
Comox Valley Aquatic Club - SHARKS

P.O. Box 3542, Courtenay, V9N 6Z8 BC ✈ E-Mail: cvsharksheadcoach@gmail.com ✈ www.sharks.bc.ca



Comox Valley Aquatic Club Code of Conduct

The Comox Valley Aquatic Club has developed a Code of Conduct for its Volunteers, Parents and Swimmers. It is expected that all members of the club familiarize themselves with the Code of Conduct and abide by the Code at all times. If a member of the club is found to be in breach of the Code of Conduct resulting action will be taken in accordance with the club's [Disciplinary Policy](#).

Volunteer Code of Conduct

Volunteers should adhere at all times to standards of personal behavior that reflect well on the Comox Valley Aquatic Club in particular, and competitive swimming in general.

It is impossible to specify in precise terms all those actions that could be deemed to be prejudicial to volunteerism within the Comox Valley Aquatic Club. The following provides an indication of the standards of behavior that, if ignored, are likely to be considered breaches of this Code of Conduct:

- Volunteers are responsible for treating all other the Comox Valley Aquatic Club members with respect within the context of their activity regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief, economic status or ability.
- Volunteers should abstain from the use of tobacco products while in the presence of swimmers and discourage their use by swimmers.
- Volunteers should refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of their duties.
- Volunteers should abstain from using intoxicants while working at the Comox Valley Aquatic Club, Swim BC or SNC sanctioned events and activities.
- Volunteers should refrain from criticism of coaches, swimmers, parents, and fellow volunteers particularly to and through the media. When public comments are made, volunteers have an obligation to ensure such comments are made judiciously, reflective of the facts, supportable and sensitive to the situation(s). Differences of opinion should be dealt with on a personal or club basis. Serious disputes may be referred to the Board.
- Volunteers should ensure that they do not in any way misrepresent their qualifications, affiliations, or professional competence to any person(s), or any publication, broadcast, lecture or seminar. Misrepresentation, after due consideration by the Comox Valley Aquatic Club, could be regarded as a breach of this Code.

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Swimmer Code of Conduct

This policy applies to all levels of swimmers. Swimmers should adhere at all times to standards of behavior that reflect well on the Comox Valley Aquatic Club in particular, and competitive swimming in general. It is impossible to specify in precise terms all those actions that could be deemed to be prejudicial to swimmers. The following provides an indication of the standards of behavior that, if contravened, are likely to be considered breaches of the Code of Conduct:

- Swimmers are responsible for treating other swimmers, coaches, parents, volunteers and officials with respect within the context of their activity regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief, economic status or ability.
- Swimmers should refrain from criticism of coaches, fellow swimmers, parents and officials, particularly to and through the media. When public comments are made, swimmers have an obligation to ensure such comments are made judiciously, reflective of the facts, supportable and sensitive to the situation(s). Differences of opinion should be dealt with on a personal or club basis. Serious disputes may be referred to the Board.
- Swimmers should refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language.
- Swimmers should not use tobacco, alcohol or other drugs that affect their physical ability, mood or behavior, unless prescribed by a physician for medical purposes. The Comox Valley Aquatic Club and Swim BC have a zero tolerance level regarding alcohol consumption during and around swimming activities and competitions. Swimmers jeopardize membership with Swim BC if found to be abusing alcohol in and around competition.
- Swimmers should strive for excellence according to their ability.
- Swimmers should respect the achievements of opponents.
- Swimmers who represent the Comox Valley Aquatic Club, Swim BC, or SNC should behave in a manner that reflects favorably on those organizations.

The Head Coach has ultimate responsibility and authority to monitor, control and discipline behavior of swimmers while they are participating in club events. Discipline may also be administered by coaching staff as directed by the Head Coach and executive.

The Coach will follow the protocol below should an incident arise:

- a) verbal warning;
- b) sit out the practice or event. The club president and coaches are informed and the parent(s) are notified. Should this behavior persist the coach has the authority to move to "c";
- c) one week suspension, repeated behaviour will not be tolerated. Action will then be taken in accordance with the Discipline Policy.

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Parent Code of Conduct

Communication is the best way to reduce conflicts within the club. The best way to communicate with your child's coach is to contact them via email or meet them outside of practice. Coaches usually have time after practice to answer questions or provide information. Sending a note to the coach with your swimmer can also be a good way to get information to them as well.

When conflicts between a swimmer or parent and coach arise, please try hard to increase communication between the affected parties. Refrain from discussing disagreements with other parents; not only is the problem never resolved that way, but this approach often creates new problems. Try to keep foremost in your mind that you and the coach have the best interests of your child at heart. If you trust that the coach's goals match yours – even though their approach may be different – you are more likely to enjoy good rapport and a constructive dialogue. Keep in mind that the coach must balance your perspective of what is best for your child with the needs of the entire team or a training group. On occasion, an individual child's interest may need to be subordinate to the interests of the group. In the long run, the benefits of membership in the group may compensate for occasional short-term inconveniences.

If another parent uses you as a sounding board for complaints about a coach's performance or policies, encourage the other parent to speak directly to the coach.

Parent should adhere at all times to standards of personal behavior that reflect well on the Comox Valley Aquatic Club in particular, and competitive swimming in general.

It is impossible to specify in precise terms all those actions that could be deemed to be prejudicial to the Comox Valley Aquatic Club. The following provides an indication of the standards of behavior that, if ignored, are likely to be considered breaches of this Code of Conduct:

- Parents are responsible for treating all other the Comox Valley Aquatic Club members with respect within the context of their activity regardless of gender, place of origin, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political belief, economic status or ability.
- Parents should abstain from the use of intoxicants and tobacco products while in the presence of swimmers and discourage their use by swimmers.
- Parents should refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language.
- Parents should refrain from criticism of coaches, swimmers, officials and other parents, particularly to and through the media. When public comments are made, parents have an obligation to ensure such comments are made judiciously, reflective of the facts, supportable and sensitive to the situation(s). Differences of opinion should be dealt with on a personal or club basis. Serious disputes may be referred to the Board.