



# OSHAC Team Travel FAQ

(Revised as of March 11, 2022)

OSHAC recognizes that team travel is a vital component of the training and technical platform of competitive swimming. Team travel offers swimmers supervised opportunities to learn and practice independence. Travel opportunities may include but are not limited to: international, national, out of province or in province swim meets, training camps and club sponsored recreational activities. OSHAC typically attends two team trips each year. “Away” meets typically have qualifying standards, however, OSHAC always attempts to attend an “away” that has no qualifying standards to allow all swimmers the opportunity to participate.

When a meet is designated as a Team trip, swimmers invited are expected to travel with the team, making use of the team’s transportation and accommodations, eat together and travel to the pool together. The cost of the trip will be shared amongst the swimmers. A detailed communication about the trip (dates, location, meet details, expectations, cost) will be presented to families. There is a non refundable deposit that must be paid to secure your swimmer’s intent.

Once your deposit and permission form have been received, the Head Coach will declare your swimmer as “accepted”.

## **What is a Team Travel meet?**

This refers to a meet where the swimmers travel with the Club and stay with the Club and not family or friends.

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## **Where do the swimmers stay?**

The team usually stays in hotels. The coaching staff determines where the team will stay and communicates this to the parents and swimmers generally 3 to 5 weeks prior to the event.

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### **How many swimmers are accommodated per room?**

Generally, 2 to 4 swimmers per room depending on the room and which competition the club is attending. For the most part, swimmers should expect to share a bed with another swimmer.

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### **Do I get to say who my swimmer rooms with?**

No. Part of any athlete's development is the ability to room with any one of their teammates. As the athlete develops they may not always be traveling with friends, so it is important to learn how to room with other swimmers/teammates. The coaching staff is responsible for creating the rooming list. They do attempt to room swimmers together of the same group and age.

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### **Can I know who my swimmer is rooming with?**

The swimmers are told the room arrangements upon arrival at the hotel. Last minute changes sometimes have to be made and therefore it is better that no one has false expectations based on the information given in advance that may need to be altered.

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### **Can I stay at the same hotel?**

Parents are discouraged from staying at the same hotel as the team.

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### **How will the swimmers get to the meet?**

This depends on the number of swimmers attending. Meets with a larger number of swimmers travel by coach bus to and from the meets. Smaller groups of swimmers may be driven in rented vans by a combination of chaperones and coaches.

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### **Can parents travel with the swimmers?**

No. Travel is arranged for the team, chaperones and coaches only. A successful Team travel meet requires member volunteers as chaperones based on the number of swimmers that attend. Members that volunteer as chaperones for Team travel earn credits towards their Volunteer Deposit as part of the OSHAC Volunteer Program.

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### **How much will it cost?**

The travel information sheet sent to the parents by the coaching staff will indicate the amount to be paid. There is a non-refundable deposit that must be paid in order to secure your swimmers' intent. After the meet is over, your swimmers' account will be invoiced for the "splash fee"/entry fees of the swim meet.

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### **How are costs determined?**

A budget is developed considering the number of swimmers attending, the age range, the number of chaperones and coaches attending, the number of days of the meet, the location of the meet, the mode of transportation, the type of accommodation and the number of people per room and any food plans. Fundraising may be offered to offset the costs.

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### **How do I pay?**

Initial non-refundable deposit must be made via e-Transfer.

Please send the e-Transfer to [oshac.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:oshac.treasurer@gmail.com) and remember to include the swimmer's name in the memo (account is set up as Direct Deposit, a password is not required)

Final amount less the non-refundable deposit for the Team travel trip must be paid via e-Transfer prior to departure. Those swimmers who have outstanding invoices are not eligible to reserve a spot for Team travel until all outstanding invoices are paid.

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### **What information do I need to provide?**

The coaching staff will ask on the information sheet that the following information is filled out and returned: Links for forms found at bottom of page.

- [Parent/Swimmer Code of Conduct](#) (no form to sign)
  - [Medical Release/Info form](#) (please complete and submit to coach)
  - [Early Release form](#) (if applicable, please complete and submit to coach)
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### **What if my swimmer becomes ill?**

This will depend on the nature of the illness. Simple headaches and stomach aches are attended to by the chaperones. In the event of a more serious illness, appropriate steps are taken and parents notified.

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### **I am also attending the meet and want to go into my child's room.**

Parents are to communicate to the chaperone that they would like to arrange to meet with their child, as they are not allowed in their child's room as there are other swimmers in the room.

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### **My swimmer is 11 years old, do they have to travel with the Club?**

Regardless of age, a swimmer designated to attend a trip meet either travels with the team, or they do not attend the meet.

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### **How will my child know who their chaperone is?**

Upon arrival at the hotel, swimmers are assigned to one or a group of chaperones. Swimmers are advised of the chaperone names, room number and cell phone.

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### **My child likes to play video games while on road trips and staying at hotels; will they be allowed games?**

If a swimmer chooses to bring their own handheld device/cell phone, they are solely responsible for their device(s). They may use the device during down times in their hotel room but not at the pool and not after "lights out". Swimmers are not able to incur additional room charges by using hotel equipment. Any additional charges incurred will be billed back to the swimmers account.

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### **How are meals arranged?**

Meals are catered and swimmers will eat at the hotel with their teammates. Please remember to pack a lunch for the first day of the meet and nutritious snacks for the pool.