

## **North Shore Swim Club**

### **Team Travel Policy**

Athletes are most vulnerable to misconduct during travel, particularly overnight stays. 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, automobiles and hotel rooms – is less structured and less familiar.

#### **Definition:**

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

- 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)

#### **North Shore Swim Club Policies:**

- a) Athletes shall not ride alone in a coach's vehicle at any time.
- b) To ensure the propriety of the athletes and to protect the staff, there will be no male athletes in female athlete's rooms and no female athletes in male athlete's rooms (unless the other athlete is a sibling or spouse of that athlete).
- c) Curfews shall be established by the team or LSC staff each day of the trip.
- d) Team members and staff traveling with the team will attend all team functions including meetings, practices, meals, meet sessions, etc. unless otherwise excused or instructed by the head coach or his/her designee.
- e) The directions & decisions of coaches/chaperones are final.
- f) Swimmers are expected to remain with the team always 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.
- g) When visiting public places such as shopping malls, movie theatres, etc. swimmers will stay in groups of no less than two persons.

**North Shore Swim Club Penalties/Consequences for Violations:**

- a) Failure by a North Shore Swim Club member to adhere to team travel policies may result in a warning to the member and his parent/legal guardian if applicable.
- b) Penalties may also be a suspension from team activities or being sent home from the team travel destination at the parent's expense.
- c) Consequences will be dealt with by the Program Director per the club manual on discipline when all parties return home and are interviewed.

North Shore Swim Club Travel policies are only for club sanctioned TEAM TRAVEL Meets and only available for athletes age 13 and over. Any 12 and under athletes who are allowed to attend a swim meet that is designated as a Team Travel Meet will be chaperoned and accompanied by a parent or legal guardian at all times and is the responsibility of the coach or team chaperone.