

BEST Safe Swim Policies and Safe Sport Best Practices

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

The Mission of USA Swimming is to encourage participation and the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of swimming. USA Swimming grants the privilege of membership to individuals and organizations committed to that mission. In order to assist all members to better serve the interests of those who participate in swimming, USA Swimming has adopted the following Code of Conduct (2018). As a member of the USA Swimming Organization, the Brown County Elite Swim Team, shares the same commitment and interest in serving its members of USA Swimming.

USA Swimming established an Athlete Protection Program, Safe Sport, which set best practice guidelines for the sport of Swimming. In an effort to ensure the safety of every swimmer, the Brown County Elite Swim Team has adopted all Safe Sport best practice guidelines.

This document serves as a brief summary of both 2018 USA Swimming Code of Conduct and Safe Sport Best Practice Guidelines. Brown County Elite Swim Team recommends all parents and athletes read both in their entirety, they are attached.

CODE OF CONDUCT HIGHLIGHTS

1. Any member faces sanctions for violating any provision of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct.
2. Violations include discrimination, failure to follow sexual misconduct reporting requirements, use/possession/distribution of illegal drugs, providing alcohol to an athlete, allowing any person with a membership suspension to instruct its athletes, acts of fraud/deception/dishonesty related to swimming activities.

3. Any violation of Athlete Protection Policies. These include:
 - a. Inappropriate touching between an athlete and an adult non-athlete member or Participating Non-Member (excessive touching, hugging, kissing)
 - b. Any inappropriate sexual conduct or advance, including oral, written, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature at any time of a minor by a coach, other non-athlete member, or any adult participating in any capacity whatsoever in USA Swimming activities.
 - c. Any Rubdown or massage performed on an athlete excluding the parent, guardian, sibling, or personal assistant unless the adult is a licensed massage therapist or other certified professional.
 - d. Use of audio or visual recording devices, including cell phone camera, is not allowed in changing areas, rest rooms, or locker rooms.
 - e. Travel:
 - i. The coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an athlete unless the coach is the parent, guardian, sibling, spouse of that particular athlete.
 - ii. Team managers and chaperones must be members of USA Swimming and have successfully passed a USA Swimming-required criminal background check.
 - iii. When only one athlete and one coach travel to a competition, the athlete must have advance written permission from their parent to travel alone with the coach.
 - iv. All clubs shall establish their own travel policies, which must be signed and agreed to by all athletes, parents, coaches, and other adults traveling with the club.
 - f. Clubs shall establish their own action plans for implementing anti-bullying policy. This policy must be reviewed and agreed to annually by all athletes, parents, coaches, and other non-athlete members of the club.
 - g. Clubs shall establish their own electronic communication/social media

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4. Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements
 - a. Every member is responsible to immediately report any incident regarding sexual misconduct by a member
 - b. Filing a knowingly false allegation is prohibited and may violate state criminal law

SAFE SPORT BEST PRACTICE GUIDELINES HIGHLIGHTS

1. All swimming practices should be open to observation by parents.
2. Two-deep Leadership: One coach member and at least one other adult who is not in the water should be present at all practices and other sanctioned club activities whenever at least one athlete is present.
3. Open and observable environment should be maintained for all interactions between adults and athletes.
4. Coaches should not invite or have an athlete to their home, nor travel in a vehicle without another adult present.
5. During team travel, athletes paired with other athletes must be same gender and similar age. Chaperones staying in same room should be same gender as athlete and written consent by athlete's parent.
6. Non-athlete adult members should respect the privacy of athletes in situations such as changing clothes, showering, etc. Non-athletes adult members should protect their own privacy in similar situations.
7. Communications between non-athlete adult members and athletes should not include any topic or language that is sexual or inappropriate in nature.
8. Coaches and non-athlete adult members should avoid horseplay or roughhousing with athletes.
9. When a coach touches an athlete as part of instruction, the coach should do so in direct view of others and inform the athlete what he is doing prior to initial contact.
10. Coach should not initiate contact with or accept supervisory responsibility for athletes outside club programs and activities.

MATERIALS attached(Link provided)

1. [2018 USA Swimming Code of Conduct](#)
2. Safe Sport Best Practice Guidelines
 - a. [Recommended Practices for Gender Diverse Minor Athletes](#)
 - b. [Coaching Athletes with Disabilities](#)
 - c. [Team Travel](#)
 - d. [Photography](#)
 - e. [Electronic Communication](#)
 - f. [Bullying](#)
 - g. [Locker Room Monitoring Policy](#)
 - h. [Team Code of Conduct: Coach](#)
 - i. [Team Code of Conduct: Athletes](#)
 - j. [Team Code of Conduct: Parents](#)
 - k. [Athlete Electronic Communication](#)