

BCCSHARKS CODE OF CONDUCT

The Northwest Swim Circuit(NWSC) and BCC Sharks Swim Team(BCCS) were formed with the objective of helping young swimmers to develop physical fitness, self-discipline, self-confidence, proficiency in competitive swimming strokes, determination to do one's best, and good sportsmanship. The expectation of the NWSC Executive Board as well as the BCCS Board is that participants will exhibit the highest standards of sportsmanship at all times while participating in all NWSC and all BCCS affiliated events. Every participant, including swimmers, coaches, officials, board members, parents and spectators, has a responsibility to behave in a respectable manner and to comply with and support the Code of Conduct for both the NWSC and BCC Sharks.

EXPECTATIONS FOR SWIMMERS AND PARENTS

BCC Sharks Parent Code of Conduct

As the parent of a BCCS swimmer, you agree to follow the rules for behavior and sportsmanship:

- Set a good example. Show respect and be polite to EVERYONE.
- Follow the NWSC Code of Conduct.
- Have your swimmer arrive on time for practices and meets.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship. Win gracefully. Lose graciously. Congratulate our opponent(s).
- While at all BCCS and NWSC functions, facilities, and meets always represent the team in a positive and respectful manner.
- Do not distract the swimmers or coaches by interfering in practices or meets.
- If you have a concern about how your swimmer is progressing, please make arrangements to meet with the coach privately.
- Volunteer at meets and team events. Every meet requires a huge number of volunteers from each team to operate smoothly.

Meet Etiquette:

- Respond in a timely manner for meet event and volunteer entries.
- If you are going to be late or absent from the meet you must report that to (1) the head coach, (2) the computer rep, and (3) your tent parent. Failure to do so often impacts relays and other swimmers. Coaches DO NOT have the ability to pass that information along in a timely manner the day of the meet.
- Show up to the meet at the required check-in time for each meet.
- DO NOT film or take pictures from behind the blocks.
- If you have questions about a disqualification speak to the coaches. Do not approach officials at a meet.
- Be mindful of each meet's rules for spectators, parking, tent set up and deck space.
- Be respectful of other spectators. If your swimmer is not swimming, step back and let others watch their swimmers.
- Coaches have the final say in swimmer events and relay structure.

BCC Sharks Swimmer Code of Conduct

As a BCCS swimmer, you agree to follow the rules for behavior and sportsmanship wherever and whenever the BCCS are represented:

- Show respect and be polite to EVERYONE.
- Follow the NWSC Code of Conduct.
- Respect the property of BCCS and of others. Do not use others' property without their permission.
- Do not steal or vandalize anything that doesn't belong to you.
- Do not use profanity. Do not make ugly comments to others. Do not lie.
- Do not behave in a manner that makes coaches or other swimmers uncomfortable (public displays of affection, sexual harassment, bullying).
- While at all BCCS functions, facilities and meets always represent the team in a positive and respectful manner.

Swim Practice Etiquette:

- Arrive on time to practices.
- Listen to coaches and follow their direction.
- Do not disrupt your coach or bother others in your lane.
- Practice good sportsmanship and encourage teammates.

Meet Etiquette:

- Show up to the meets on time for check in.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship. Win gracefully. Lose graciously. Congratulate and encourage our opponents.
- If you have questions about a disqualification speak to the coaches. Do not approach officials at a meet.
- Remember to be a positive representative of BCCS.

If you should conduct yourself in a manner that brings discredit or discord to BCCS or NWSC, you subject yourself to disciplinary action. BCCS maintains the right to suspend or terminate any membership with or without cause.

Prohibited Behavior for all participants

- Use or possession of drugs, firearms, alcohol, tobacco, or any other hazardous substances.
- Theft.
- Extreme demonstration of disrespect to property or individuals (vandalism, bullying, harassment).
- Anything that is against NWSC rules.
- *Unsportsmanlike Conduct*

While attending and/or participating in any NWSC or member club affiliated practice or event, no individual shall:

(1) Use trash talk, profane, obscene or vulgar language, or gesture under any circumstances, on or off the pool area, or

(2) Engage in an objectionable demonstration of dissent or unsportsmanlike conduct such as throwing equipment or any other forceful action.

