

## HSA TEAM TRAVEL POLICY & CODE OF CONDUCT

### **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, transportation, and hotel rooms) is less structured and less familiar. The purpose of this policy is to encourage and develop the highest quality character traits at all times during a team travel trip to produce the best possible individual, team, and program outcomes. This policy and code of conduct is supplemental to the **HSA Athlete and Coach Code of Conduct**. This policy is to be completed along with the **HSA Medical Release Form**.

### **GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. All participating team members will abide by this code of conduct.
2. Athletes, coaches and chaperones will refrain from any illegal or inappropriate behavior that would detract from a positive image of **HSA**, Southeastern Swimming LSC, or USA Swimming, or be detrimental to its performance objectives.
3. Athletes will wear designated team apparel as directed by the Coaches during the competition.
4. Athletes must swim every race to the best of their ability.
5. Athletes must compete in all championship finals in which they are qualified for unless discussed and otherwise agreed up with their coach.
6. Athletes are to refrain from using inappropriate language.
7. Curfews will be obeyed and enforced with room checks.
8. Athletes must remain with the team at all times during the trip. Athletes are not to leave the competition venue, hotel, restaurant, or any other place at which the team has gathered without the permission/knowledge of the coach or a chaperone.
9. Athletes will attend all team functions including meetings, warm-ups, practices, competitions, meals, etcetera, unless otherwise excused or instructed to do so by the coach or chaperone.
10. Athletes should not ride alone in a coach's vehicle without another adult or athlete present unless prior parental permission is obtained.
11. During overnight team travel, if athletes are paired with other athletes, they shall be of the same gender and should be of a similar age.
12. Any damage or thievery incurred at a hotel will be at the expense of the athletes assigned to that room, and further disciplinary action will be taken. No loud or boisterous behavior will be tolerated in the hallways or public areas and such behavior will be kept to a minimum in rooms. No expenses will be charged to the room by the athletes (phone calls, room service, movies, etcetera).
13. Male and female athletes may under no circumstances be in each other's rooms.
14. Athletes are to refrain from inappropriate physical contact.
15. The possession of or use of tobacco, alcohol or any illegal substance(s) is prohibited.

16. Use of another athlete's prescription medication is prohibited.
17. Disrespectful, indiscreet, or destructive behavior will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of each athlete to make every effort to avoid guilt by association with such activities at any time during the trip.
18. Any additional team guidelines will be established, as needed, by the coach of record with approval by the head coach.
19. All directions and decisions made by coaches or chaperones are final.

### **DISCIPLINE**

At the discretion of the head coach or head travel team coach, any or all, of the following disciplinary actions may be enforced:

1. Scratched from a single event, scratched for a day of the meet or scratched for the remainder of the meet.
2. Dismissal from the trip and immediately sent home at the athlete's expense.
3. Financial penalties (return cost from the meet, meet entry fees, etcetera)
4. Suspension from future team travel trips
5. Suspension or expulsion from the team

I agree to abide by the above rules of conduct as set forth in this document and acknowledge that should I violate any provision, I will be subject to disciplinary action identified by this document

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Athlete's Signature

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Date

I agree to hold my athlete(s) accountable to the above rules of conduct as set forth in this document and acknowledge that should my athlete violate any provision, they will be subject to disciplinary action identified by this document.

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Parent / Guardian Signature

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Date

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Coach's Initials

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Date