

SWIMMER TRAVEL POLICY

When traveling as a member of Waves of Wilmington, you represent yourself, your family, and your team. Therefore, every member is expected to conduct himself/herself at all times in an exemplary manner.

In addition to additional policies outlined in the Team Handbook, swimmers and chaperones must agree to the following prior to participating in team travel events planned and supervised by WOW. MAAPP rules must be followed at all times during team travel.

1. Athletes should not ride alone in a coach's vehicle without another adult or athlete present, unless prior written parental permission is obtained.
2. During overnight team travel, if athletes are paired with other athletes they shall be of the same gender and should be a similar age.
3. When only one athlete and one coach travel to a competition, at the competition the coach and athlete should attempt to establish a "buddy" club to associate with during the competition and when away from the venue.
4. At no times will male and female athletes be in the same room together unless a coach or chaperone is in the room or has approved the situation. This applies to members or members of any other team.
5. Team members and staff traveling with the team will attend and be punctual for all team functions including meetings, practices, meals, meet sessions, etc. unless otherwise excused or instructed by the head coach or his/her designee.
6. Swimmers are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip. Swimmers are not to leave the competition venue, the hotel, a restaurant, or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission/knowledge of the coach or chaperone.
7. No team member may be out of their room after the assigned curfew without permission from a coach or chaperone.
8. Any damages or thievery incurred at a hotel will be at the expense of the swimmers assigned to that room, and further disciplinary action will be taken. No loud or boisterous behavior will be tolerated in the hallways or public areas, and such behavior should be kept to a minimum in your rooms. No expenses will be charged to the room by the swimmers (phone calls, room service, movies, etc.).
9. The directions and decisions of coaches and chaperones are final.
10. Club travel policies must be signed and agreed to by all athletes, parents, coaches and other adults traveling with the club. (305.5D)

11. Team managers and chaperones must be members of USA Swimming and have successfully passed a USA Swimming-administered criminal background check. (305.5B)

12. 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). (305.5A)

13. Athlete must sign a Liability Release and/or Indemnification Form to travel.

14. Coaches should carry a signed Medical Consent or Authorization to Treat Form for each athlete.

15. When visiting public places such as shopping malls, etc. swimmers will stay in groups of no less than three persons. 12 & Under athletes will be accompanied by a chaperone.

16. No “deck changes” are permitted. Athletes are expected to use available change facilities.

CODE OF CONDUCT/HONOR CODE

All team members, staff and parents are apprised in writing of this Code of Conduct and the USA Swimming Code of Conduct. Team members will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrators, teammates, fellow competitors, volunteers and the public at all times.

CHAPERONE RESPONSIBILITIES

Chaperones are an official representative of Waves of Wilmington and are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner. The following chaperone responsibilities ensure the safety of all swimmers on team travel trips.

General

1. Chaperones must have a criminal background check on file with the club office.
2. Chaperones must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with being an official

representative of WOW.

3. Chaperones must be chaperones at all times. Officiating or working in any other capacity at the meet is prohibited.
4. Chaperones may not bring any other children or family members (non-swimmers) with them, which could result in distraction from the performance of the chaperone duties.
5. Chaperones should immediately notify the coaches of any behavior problems.
6. Chaperones acknowledge that the club does not carry liability insurance to cover personal vehicles used to transport swimmers.
7. Chaperones will refrain from the use of tobacco and alcohol.
8. The swim club pays for chaperones' lodging expense (room cost & tax). Therefore, they may be asked to share rooms.

Prior to Departure

9. Prior to the trip, chaperones may be asked to help with the general meal planning (i.e., if no breakfast in hotel, places for lunches and dinners, dinner at hotel, fast food in area, what meals will be brought in to hotel, etc.). The coach will make the final meal plans.
10. Chaperones will be given a copy of the medical release forms for their group, a roster with cell phone numbers for swimmers, coaches and chaperones, and the chaperone group assignments. At the hotel, chaperones will add room assignments.
11. Chaperones will be given a schedule for the trip. They are expected to be at designated meeting places prior to the arrival of the swimmers.

During the Trip

12. Chaperones may be asked to drive the swimmers during the trip. Seat belts are to be worn by all, and speed limits are to be adhered to at all times.
13. Chaperones will take a head count prior to each departure and upon each destination arrival. Chaperones are to know where the swimmers are at all times.
14. Chaperones and coaches traveling on the team bus are expected to sit at least fifty percent of the way back and make hourly sweeps of the bus. On overnight travel, the chaperones should maintain their location, but are encouraged to sleep.
15. Chaperones will give their cell phone numbers, room numbers and phone extension to the swimmers at or prior to check-in.
16. Chaperones will enforce curfew times (as established by the coaches), do bed check at curfew times, and stay alert until all are asleep. This could mean staying in hallway or keeping your door open to listen until all is quiet.

17. Chaperones will help with meals. They may be asked to pick up take-out food and may need to shop for drinks, plates, utensils etc. for meals brought in to the hotel. It also may be necessary to take swimmers to the grocery store.
18. In the event of an emergency, the chaperone is authorized to seek necessary medical care. Coaches and chaperones should use prudent judgment regarding the two adult rule in this situation.
19. If swimmer is leaving on a flight other than the scheduled flight, a chaperone will stay with swimmer until the flight boards (as allowed by airport security protocol), unless other arrangements have been made prior to trip. If the chaperone is not flying that day, they will need to ask at the counter for a gate pass to accompany a minor.

