

Granite YMCA Tiger Sharks Anti-Bullying Policy

Purpose

The Tiger Sharks swim team is committed to providing a safe, caring, and friendly environment for all our members. The USA Swimming Code of Conduct prohibits bullying. If bullying does occur, all athletes and parents should know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. Anyone who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell a coach, athlete, or trusted mentor.

Reporting Procedure

An athlete who feels that he or she has been bullied is asked to do one or more of the following, talk to your parents, your coach, or write a letter or email the coach

Although there is no express time limit of initiating a complaint under this procedure, every effort should be made to bring complaint to the attention of a coach as soon as possible. This will ensure memories are fresh and behaviors can be accurately recalled and the bullying behavior can be stopped as soon as possible so that we can address it immediately.

We strive to provide all children with a safe and positive experience. Guidance and discipline are positive, non-punitive, and appropriate to the situation and to each child's individual development.

If a discipline issue does arise, the steps listed below will be taken:

- verbal warning
- removal from activity
- child and parent discussion

Infractions of this policy include:

- disrespect, verbal, or physical aggression toward staff or other adults
- continuous disruption/uncooperative behavior
- exhibiting behavior that endangers the safety of the child
- attempting to leave the premises without staff permission
- consistently disregarding the rules and authority of the staff
- possession or pretending to possess weapons
- racism, fighting, bullying, vandalism, and swearing
- destruction of property or others belonging
- possession of drugs and alcohol

Upon review of the incident, parents will be contacted and may be requested to pick up their child immediately. Suspension guidelines are as follows: a one practice suspension for the first offense, a one-week suspension for the second offense, and a two-week suspension for the third offense. Expulsion will occur to any child who is a threat to themselves, other children, or who is a repeat offender. All suspensions and expulsions are at the discretion of the coaches. If your child misses days due to suspension or expulsion, refunds will not be provided.

For more information on anti-bullying, please contact the Head Coach Jess Croteau at jcroteau@graniteymca.org.