

Team Travel Policy for DARE Aquatics

Purpose

Athletes are most vulnerable to misconduct during travel, particularly overnight stays. This includes a high risk of athlete-to-athlete misconduct. During travel, athletes are often away from their families and support networks, and the setting – new changing areas, locker rooms, workout facilities, automobiles and hotel rooms – is less structured and less familiar.

Team Travel is defined as overnight travel to a swim meet or other team activity that is planned and supervised by the club or LSC.

DARE Aquatics does NOT participate in travel meets in which the coaching staff supervises DARE athletes.

1. DARE Aquatics athletes are the sole responsibility of their parents or an official parent chaperone when not on deck at a travel competition with DARE Aquatics staff.
2. Parents may inform coaching staff that their athlete will be under the supervision of another team member's parent. Once staff is informed it is assumed the chaperoned athlete is the sole responsibility of the parent chaperone.
3. Parents are provided a team hotel but the parents of DARE athletes or parent chaperones are responsible for booking the room and stay with their athlete or chaperoned athlete.
4. Parents or parent chaperones are responsible for all athlete travel to and from the hotel to the competition location or to any team events (team dinner, team movie, etc.).
5. Athlete supervision at the hotel is the sole responsibility of their parent or their parent chaperone. DARE Aquatics staff does not conduct room checks, does not share rooms with athletes, or set room assignments with athletes.
6. If two families choose to allow their athletes to room together or in a separate room, all burden and responsibility lies with the families who booked the hotel rooms.
7. Athlete curfew shall be recommended by coaching staff but parent hosts of athletes enforce any form of curfew for the athletes under their supervision.

Expected Behavior of DARE Athletes

1. When at hotel, even under the supervision of parents, athletes are expected to be quiet and respect the rights of teammates and others in hotel
2. Be prompt and on time for all team events (warm up).
3. Use appropriate behavior in public facilities
4. Parent hosts are responsible for all incidental damages
5. Parent hosts are responsible for all damages or thievery at hotel.

Code of Conduct / Honor Code

The Club has a Code of Conduct as a companion document to the team travel policies.

Required:

All team members, team staff, and parents of minors are apprised in writing of this Code of Conduct and the attached USA Swimming Code of Conduct. A signature on this document constitutes unconditional agreement to comply with the stipulations of both documents.

Recommended:

- a. Team members will display proper respect and sportsmanship toward coaches, officials, administrators, teammates, fellow competitors and the public at all times.
- b. Team members and staff will refrain from any illegal or inappropriate behavior that would detract from a positive image of the team or be detrimental to its performance objectives.
- c. The possession or use of alcohol or tobacco products by any athlete is prohibited.
- d. The possession, use, or sale/distribution of any controlled or illegal substance or any form of weapon is strictly forbidden.
- e. No “deck changes” are permitted. Athletes are expected to use available change facilities.
- f. Team members are reminded that when competing in meets, traveling on trips, and attending other meet-related functions, they are representing themselves, their family and DARE Aquatics. Athlete behavior must positively reflect the high standards of DARE (or SCS).

Consideration:

- a. Failure to comply with the Honor Code as set forth in this document may result in disciplinary action. Such discipline may include, but may not be limited to:
 - i. Dismissal from the trip and immediate return home at the athlete’s expense
 - ii. Disqualification from one or more events, or all events of competition;
 - iii. Disqualification from future team travel meets;
 - iv. Financial penalties;
 - v. Dismissal from the team; and/or
 - vi. Proceedings for a LSC or USA Swimming National Board of Review.
- b. Swimmers are to refrain from inappropriate physical contact at team activities and events.
- c. Swimmers are to refrain from use of inappropriate language.

Signature of Athlete, Parent or Guardian

Date