

CODE OF CONDUCT

This code of conduct is effective from the date signed through the last qualified meet of the season as an **Somerset Valley YMCA Swim Team, Bridgewater Blue Dolphin or Hillsborough Hurricane Swimmer.**

PURPOSE

To provide for the best possible individual, team and program which promotes the sport of swimming, helps to develop the athletic ability and character of the individual swimmers and helps maintain the Somerset Valley YMCA, herein referred to as 'Swim Team' or 'Club,' reputation and standing as a "world class" swim team.

APPLICATION

The entire contents of the **Code of Conduct, Policies and Procedures** shall apply to any activity or function that is associated with the Swim Team including but not limited to: practices, meets, team trips, team or individual practice group outings, team functions. This policy also addresses illegal behavior involving law enforcement by members of the Swim Team occurring outside of team activities. The **Code of Conduct, Policies and Procedures** apply to and must be read, agreed to and signed by each swimmer and parent/guardian in order to register for and participate in Swim Team programs.

GENERAL POLICIES

All members and extensions of the team, including coaches, officials, volunteers, parents and athletes, are expected to protect and help improve the excellent reputation that the Swim Team has earned throughout the state and country. Members of the Swim Team and their parents, guardians, or any other individuals representing the program must at all times follow appropriate Code of Conduct policies during the effective dates noted above including the following:

1. **I will behave in such a way that my actions reflect positively on myself and the Swim Team at all team practices, meets, team trips, team or individual group outings and any team function.**
2. **I will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrators, fellow competitors, parents and the general public in attendance at practices, meets or team functions.**
3. **I will, at all times, follow the directions of the coaching staff during practice, meets, and other team activities.**

4. I will not steal or borrow without permission any article that does not belong to me, such as clothing, jewelry, electronics, money or any other items regardless of value.
5. I will respect the property of Greater Somerset County YMCA and any other facility the team may visit or use. I will not tamper with or cause damage to any such facility.
6. I will promote positive team spirit and morale, which includes being humble in victory and courageous in defeat. I will deal justly, kindly and impartially with all fellow team members.
7. I will not interfere with the productivity of another swimmers practice, meet or preparation for a practice or meet at any time. I understand this includes teammates and/or opposing swimmers.
8. I will obey all applicable pool safety rules.
9. I will refrain from verbal or physical abuse/ assault or inappropriate touching behavior towards other teammates, coaches, officials, or fellow competitors.
10. I will never endanger the safety of another participant, coach or administrator.
11. I will never leave the supervision of the coaching staff without their direct approval.
12. I will make every effort to come to practice on time or notify my practice group coach if I will be late.
13. I will make every effort to wear designated team suit, cap, and other clothing as prescribed by the coaches.
14. I will avoid use of any substances acknowledged on USA Swimming's banned substance list ([usada.org/wp-content/uploads/wada-2016-prohibited-list-en.pdf](https://www.usada.org/wp-content/uploads/wada-2016-prohibited-list-en.pdf)).
15. I will maintain compliance with Swim Team policies, including:
 - a. Social Media Policy
 - b. Anti-Bullying Policy
 - c. Electronic Communication Policy

PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR AT TEAM EVENTS

1. Use of alcoholic beverages.
2. Use of illegal drugs or improper use of prescription medications.
3. Smoking or other use of nicotine/tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and other vaporizer products.
4. Destruction of property.
5. Failure to adhere to any of the SVY Team

Travel Policies.

6. Inappropriate or unruly behavior, including failure to adhere to team standards and/or Code of Conduct.

A "team event" is defined as any occasion where an athlete/non-athlete is representing the Somerset Valley YMCA swim team in an official nature.