

**CANDIAN SWIMMING COACHES ASSOCIATION O/A
CANADIAN SWIMMING COACHES AND TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (CSCTA)
CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

Preamble

This Code has been prepared by the CSCTA as a professional and ethical guide for Canadian swim coaches and swimming teachers who are members of CSCTA.

The conduct and ethical behavior of a professional is determined by the degree of respect with which a professional interacts and communicates with swimmers, their families, peers and the public. Coaches and teachers have a responsibility to encourage autonomy and personal growth and to ensure that athletes train and perform in suitable and safe settings.

In addition to serving these groups, a professional also has an obligation to the profession, and thus to the CSCTA. The intent of this Code is to define the appropriate parameters for these interactions and obligations, and thus to identify a standard for appropriate behavior.

Compliance with this Code, as with all law in a civil and democratic society, depends primarily upon understanding and voluntary compliance; secondarily upon reinforcement by peer and public opinion; and finally, when necessary, upon enforcement through disciplinary proceedings.

Coaches and teachers may experience conflict between different ethical principles, between ethical and legal requirements, and between their own ethical convictions and those of others. Training and professional development related to ethics is recommended for all Members, in order to develop knowledge and skills for dealing with these conflicts. Members are also encouraged to consult with others having relevant expertise on ethical matters.

This Code does not exhaust the moral and ethical considerations that should guide a CSCTA Member, for no worthwhile human activity can be completely defined by rules and regulations. This Code simply provides a framework for the ethical coaching and teaching of the sport of swimming.

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:
 - a. “*CSCTA*” – Canadian Swimming Coaches Association operating as Canadian Swimming Coaches and Teachers Association.
 - b. “*Members*” – All categories of membership within the Canadian Swim Coaches and Teachers Association.
 - c. “*SNC*” - Swimming Natation Canada
 - d. “*FINA*” - Fédération Internationale de Natation
 - e. “*PSO*” - Provincial Sport Organization

Purpose

2. The purpose of this Code of Conduct and Ethics is to ensure a safe and positive environment within the CSCTA and for its Members.
3. CSCTA is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. All Members are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the values of CSCTA that include fairness, integrity, open communication and mutual respect.
4. Conduct that violates this Code of Conduct and Ethics may be subject to sanctions in accordance with the CSCTA’s Discipline and Complaints Policy.

Application

5. This Code applies to Members' conduct that may arise during the course of a Member's professional activities; including but not limited to, office environment, competitions, practices, training camps, travel, and meetings.
6. This Code also applies to conduct that may occur outside of Members' professional activities when such conduct adversely affects relationships within the CSCTA or affiliated National and International Federations, or when such conduct is detrimental to the image and reputation of the CSCTA, those federations, and/or their respective members.

Personal Conduct

7. All Members have a responsibility to:
 - a. Consistently display high standards and to project a favourable image of the sport and of coaching to swimmers, other coaches, officials, administrators, spectators, the media and the general public.
 - b. Consistently demonstrate the spirit of sportsmanship, sports leadership and ethical conduct.
 - c. Ensure that the rules of competitive swimming, and the spirit of such rules, are adhered to.
 - d. Display respect and treat all persons equally, within the context of their coaching activity, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, body type, physical characteristics, athletic ability, ancestry, color, ethnic or racial origin, nationality, national origin, age, marital status, disability, economic status, religious belief, or political affiliation.
 - e. Focus comments or criticism appropriately and avoid unwarranted public criticism of coaches, athletes, officials, organizers, volunteers, employees and members.
 - f. Members will not misuse alcohol in the presence of swimmers, nor will Members use recreational, illegal or performance-enhancing drugs.
 - g. Refrain from any violation of anti-doping rules under the World Anti-Doping Code. Such violation will be an automatic violation of this Code, as will a conviction relating to possession or trafficking of any illegal or banned substance.
 - h. Acting, when appropriate, to prevent or correct practices that are unjustly discriminatory.
 - i. Members have a responsibility to refrain from any conduct that constitutes harassment and should abide by the policies applicable in their respective jurisdictions (e.g. FINA, SNC, PSO, Regional Coaches Association, institutional, etc)
 - j. Members have a responsibility to refrain from any conduct that constitutes sexual harassment and should abide by the policies applicable in their respective jurisdictions (e.g. FINA, SNC, PSO, Regional Coaches Association, institutional, etc)
 - k. Refrain from the use of power or authority in an attempt to coerce another person to engage in inappropriate activities.
 - l. Respect the property of others and not willfully cause damage.

