

# OPST Code of Conduct: Coaches

The OPST Code of Conduct reflects our core values, and it applies to all members, existing, pending or in consideration, including parents, swimmers, staff and other volunteers.

## CORE VALUES

- Teaching proper stroke technique is incredibly important
- Exhibit honesty, integrity, and good sportsmanship
- Individual encouragement from the leadership team
- Promote a wholesome, fun and enjoyable lifetime activity
- Individual progress is emphasized over championship qualification

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this code of conduct for coaches is to establish common expectations for all members of the coaching staff of OPST. It is to be used as a guide to promote a positive team environment and good sportsmanship.

- At all times, adhere to USA Swimming's rules and code of conduct.
- Set a good example of respect and sportsmanship for participants and fans to follow.
- Act and dress with professionalism and dignity in a manner suitable to his/her profession.
- Respect officials and their judgment and abide by the rules of the event.
- Treat opposing coaches, participants, and spectators with respect.
- Instruct participants in sportsmanship and demand that they display good sportsmanship.
- Coach in a positive manner and do not use derogatory comments or abusive language.
- Win with humility and lose with dignity.
- Treat every athlete fairly, justly, impartially, intelligently, and with sensitivity.
- Always place the well-being, health, and safety of swimmers above all other considerations, including developing performance.
- Continue to seek and maintain their own professional development in all areas in relation to coaching and teaching children.
- Always maintain a professional separation between coach and athlete.
- I will be respectful of my swimmer's feelings and personal space. Coaches who exhibit sexist, racist, homophobic, or otherwise inappropriate behavior will be faced with consequences.

Any complaints of a coach violating this code of conduct will be brought to the attention of his/her supervisor and/or the club's board of directors.