

GUELPH MARLIN AQUATIC CLUB

Parents Code of Conduct

Objective

The Club's Code of Conduct establishes a clear set of guidelines for our parents/guardians. Its primary goal is to help ensure that swimming is a fun, positive experience.

The Code of Conduct is based on the concept of fair play, defined by these basic principles:

- Respect for the rules
- Respect for all participants, including coaches, team mates and opponents
- Respect for the judges and their decisions
- Exemplary behaviour and maintenance of self control and personal responsibility

The Code of Conduct should be read by all parents/guardians. It is a condition of continuing GMAC membership that all members follow the Code of Conduct at all times.

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- I will remember that my child swims for his or her enjoyment, not for mine.
- I will NOT give instructions to swimmers. That is the coaches' job.
- I will never question the coaches' intentions or honesty, but I will feel free to have fair, open discussion with coaches when necessary. Everyone makes mistakes so always assume that no malicious intent is present.
- I will not interfere with scheduled practices by speaking to the coaches while on deck. If I need to speak to a coach, he/she can be approached before or after practice, or by email or telephone.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is as important as winning, so that he/she will not feel defeated by the outcome of a race.
- I will make my child feel like a winner by offering praise for competing fairly and accomplishing goals.
- I will never ridicule or discipline my child for making a mistake at practices, or at meets.
- I will support all efforts to eliminate verbal or physical abuse and inappropriate behaviour in our workouts, meets and activities.
- I will remember that children learn best by example. I will teach my child respect, and I will encourage my child's team mates and opponents.
- I will make sure that my son/daughter shows up for scheduled practices and meets at the times designated by the coaches.