- m. Comply at all times with the Bylaws, Policies, Rules and Regulations of CSCTA, as adopted and amended from time to time.
- n. Adhere to all Federal, Provincial, Municipal or host country laws.

Coach-Coach Relationships

- 8. All Members have a responsibility to:
 - a. Not impugn the reputation of other coaches and teachers for personal motives.
 - b. Ensure that in any matter relating to changing a swimmer-coach professional relationship, the initial discussion of such potential change must be initiated by the swimmer, the swimmer's family where the swimmer is a minor, or the swimmer's coach, and not by any other coach or other interested party.
 - c. Ensure that upon a swimmer changing coach affiliations, communicate and cooperate in the exchange of information in the best interests of the swimmer wherever possible.

Coach-Athlete Relationship

- 9. All Members have a responsibility to:
 - a. Ensure that activities being undertaken are suitable for the age, experience and ability of the swimmer.
 - b. Communicate and cooperate with medical and sport professionals in the training, treatment and management of their athletes.
 - c. Not disclose personal information pertaining to a swimmer without the swimmer's consent unless such disclosure is required for the purposes of doping control, is required for emergency medical treatment, or is otherwise required by law.
 - d. Refrain from any behavior that abuses the power inherent in the coaching position.
 - e. Refrain from any behavior that encourages inappropriate physical or emotional intimacy between the Member and swimmer. Such behavior will be construed as sexual misconduct under this Code and will represent an automatic violation.
 - f. Never engage in a sexual relationship with a minor.
 - g. Never engage in sexual relations with swimmers whom they coach, regardless of the swimmer's age; except where such relationship predated the coach-athlete relationship and the two individuals are the age of majority.

Coach to Community

- 10. All Members have a responsibility to:
 - a. Adhere to any decision of a court, CSCTA, or affiliated Provincial, National and International Federations, regarding a Member that reflects adversely on the profession of coaching, on CSCTA, or on the sport of swimming in general

- b. Notify CSCTA, within 30 days, of any dismissal from any coaching position and the facts and circumstances related to such dismissal.
- c. Notify CSCTA, within 30 days, of any dismissal from any employment position for cause, and the facts and circumstances related to such dismissal.
- d. Notify CSCTA within 30 days, of any pending or formal charges, convictions or sanctions including those from a sport body, private tribunal or government agency.
- e. Immediately notify CSCTA of any unprofessional conduct and/or fraudulent misrepresentation of any Member.

Coach to Profession

11. All Members have a responsibility to:

- a. Not misrepresent their background, experience, qualifications, accomplishments, affiliations or professional competence to CSCTA, to any client or prospective client, or in any publication, broadcast, lecture or seminar.
- b. Recognize that professional self-regulation is a privilege and that each Member has a continuing responsibility to merit this privilege and to support CSCTA and its representatives.
- c. Collaborate with other coaches, sport professionals and colleagues.
- d. Declare any conflict of interest(s) and/or competing interest(s) when they arise and seek to manage them in a manner that respects the best interests of all those involved.

Coach to Outside Organizations

12. All Members have a responsibility to:

- a. Respect disciplinary sanctions imposed by FINA, national sport governing bodies inside and outside of Canada, the Aquatics Federation of Canada, Swimming/Natation Canada, provincial and territorial bodies within Canada governing swimming, and any other international or Canadian body that govern sport, the sport of swimming and/or coaching.
- b. Wherever possible all members have a responsibility to avoid associating, when the association is for the purposes of sport and/or the member's athletic development, including but not limited to the member's training and competition, with any person who has incurred an anti-doping rule violation and is serving a sanction involving a period of ineligibility; and where the violation and the sanction of ineligibility are recognized by the CCES and the Canadian Anti-Doping Program (and may be subject to further disciplinary action/decision by WADA).

Approval

13. This Code was approved by the Board of Directors of CSCTA.