



Powel Crosley, Jr. YMCA Tigersharks Swim Team Athlete Electronic Communication Policy

Athletes should remember that swimming for PCY is a privilege, and they are expected to portray themselves, their team, and their community in a positive manner at all times. Electronic communication methods, while fast, can easily create harm to the sender and recipients. Athletes must be conscientious about the purpose, intention and perception of every communication. Any communication that does not meet the following expectations is considered to be a violation of the team conduct policy and will be met with the requisite consequences.

Expectations

The Powel Crosley, Jr. YMCA holds the following expectations of athletes:

- Athletes will not use derogatory language, including sexist, racist, homophobic, obscene, or profane material of any kind.
- Athletes will not use social media to degrade, demean, or attack any person, team, or organization.
- Athletes will not use social media to contact his/her coach(es) and will instead post only appropriate material.
- Athletes will not call or text their coach, except in an emergency or if a parent/guardian is included in the communication.
- All communication between athletes and coaches will be related to the activities of the team and should, whenever possible, be limited to in-person communication during team practices or events.

Things to remember

Texting:

- Text messages and photos can be saved or screen-shot. Once the message is transmitted, the sender does not have control.
- Texting between athletes and coaches is not okay unless it is an emergency situation or another adult (such as a parent/guardian or another coach) is copied on the text.
- It is almost always more effective to discuss an issue in person.

Social Media:

- Once you post something online, it is public and permanent--even if you delete it.
- Never post a picture or information about another person without their clear consent.
- Many employers, college admissions officers, and athletic recruiters review social networking sites as part of their evaluation of an applicant. Carefully consider how others may perceive the information and content that you share about yourself.
- Never post your email address, home address, phone number, or other personal information, as it could lead to unwanted attention, stalking, or identity theft.