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***WTSC Code of Conduct for Swimmers***

***All swimmers are apprised in writing of this WTSC Swimmer Code of Conduct, as well as the attached WTSC Safe Sport Policy and USA Swimming Code of Conduct. A signature on this document constitutes unconditional agreement by the swimmer to comply with the stipulations of all documents.***

* WTSC swimmers will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrators, teammates, fellow competitors and the public at all times.
* WTSC swimmers 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.
* The possession or use of alcohol or tobacco products by any athlete is prohibited.
* Bullying is prohibited. Bullying is a specific type of physical, verbal or psychological aggression with intent to harm, repetition over time, and imbalance of power. (*JAMA*; USA Swimming Code of Conduct §304.3.7)
* The possession, use, or sale/distribution of any controlled or illegal substance or any form of weapon or fireworks is prohibited.
* Swimmers are reminded that when competing in meets, traveling on trips, and attending other meet-related functions, they are representing themselves as well as WTSC. Athlete behavior must positively reflect the high standards of the club.
* Swimmers are to refrain from inappropriate physical contact at team activities and events.
* Swimmers are to refrain from the use of inappropriate language. The use of profanity, obscene, sexist, racist or discriminatory language while in practice, on the pool deck, or in the locker room at WTSC, or while participating in a sanctioned event, may be disciplined. Vulgar language such as cursing, while inappropriate, may or may not, in itself, be code of conduct violation. Context of speech, the age of the speaker, and intent of the utterance, as evaluated by a reasonably objective person, will be considered in determining discipline, as appropriate.
* Swimmers must respect the privacy of each other.
* Swimmers shall abide by the following applicable policies, copies of which are included in registration materials:
* WTSC Safe Sport Policy
* WTSC Electronic Communications Policy
* WTSC Drop-off/Pick-up Policy
* USA Swimming Code of Conduct
* The coaching staff and/or Board of Directors holds the final word on any rules, regulations or disciplinary action.

***WTSC Code of Conduct for Parents***

**Parents of swimmers on the Washington Township Swim Club (“WTSC”) are required to read and agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct, in addition to the WTSC Safe Sport Policy and USA Swimming Code of Conduct. This applies for the short and long course seasons.**

* Parents will cooperate with coaches, team members, opponents and officials at all times.
* Swimmers are in the care of WTSC staff and coaches during all practices and meets.
* Parents should leave coaching to the coaches.
* Parents will refrain from approaching coaches on deck during practice hours and respect their need to focus on training the swimmers. However, parents can expect coaches to respond to an email in a timely manner within 24-48 hours except perhaps on meet weekends.
* Parents will not text, email, or phone coaches during a swim meet unless it is to inform them of tardiness or scratches.
* Parents will not engage in any negative discussions in the pool facility during practice or meets that is detrimental to the swim team.
* Parents and family members must remain on the bleachers or outside the facility during practices.
* Photography/filming by any parent without prior coach approval will not be allowed during practice times in order to comply with the WTSC Safe Sport Policy.
* It is the responsibility of the parent to have their swimmer at the practice/meet facility 15 minutes prior to the start/warm-up so their child is prepared to get in the water on time.
* WTSC Parents will provide positive support, generally in terms of cheering, and clapping for all swimmers, both WTSC and its opponents.
* If you have a problem with any coach or official within the WTSC, bring it to the attention of your child’s coach. If that is unsatisfactory then bring it to the attention of the Head Age Group Coach or the Head Coach. If you deem the response to be unsatisfactory, then write a formal complaint to the WTSC board of directors. All such issues must be documented, signed and dated.
* Any objections to officials or coaches decisions should be reserved until after the conclusion of the meet session. At such time, the issue should be discussed with the coach in a professional manner.
* WTSC parents teach and encourage their children to exhibit good sportsmanship and exhibit good sportsmanship themselves.
* Consumption of alcohol, tobacco products or illegal drugs at the facility of any WTSC event which you are attending is prohibited.
* WTSC parents will not tolerate any sexual or racial harassment or intolerance.
* WTSC parents encourage an atmosphere of openness, cooperation and consultation.
* WTSC parents encourage loyalty within the team and the Club.

Any violation of this code by a parent will be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors, which will issue the appropriate response. This response could include one or more of the following:

1. Verbal warning by Head Coach
2. Formal Letter of Complaint
3. Temporary Parental Practice and/or Meet Suspension (two weeks from practice and one meet) and a formal meeting with a Board representative
4. Permanent Suspension (of family, including swimmer, from the club)

***WTSC Code of Conduct for Coaches***

The purpose of this code of conduct for coaches is to establish common expectations for all members of the coaching staff of the club. It is to be used as a guide to promote a positive team environment and good sportsmanship.

* At all times, adhere to WTSC’s Safe Sport Policy, WTSC’s Electronic Communications Policy, and USA Swimming’s rules and Code of Conduct.
* Set a good example of respect and sportsmanship for participants and fans to follow.
* Act and dress with professionalism and dignity in a manner suitable to his/her profession.
* Respect officials and their judgment and abide by the rules of the event.
* Treat opposing coaches, participants, and spectators with respect.
* Instruct participants in sportsmanship and demand that they display good sportsmanship.
* Coach in a positive manner and do not use derogatory comments or abusive language.
* Win with humility and lose with dignity.
* Treat every athlete fairly, justly, impartially, intelligently, and with sensitivity.
* Always place the well-being, health, and safety of swimmers above all other considerations, including developing performance.
* Continue to seek and maintain their own professional development in all areas in relation to coaching and teaching children.
* Always maintain a professional separation between coach and athlete.
* Maintain open lines of communication with parents regarding team issues and respond to parent calls/emails in a timely manner.

Any complaints of a coach violating the WTSC Coaches Code of Conduct will be brought to the attention of his/her supervisor and/or the club’s Board of Directors. **This Code of Conduct is agreed upon by a coach upon accepting employment by WTSC.**