



The Aquatic Club of York



Team Travel Policy

YORK YMCA SWIMMING TEAM TRAVEL POLICY

Introduction: The York YMCA Swimming Team participates in many high level championships, invitational and national meets around the country. Being a member of our travel teams is both a privilege and a responsibility. This document confirms the YY Swimming Team Travel policy for "Team Travel" meets which are defined as those meets that the athletes may travel to without parents or guardians (other than coaches or official chaperones). It must be clearly stated that **ALL** meets which York YMCA swimmers attend require adherence to the York YMCA Swimming Code of Conduct and the USA Swimming Code of Conduct (both included with this policy). It must also be clearly stated that the coaching staff reserves the right to revise the meets deemed as "Team Travel" meets as required.

Section 1: USA Swimming Required Policies

- a. This travel policy must be agreed to and signed by all athletes, parents, coaches and any other adults traveling with the York YMCA Swimming Team.
- b. Chaperones and team managers must be members of USA Swimming and must have successfully passed a USA Swimming administered criminal background check.
- c. Regardless of gender, a coach shall not share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangement with an athlete (unless the coach is the parent, guardian, sibling, or spouse of that particular athlete).
- d. When only one athlete and one coach travel to a competition the athlete must have his/her parents' (or guardians') written permission in advance to travel alone with the coach.

Section 2: Additional Policies

- a. During team travel, to the extent practical when doing room checks, attending team meetings and/or other activities, two-deep leadership (more than one adult) and open and observable environments should be maintained.
- b. Athletes should not ride in a coach's vehicle without another adult present who is the same gender as the athlete, unless prior parental permission is obtained.
- c. During overnight team travel, if athletes are paired with other athletes they should be of the same gender and should be of similar age. Where athletes are age 13 & Over, chaperones would ideally stay in nearby rooms. When athletes are age 12 & Under, chaperones may stay with athletes. If chaperones are staying in a room with athletes, they should be the same gender as the athlete and written consent should be given by athlete's parents (or legal guardian).
- d. To ensure the propriety of the athletes and to protect the staff, there will be no male athletes in female athlete's rooms and no female athletes in male athlete's rooms (unless the other athlete is a sibling or spouse of that particular athlete).
- e. A copy of the York YMCA Swimming Code of Conduct must be signed by the athlete and his/her parent or legal guardian.
- f. Team officials (coaches or chaperones) should carry a signed Medical Consent Form for each athlete.
- g. Curfews shall be established by the team each day of the trip.

- h.** Team members and staff traveling with the team will attend all team functions including meetings, practices, meals, meet sessions, etc. unless otherwise excused or instructed by the head coach or his/her designee.
- i.** The directions & decisions of coaches/chaperones are final.
- j.** Swimmers are expected to remain with the team at all times during the trip. Swimmers are not to leave the competition venue, the hotel, a restaurant, or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission/knowledge of the coach or chaperone.
- k.** When visiting public places such as shopping malls, movie theatres, etc. swimmers will stay in groups of no less than three persons. 12 & Under athletes will be accompanied by a chaperone.
- l.** The Head Coach or his/her designee shall make a written report of travel policy or code of conduct violations to the appropriate club leadership and the parent or legal guardian of any affected minor athlete.

Section 3: York YMCA Swimming Code of Conduct

[Insert Code Here]

Section 4: USA Swimming Code of Conduct (Excerpted from the 2010 USA Swimming Rulebook)

304.1

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. The privilege of membership may, therefore, be withdrawn or denied by USA Swimming at any time where USA Swimming determines that a member or prospective member's conduct is inconsistent with the mission of the organization or the best interest of the sport and those who participate in it. In order to assist all members to better serve the interests of those who participate in swimming, USA Swimming has adopted this Code of Conduct.

304.2

Any member or prospective member of USA Swimming may be denied membership, censured, placed on probation, suspended for a definite or indefinite period of time with or without terms of probation, fined or expelled from USA Swimming if such member violates the provisions of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct, set forth in 304.3, or aids, abets or encourages another person to violate any of the provisions of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct.

304.3

The following shall be considered violations of the USA Swimming Code of Conduct:

- .1 Violation of the right to complete provisions set forth in 301.1 through 301.4.
- .2 Violations of the anti-doping provisions set forth in 303.3 or 303.4.

.3 Discrimination in violation of Part Five of the USA Swimming Corporate Bylaws or any other section of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, or in violation of Section 201(b)(6) of the Amateur Sports Act which requires that USA Swimming must provide: "an equal opportunity to amateur athletes; coaches, trainers, managers, administrators, and officials to participate in amateur athletic competition, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, gender, or national origin".

.4 Conviction of, imposition of a deferred sentence for, or any plea of guilty or no contest at any time, past or present, or the existence of any pending charges, for (i) any felony, (ii) any offense involving use, possession, distribution or intent to distribute illegal drugs or substances, or (iii) any crime involving sexual misconduct.

.5 Any sexual conduct, advance or other inappropriate sexually oriented behavior or action directed towards an athlete by (i) a coach member or other non-athlete member, or (ii) any other adult participating in any capacity whatsoever in the affairs or activities of USA Swimming (whether such adult is a member or not). Any nonconsensual physical sexual conduct, or pattern of unwelcome advances or other sexual harassment in connection with or incidental to a USA Swimming-related activity by any person participating in the affairs or activities of USA Swimming (whether such person is a member or not) directed toward any member or other person participating in the affairs or activities of USA Swimming.

.6 The sale or distribution of illegal drugs or the illegal sale or distribution of any substance listed on FINA's recognized list of banned substances.

.7 The use of illegal drugs in the presence of an athlete, by a coach, official, trainer of, or a person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over, that athlete.

.8 The providing of alcohol to an athlete by a coach, official, trainer, manager or any other person where the athlete is under the legal age allowed to consume or purchase alcohol in the state where the alcohol is provided.

.9 The abuse of alcohol in the presence of an athlete under the age of 18, by a coach, official, trainer of, or a person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete.

.10 Physical abuse of an athlete by any person who, in the context of swimming, is in a position of authority over that athlete.

.11 Any act of fraud, deception or dishonesty in connection with any USA Swimming-related activity.

.12 Any non-consensual physical contact, obscene language or gesture, or other threatening language or conduct directed towards any meet official and which is related to any decision made by such official in connection with a USA Swimming-sanctioned competition.

.13 Action, other than through general advertising, by a coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative, or employee of a swim club, or a USA Swimming or LSC employee, either through direct contact with an athlete or the encouragement of others, to recruit or otherwise encourage an athlete who is already a member of a USA Swimming member swim club to leave that club, unless the acting party receives prior written approval to recruit or encourage the athlete to change affiliation from the designated club

representative of the athlete's existing USA Swimming-member swim club or contact is initiated by the athlete, the athlete's parent or authorized representative.

General advertising includes any information that is:

- A. Distributed to an identifiable general population where there is a reasonable expectation that the majority of that population are not current members of USA Swimming, or
- B. Placed in or on any item that is sold

In the event of a violation of this section, a sanction may be imposed against any coach, owner, officer, volunteer, representative or employee of a swim club, or against any such club, or any combination thereof, as appropriate.

.14 Violation of any team misconduct rule as established by the USOC, USA Swimming, any Zone or LSC team authority.

.15 Any other material and intentional act, conduct or omission not provided for above, which is detrimental to the image or reputation of USA Swimming, a LSC or the sport of swimming.

Section 5: York YMCA Swimming Medical Consent Form

[Insert Form Here]

Signature of Swimmer

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date