(3) Otherwise behave in an unsportsmanlike fashion, including engaging in or escalating arguments between any participants at the event

- *Refusal to Abide by Officials*

While attending and/or participating in any NWSC or member club affiliated practice or event, no individual shall refuse to abide by an official's decision.

- *Violent Physical Behavior*

While attending and/or participating in any NWSC or member club affiliated practice or event, no individual shall:

(1) At any time strike, shove, threaten to strike or lay a hand upon an official, swimmer, coach or spectator.

(2) Engage in an abusive, verbal attack upon any official, swimmer, coach or spectator on or off the pool area.

Practice or BCC Sharks Event Reporting Procedure

Members of BCCS need to feel confident their concerns are being listened to by our coaches and board. Please follow the procedure below if you suspect there is any incident and/or other safety concerns:

1. Swimmer and/or parent should notify the head coach and/or BCCS board president of the incident.
2. Head coach and/or BCCS board president will address the situation with involved parties.
3. Depending on the incident and what was found through investigation of the incident, disciplinary action will occur.
4. The Head Coach and/or board President will meet with involved parties to discuss the results of the incident investigation and disciplinary actions, if any.

If the problem continues, is significant or chronic, the coach or volunteer will bring the issue to the Head Coach and/or board President and the following procedures will be triggered*:

1. Head Coach and/or board President will issue an Official Warning. The **First Official Warning** of a breach of the Code of Conduct will be communicated directly to the offender by the Head Coach and/or board President. An email documenting it will be sent from the Board to the offender and/or offender's parent/guardian.
2. The next breach of the Code of Conduct will be called the **Second Official Warning**. This will require a conference between the Head Coach, a Board member, the offender and/or the offender's parent/guardian. This Second Official Warning may result in removal from the next swim meet and/or practice. Notification will be sent from the

Board to the offender and/or offender's parent/guardian via email. Future consequences will be spelled out explicitly.

3. A third breach of the Code of Conduct will result in removal from the team. There will be no reimbursement of team fees with this situation.

These actions may be appealed to the Board according to the Bylaws, Article III, Section F: Termination & Suspension.

**The BCCS board reserves the right to immediately dismiss any swimmer or family from the team for egregious behavior including, but not limited to, theft, vandalism, drugs, any action that bring physical harm to others or any other violent behavior.*

Meet Reporting Procedure

All meet and NWSC events are governed by the NWSC Code of Conduct polices, reporting and penalties guideline. However, all behavior by BCCS swimmers, parents or other team participants should also be done in accordance with the BCCS Code of conduct and those expectations and penalties also apply.

Athlete Protection Policies

ATHLETE PROTECTION POLICIES

- Inappropriate touching between an athlete and an adult is prohibited, including, but not limited to, excessive touching, hugging, kissing, sexually oriented behavior, sexually stimulating or otherwise inappropriate games, and having an athlete sit on a non-family member adult's lap.
- Any rubdown or massage performed on an athlete by any adult, excluding the spouse, parent, guardian, sibling, or personal assistant of such athlete, is prohibited unless such adult is a licensed massage therapist or other certified professional.
- Any rubdown or massage performed at a swim venue by a licensed professional must be conducted in open/public locations and must never be done with only the athlete and licensed massage therapist in the room. Even if a coach is a licensed massage therapist, the coach shall not perform a rubdown or massage of an athlete under any circumstances.
- Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone camera, is not allowed in changing areas, rest rooms, locker rooms or directly behind the starting blocks.

MISCONDUCT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- It is every member's responsibility to promptly report any incident regarding sexual or other misconduct to the Head Coach and/or any board member. Reporting must occur when an individual has firsthand knowledge of misconduct or where specific and credible information has been received from a victim or knowledgeable third party. Texas law requires all incidents be reported to law enforcement as soon as information is made known.

- Filing a knowingly false allegation of misconduct, sexual or otherwise, is prohibited and may violate state criminal law and civil defamation laws. Any person making a knowingly false allegation of sexual misconduct shall be subject to disciplinary action by BCCS.
- Neither civil nor criminal statutes of limitation apply to reports of cases of sexual abuse.

NO MEMBER SHALL RETALIATE AGAINST ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS MADE A GOOD FAITH REPORT.