

# Springfield Aquatics Code of Conduct Agreement

## Springfield Aquatics Swim Club Philosophy

Springfield Aquatics Swim Club (SPA) is a high quality, competitive youth swimming organization committed to excellence at all levels. SPA has traditionally been represented by excellent athletes who are outstanding citizens. Athletes who represent SPA must be creditable citizens and role models in their community and to other athletes. The following standards for eligibility have been approved by the SPA Board of Directors and are applicable to any athlete who represents SPA.

## Team Rules Concerning Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco

a. SPA swimmers shall not possess, use, or be under the influence of alcohol while on the club premises or during a team event.

b. SPA swimmers shall not possess or use controlled substances on the club premises unless it has been prescribed for the swimmer by a physician and is in the original container with the prescription label attached. The definition of a “controlled substance” herein is any drug for which a prescription is required.

c. SPA swimmers shall not use, possess, be under the influence of, or distribute to another person any illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia. “Drug paraphernalia” is defined as any device designed or used for the purpose of introducing a drug into the body. Examples include rolling papers, bongs, and crack pipes. “Illegal drug” means any drug, which is illegal under the laws of the State of Missouri and drug or substance, which is banned by USA Swimming, the United States Anti-Doping Agency, the International Olympic Committee, or the World Anti-Doping Agency. Examples of illegal drugs include marijuana, cocaine, steroids, and other performance enhancing drugs (PEDs). This prohibition shall apply at all times.

d. If it is discovered that a SPA swimmer is in possession of, using, or distributing illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, alcohol, or tobacco/vaping, a parent or legal guardian of the swimmer will be notified immediately.

e. A “team event” includes any swim meet, team travel trip, or other event or activity in which the swimmer participates as a member of SPA. “SPA premises” includes any facility owned, leased, or used by SPA for a meet, practice, or any other club-sponsored event or activity.

## Penalties and Consequences for Team Rule Violations

a. If any member of the coaching staff, board member, parent and/or any other person witnesses any member of the SPA Swim Club in violation of any alcohol, drug or tobacco/vaping rule they will receive the following disciplinary action and will not be able to return to the club until all actions are completed:

- Restriction from team trips and/or swim meets;
- Four (4) week suspension
- Forty (40) hours of community service
- Drug, Alcohol or Tobacco class

b. In addition to any penalty imposed, a swimmer who is found to have violated a Team Rule relating to the use or possession of drugs, tobacco/vaping or alcoholic beverages may be required, as a condition or remaining in the club, to have an assessment to determine their risk for chemical dependency.

c. When the head coach determines a swimmer has violated a Team Rule that requires a penalty/consequence beyond counseling by the coach or designee, the head coach shall report such violation and the penalty/consequence as soon as possible to the President of the club. The head coach shall also create and maintain a written record of the violation and penalty/consequence in each case.

d. If a swimmer is suspended from the club, there will be no refund or abatement of dues for the period of suspension. If the swimmer is dismissed from club, the contract between SPA and the swimmer's parent or legal guardian will terminate on the date the dismissal becomes effective. However, the parent of guardian will be liable for the dues incurred up to the effective date of the dismissal.

e. If a swimmer violates the Team Rules a second time, immediate dismissal from the club will be requested.

## Helping Swimmers Is Our First Priority

If a swimmer is concerned about his own involvement in drugs or alcohol or that of another swimmer, the swimmer is encouraged to talk confidentially with a coach. A swimmer who voluntarily discloses to a coach his/her involvement with drugs and alcohol will not be charged with a violation of the Team Rules as a result of such disclosure.

SPA recognizes the need for sensitivity in dealing with these matters and will make every effort to ensure that confidentiality is upheld and that the privacy of those involved will be maintained and respected. SPA further recognizes that parents are the first and most important teachers of their children with regard to the use of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco/vaping products and that parents are primarily responsible for their children's behavior in these and all other matters. It is SPA's view, however, that any behavior that tends to bring discredit to the club is a legitimate cause of concern and falls within the purview of club review.

The purpose of a code of conduct for athletes is to establish a consistent expectation for athletes' behavior. By signing this code of conduct, I agree to the following statements:

- I will always respect and show courtesy to my teammates and coaches.
- I will demonstrate good sportsmanship at all practices and meets.
- I will set a good example of behavior and work ethic for my younger teammates.
- I will be respectful of my teammates' feelings and personal space. Swimmers who exhibit sexist, racist, homophobic, or otherwise inappropriate behavior will be faced with consequences.
- I will show respect for all facilities and other property (including locker rooms) used during practices, competitions, and team activities.
- I will refrain from foul language, violence, behavior deemed dishonest, offensive, or illegal.
- If I disagree with an official's call, I will talk with my coach and not approach the official directly.
- I will obey all of SPA Board of Directors and USA Swimming's rules and codes of conduct.

I understand that if I violate this code of conduct, I will be subject to disciplinary action determined by my coaches and the swim club's board of directors.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Swimmer's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date