



Team Travel Policy for Dubuque Area Swimmin' Hurricanes

Purpose: Athletes are most vulnerable to misconduct during travel. This includes a high risk of athlete-to-athlete misconduct. During travel, athletes are often away from their families and support networks, and the setting – new changing areas, locker rooms, workout facilities, and automobiles – is less structured and less familiar.

Team Travel is defined as travel to a swim meet or other team activity that is planned and supervised by the club or LSC.

Travel policy

- a. Club travel policies must be signed and agreed to by all athletes, parents, coaches and other adults traveling with the club. (305.5.D)
- b. Team managers and chaperones must be members of USA Swimming and have successfully passed a USA Swimming-administered criminal background check. (305.5.B)
- c. Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an athlete (unless the coach is the parent, guardian, sibling, or spouse of that particular athlete). (305.5.A)
- d. When only one athlete and one coach travel to a competition, the athlete must have his/her parents' (or legal guardian's) written permission in advance to travel alone with the coach. (305.5C)
- e. Athletes should not ride in a coach's vehicle without another adult present who is the same gender as the athlete, unless prior parental permission is obtained.
- f. A copy of the Club Code of Conduct must be signed by the athlete and his/her parent or legal guardian.
- g. Team or coaches should obtain a signed Liability Release and/or Indemnification Form for each athlete.
- h. Team or coaches should carry a signed Medical Consent or Authorization to Treat Form for each athlete.
- i. The directions & decisions of coaches/chaperones are final.
- j. Swimmers are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip. Swimmers are not to leave the competition venue, the restaurant, or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission/knowledge of the coach or chaperone.
- k. When visiting public places such as shopping malls, movie theatres, etc. swimmers will stay in groups of no less than three persons. 12 & Under athletes will be accompanied by a chaperone.

Safety

- a. The athlete must wear seat belts and remain seated when traveling with the team in a vehicle



Behavior

- a. The athlete will respect travel vehicles

General

- a. Parent(s) are responsible for getting their swimmer(s) to and from stated departure point

Code of Conduct / Honor Code

The Club Development Committee strongly encourages teams and LSCs to create a Code of Conduct or Honor Code as a companion document to the team travel policies.

All team members, team staff, and parents of minors are apprised in writing of this Code of Conduct and the attached USA Swimming Code of Conduct. A signature on this document constitutes unconditional agreement to comply with the stipulations of both documents.

Expectations

- a. Team members will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrators, teammates, fellow competitors and the public at all times.
- b. Team members and staff will refrain from any illegal or inappropriate behavior that would detract from a positive image of the team or be detrimental to its performance objectives.
- c. The possession or use of alcohol or tobacco products by any athlete is prohibited.
- d. The possession, use, or sale/distribution of any controlled or illegal substance or any form of weapon is strictly forbidden.
- e. No “deck changes” are permitted. Athletes are expected to use available change facilities.
- f. Team members are reminded that when competing in meets, traveling on trips, and attending other meet-related functions, they are representing both themselves and the (NAME OF CLUB). Athlete behavior must positively reflect the high standards of the club (or LSC).
- g. Swimmers are to refrain from inappropriate physical contact at team activities and events.
- h. Swimmers are to refrain from use of inappropriate language

Failure to comply with the Honor Code as set forth in this document may result in disciplinary action. Such discipline may include, but may not be limited to:

- a. Dismissal from the trip and immediate return home at the athlete’s expense;
- b. Disqualification from one or more events, or all events of competition;
- c. Disqualification from future team travel meets;
- d. Dismissal from the team; and/or
- e. Proceedings for a LSC or USA Swimming National Board of Review.