



## **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION & SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

The Shasta YMCA Sharks recognize the prevalence of electronic communication and social media in today's world. Many of our swimmers and their parents use these means as their primary method of communication. While the SYS acknowledges the value of these methods of communication, SYS also realizes that there are associated risks that must be considered when members use these methods to communicate with minors and other members. All communications between a coach or other adult and an athlete must be professional in nature and for communicating information about team activities. The content and intent of all electronic communications must adhere to the USA Swimming Code of Conduct regarding Athlete Protection. Athletes and parents should remember that being a member for the Shasta YMCA Sharks is a privilege, and they are expected to portray themselves, their team, and their community in a positive manner always or risk club expulsion.

- 1. SYS members will not use derogatory language, including sexist, racist, homophobic, obscene, or profane material of any kind.
- 2. SYS members will not use social media to degrade, demean, or attack any person, team, or organization.
- 3. SYS members will not use social media to contact team coaches.
- 4. SYS members will only post appropriate material to the club's profile, or any other Sierra Nevada Swimming and USA Swimming website.
- 5. Athletes will not call or text their coach, unless a parent/guardian is included in the communication. Likewise, coaches will not call or text their athletes unless a parent/guardian is included in the communication.
- 6. All communication between athletes and coaches will be related to the activities of the team and should be limited to in-person communication during team practices and events.

The Shasta YMCA Sharks have an official Facebook and Instagram page that members can follow for information on team-related matters.

**Texting:** allowed between the hours of 8am – 8pm, and only used for communicating information directly related to team activities, and a parent/guardian must be included in the group.

**Email:** only used for communicating information directly related to team activities, and a parent/guardian must be included.

Members may request, in writing or by email, that their child not be contacted by coaches through any form of electronic communication