



Parents and/or Legal Guardians Code of Conduct

It is hereby acknowledged that in consideration of your child (children) being accepted as a member of the JCC Bridgewater TIDE (BWTD) that you agree to and understand the following Code of Conduct. The following code will cover all activities pertaining to your involvement as a parent with the JCC Bridgewater TIDE, the use of any JCC facility, those contracted outside of the JCC by the team for practice and any other purpose, and also include behavior during scheduled competition times, at all away meets and for the duration of all organized travel arranged by the JCC Bridgewater TIDE, New Jersey Swimming, or United States Swimming for the purpose of competition or training.

A parent and/or legal guardian's disregard for any part the following code may result in, but is not limited to, action ranging from verbal and / or written warning to dismissal from the team.

Parents and/or legal guardians, please keep in mind the following code of conduct is in accordance with recommendations made by United States Swimming and The American Swim Coaches Association. Ultimately, the goal of such a code is to ensure a positive environment for the development of your swimmer(s).

Our intentions are not only to ensure a swimmer's individual maturity, but to also promote a positive and encouraging team atmosphere.

The following, outlines the parent and/or legal guardian behavior that is absolutely unacceptable for JCC Bridgewater TIDE Swim Team parents and/or legal guardians;

A. Coaching or giving swim instruction to your child during any portion of a practice or competition.

i. You are involved in one of the few youth sports programs that offer professional coaching. Do not undermine the professional coach by trying to coach your child on the side. Your job is to provide love and support and be a safe place to return to at the end of the day, not to be an extra coach.

ii. You should not offer advice on technique or race strategy or any other area that is not yours. And above all, never pay your child for performance. This will only serve to confuse your child concerning the reasons to strive for excellence and weaken the swimmer/coach bond.

B. Attempting to discuss issues concerning your swimmer(s) with any member of the coaching staff during scheduled practice.

C. Attempting to discuss issues concerning your swimmer(s) with any member of the coaching staff during competition (excluding emergency situations).

D. Entering the pool deck during practice or watching practice from any deck level seating. Parents and/or legal guardians are not allowed on deck during practices or competitions, unless as a designated timer or official.

E. Parents and/or legal guardians are expected to get their children to practice and meets on time – in the event circumstances do not permit your child's (children's) punctual arrival a note should accompany the swimmer with an explanation. For meets, please notify the coach as soon as possible so the swimmer is not scratched.

i. As a competitive team, swimmers are expected to participate in at least one meet per season. Swimmers who do not participate in meets will not be invited back to the team.

F. Competing with or criticizing the coach in the presence of your child or other parents on the team.

G. Imposing your own ambitions on your child.

H. Criticizing officials during competition or in front of your swimmer(s) at any time.

I. Pulling a swimmer from practice or competition early due to dissatisfaction in his/her performance or a disagreement with a staff member.

J. Encouraging your child to focus solely on winning (focusing on the outcome too heavily rather than the process).

K. Campaigning against the coaching staff (talking negatively about the coaching staff to other parents on the team).

L. Not being supportive of your child and his/her efforts in swimming.

Suggestions for contacting coaches:

Please be considerate when contacting the coaches. The best way to contact the coaches is by email. Please do not attempt to talk to the coach during practice or dry land. A coach should not be contacted at home unless an extreme emergency is at hand.

One of the traditional swim team communication gaps is that some parents seem to feel more comfortable in discussing their disagreements over coaching philosophy with other parents rather than taking them directly to the coach. Not only is the problem never resolved, but this approach often results in new problems being created.

1) Try to keep foremost in your mind that each coach has the best interest of the Team and your child at heart. You must trust the coach's goals, even though his/her approach may be different from what you are used to.

2) Keep in mind that the coach must balance your perspective of what is best for your child with the needs of the team and the training group.

On occasion, an individual child's needs may need to be subordinate to the interests of the group, but in the long run the benefits of the child's membership in the group compensate for occasional short-term inconvenience.

Please direct any concerns to the Head Coach; then, if not satisfied, to the appropriate supervisor.

All participants of the JCC Bridgewater TIDE agree to the rules and guidelines as set forth in the JCC Bridgewater TIDE Code of Conducts. Furthermore, the staff reserves the right to discipline and (or) remove a parent and/or legal guardians if adherence to such guidelines and rules are not met.