

# **The Role of the Coach**

## **Responsibilities of the Coach**

The coaches' job is to supervise the entire competitive swim program. The Ozaukee Aquatics coaching staff is dedicated to providing a program for the youth that will enable them to learn the value of striving to improve oneself--"to be the best you can be." Therefore, the coaches must be in total control in matters affecting training and competition.

1. The coaches are responsible for placing swimmers in practice groups. This is based on the age and ability level of each individual. When it is in the best interest of a swimmer, he/ she will be placed in a more challenging training group by their coach.
2. Sole responsibility for stroke instruction and the training regimen rests with the "Oz" coaching staff. Each group's practices are based on sound scientific principles and are geared to the specific goals of that group.
3. The coaching staff will make the final decision concerning which meets Ozaukee Aquatics swimmers may attend. The coaching staff also makes the final decision concerning which events a swimmer is entered into.
4. At meets, the coaching staff will conduct and supervise warmup procedures for the team. After each race, the coaches will offer constructive criticism regarding the swimmer's performance. (It is the parent's job to offer love and understanding regardless of their swimmer's performance.)
5. The building of a relay team is the sole responsibility of the coaching staff.
6. Each coach has a responsibility to constantly be aware of the swimmers' safety and wellbeing.
7. Each coach has a responsibility to be a positive role model for the swimmers.
8. Each coach has a responsibility to be a technical expert on the sport of swimming.
9. Each coach has a responsibility to help construct a vision for the athlete of what is possible in the sport of swimming and the path each swimmer will need to follow to achieve that goal.

## **Coaching Code of Conduct**

The purpose of this code of conduct for coaches is to establish common expectations for all members of the coaching staff of the club. It is to be used as a guide to promote a positive team environment and good sportsmanship.

- At all times, adhere to USA Swimming's rules and code of conduct.
- Set a good example of respect and sportsmanship for participants and fans to follow.
- Act and dress with professionalism and dignity in a manner suitable to his/her profession.
- Respect officials and their judgment and abide by the rules of the event.
- Treat opposing coaches, participants, and spectators with respect.
- Instruct participants in sportsmanship and demand that they display good sportsmanship.
- Coach in a positive manner and do not use derogatory comments or abusive language.
- Win with humility and lose with dignity.
- Treat every athlete fairly, justly, impartially, intelligently, and with sensitivity.
- Always place the well-being, health, and safety of swimmers above all other considerations, including developing performance.
- Continue to seek and maintain their own professional development in all areas in relation to coaching and teaching children.
- Always maintain a professional separation between coach and athlete.

The coaching staff is constantly updating and improving the Ozaukee Aquatics program. It is the swimmer's and parents' responsibility to make the most out of the excellent opportunity this program provides for success in swimming.

Any complaints of a coach violating this code of conduct will be brought to the attention of his/her supervisor and/or the club's board of directors.