



## Hinsdale Swim Club Family Code of Conduct 2020-2021

Parent involvement is vital to our club and is required of all member families. As our organization grows and we continue to expand our programs, we seek to establish and clarify our policies to ensure continued success. HSC is fortunate to have highly experienced, professional coaches working to develop our children into better swimmers and more importantly, disciplined people. As parents, it is essential that we give our coaching staff members the respect and authority they deserve to run our swim team. Our coaches are hired for that purpose.

### **Hinsdale Swim Club, as an organization, highly encourages the following family member behavior:**

- Open communication between parents, swimmers and coaches emphasizing goal-setting and performance expectations of both the swimmer and the parents.
- Discussing issues privately with a coach or Board member. Ideally, the first step in resolving an issue involving a swimmer and a coach is for the swimmer to approach the coach; however, at the younger age levels we recognize that this may not be possible or even wise. As a result, a parent may need to be involved.
- Meeting with the coaches/swimmers/parents during normal operating hours to discuss issues.
- Communication with coaches should NOT be conducted via text; all coaches should be contacted via email using the email addresses provided in the link located in the top left corner of the HSC website.
- Positive reinforcement of all swimmers in all situations - team spirit, team loyalty.
- Parental involvement on the Board of Directors and in meets and other team events.
- Meeting volunteer requirements of working at HSC hosted meets. Volunteer guidelines are outlined in the Parent Volunteer Agreement including the financial consequences of not fulfilling your volunteer requirement.
- Fulfilling financial responsibilities in a timely manner.

### **Hinsdale Swim Club, as an organization, will not tolerate the following behavior from family members:**

- Coaching or videotaping at practice - that is the coach's job. The coach reserves the right to close the balcony at practice should this request not be honored.
- Interrupting or confronting the coaching staff on the pool deck during practice or meets. The coach reserves the right to close the balcony at practice should this request not be honored.
- Abusive language towards coaches, swimmers, parents, officials and your own or other children.
- Any behavior that brings discredit or disruption to any and all swimmers and our organization's excellent reputation within the swimming community.
- Parents are not allowed on deck during or after practice due to insurance considerations.

Our Family Code of Conduct was developed as a standard to emphasize our organization's commitment to making everyone's involvement with our club a positive experience. I will abide by the following guidelines:

- I. Practice teamwork by supporting the values of good sportsmanship, individual integrity and team play.
- II. As a parent, I will not coach or instruct the team or any swimmer at a practice or meets (from the stands or any other area) or interfere with coaches on the pool deck.
- III. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by conducting myself in a manner that earns the respect of my child, other swimmers, parents, officials and the coaches at meets and practices.
- IV. As a parent, I understand that criticizing, name-calling, use of abusive language or gestures directed toward the coaches, officials, and/or any participating swimmer will not be permitted or tolerated.
- V. Enjoy HSC by supporting swimmers, coaches and parents with positive communication and actions.

VI. During competitions, questions or concerns regarding decisions made by meet officials are directed to a member of our coaching staff. Parents address officials via the coaching staff only.

VII. I will respect the coaches' decisions regarding practice group placement.

**Sanctions:** I have read the Family Code of Conduct in full, understand the terms explained within and will abide by the requirements or accept the penalties described. Additionally, should I conduct myself in such a way that brings discredit or discord to HSC, or USA Swimming, I voluntarily subject myself to disciplinary action. HSC maintains the right to terminate any membership with/without cause in the interest of our mission and objectives.

*Updated July 2020*