC parent(s) will respect and cooperate with coaches, team members, opponents, spectators, volunteers and officials at all times.
- ☐ I will get involved by volunteering, being positive and supportive of the team at meets, and talking with my child and their coach about their progress in a professional manner.
- ☐ I, as a SCSC parent(s) respect the integrity of swim officials by assuming decisions are based on honest, objective evaluations of performance. Only coaches may approach meet officials.
- ☐ I, as a SCSC parent(s) recognize SCSC coaches are professionals and will allow them to coach without interference. As a SCSC parent(s), I will leave coaching to the coaches and respect all coaching decisions such as practice group assignments, coaching assignments, meet entries, training focus, etc. I support these professional coaches as they strive to do what is best for each SCSC swimmer and recognize that their methods are based on USA Swimming, the American Swim Coaches Association and other recognized swimming authorities.
- ☐ I understand that swimmers can become easily confused when coached by parents and benefit most from positive reinforcement of the professional coaching staff's instructions and advice. My unconditional love and support before and after races will help my swimmer(s) best.
- ☐ I understand that if I have coaching concerns, I will address it with the appropriate group coach in private and in a courteous manner. If I have club concerns, I will address it with an SCSC board member in private and in a courteous manner. I understand that verbal or written criticism of and negativity toward SCSC staff, SCSC program, facility staff, volunteers, parents, board members or swimmers can damage the culture and



enjoyment of the sport and does not meet the values and mission of SCSC and will not be tolerated.

- ☐ I will ensure that my written and verbal communications particularly on any of the team's communications channels (voicemail, Facebook, Instagram, email, website) will remain professional and considerate.
- ☐ I understand that while I can express a complaint or concern, I will not gossip about, speak negatively about or disparage in any way the coaching staff, officials, the board of directors, other parents or swimmers and/or teammates, volunteers, club partners, or facility staff.
- ☐ I, as a SCSC parent(s), understand that if there is a concern related to a coach or official within SCSC, I should discuss the concern with the athlete's group coach privately and in a courteous and professional manner. If the matter is not resolved, the issue should be brought to the attention of the Lead Coach/Lead Division Coach or the Head Coach. If the response is unsatisfactory, a SCSC parent may submit a formal written, signed and dated statement to the SCSC Board President with the concern and steps previously taken to resolve the matter. The Board President is authorized to create a panel of 3 Board members and one staff member who, in their discretion, will review the matter and make a decision that is final and cannot be appealed.
- ☐ I, as a SCSC parent(s), will not consume alcohol or illegal substances before or during meets and will comply with all facility guidelines at events SCSC attends.
- ☐ I will refrain from coaching my child from the stands during practices or meets.
- ☐ I understand that criticizing, name-calling, use of abusive language or gestures directed toward coaches, officials, volunteers, board members, fellow parents and/or any participating swimmer will not be tolerated.
- ☐ I understand that while I can express a complaint or concern, I will not gossip about, speak negatively about or disparage in any way the coaching staff, officials, the board of directors, other parents, or swimmers and/or teammates.
- ☐ I, as a SCSC parent, understand that if my behavior does not align with the code of conduct and values of the club and if I do not agree with SCSC's policies and procedures, I can withdraw our membership from the Club in accordance with the proper procedure.

Any violation of this code will be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors, which will issue the appropriate response. This response could include one or more of the following: a verbal or written reprimand, probation, or a temporary/permanent suspension of the family's SCSC membership. I understand the above expectations and that my failure to adhere to them may result in disciplinary action.

Signature(s)

Date