

To provide a safe and fun swimming environment for athletes, coaches, volunteers, and spectators, your YMCA A Championship hosts have embraced Safe Sport.

The February 14, 2018 passing of Public Law 115-126 Protecting Young Victims From Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017 identifies additional policies & procedures that will allow us to continue to strengthen our ability to protect our athletes from all forms of abuse.

We thank you in advance for familiarizing your team athletes, coaches and volunteers with the following policies & procedures:

Deck Access is limited to only registered and approved coaches, swimmers, and working officials and volunteers.

Swimmers are not permitted on deck until a certified coach is on deck.

No cameras (including cell phone cameras) or other recording devices are allowed behind the blocks at any time. Exception: a credentialed, official Meet Photographer identified by the Meet Director, stated in the Meet Announcement and available to all athletes is allowed behind the blocks **after** the start. No cameras or recording devices are permitted in the locker rooms, changing areas, showers, or bathrooms. **Spectators, please, no flash photography during the meet.**

Good sportsmanship is expected at all times. Bullying or taunting is prohibited at all times on deck. Bullying is defined as any severe word, act or gesture directed at someone that a reasonable person believes has the effect of causing harm, the fear of harm or a hostile environment. Disorderly conduct will not be tolerated. Vandalism of any nature will be just cause for team disqualification. A designated person shall be responsible for the supervision and conduct of their team members and to safely maintain their team areas until the end of each session.

Deck Changing is prohibited at all times on deck. Except where the venue facilities require otherwise, changing into or out of swimsuits other than in locker rooms or other designated areas is not appropriate and is prohibited. The USA Swimming Rulebook defines Deck Change as: "Changing, in whole or in part, into or out of a swimsuit (excluding a drag suit) in an area other than a permanent or temporary locker room, bathroom, changing room, or other space designated for changing purposes while at a practice, competition, or other pool-related activity." This includes slipping off the top of a one-piece performance suit to place on an alternate bikini top immediately following a race.

Please remember when you're in the **locker rooms** to be respectful towards others and responsible for your belongings. Remember, no cameras (including cell phone cameras) in the locker rooms.

There is **no shaving** on pool premises: this includes locker rooms and restrooms.

Rubdowns and massages are not allowed except by a Licensed Massage Therapist or other certified professional who is not a coach. Inappropriate touching between an athlete and an adult is prohibited.

Glass containers of any kind are not permitted in the pool area or locker rooms. Coolers, noise makers and balloons are not permitted.

Swimmers are not allowed to sit on the laps of any coach or other non-athlete member that is not part of their family (parents/siblings).

Bleachers are available on deck for swimmers. **No chairs, blankets, sleeping bags, etc. are permitted on deck or in Spectator Areas.**

Volunteer Timers are not to use cell phones or text during the meet. No cameras, cell phones, or other recording devices are permitted behind the blocks at anytime. Thank you in advance for keeping them in your pocket, purse or bag.

Please report any **suspicious behavior or misconduct** to the Meet Marshals, Meet Referee, or Meet Director.

Drugs, alcohol, smoking (including vaping) are not permitted.

Drones: Operation of a drone, or any other flying apparatus, is prohibited over the venue (pools, athlete/coach areas, spectator areas and open ceiling locker rooms) any time athletes, coaches, officials and/or spectators are present.

The Meet Director / Meet Referee reserves the right to dismiss any swimmer, coach, volunteer and/or spectator from the competition due to inappropriate conduct/behavior.

Please direct any Safe Sport questions/concerns to the Meet Director or Meet Referee.

THANK YOU for helping us create a **SAFE YMCA A Championship for ALL !**