

## **Conflict Resolution Procedures**

2021 / 2022

## **Stingrays' Parents Role**

As a parent / guardian of a swimmer, parents must understand that swimming is simply a sport that their child does. The role of the Swimming Parent is to support, love, and encourage their child. Swimming teaches children many life skills and can build one's character. The Stingrays Coaches will help teach the swimmers about commitment, work ethic, teamwork, living a healthy lifestyle, managing their time, (and so much more!) not just how to swim fast. Support the Coach and the Stingrays program.

Kids progress at different times. Parents must understand that some swimmers will be much more skilled and advanced at a young age while others will progress faster as they get older, stronger, more skilled, and coordinated. All swimmers progress differently amongst the main 4 skills that our Coaches teach: physical, mental, technical, and tactical. This is not a linear path and your Coaches are here to support your Swimmer's growth. Your kids will have successes and failures. Be a positive role model in these times. As a parent, your children look to you to set an example, not to be a coach. If you have questions or concerns, talk to the coaches after a practice, or phone, or email them. If there's a problem, discuss it with your child's Coach or, if not satisfied with your child's Coach's response, please bring this forward to the the Head Coach. Your child and their Coach will appreciate you for it.

Lastly, a swimming parent must understand that swim clubs are primarily driven by its members. We encourage you to volunteer and support the Stingrays with any ideas that will help the team grow, be a better organization or assist with building a successful environment for all of the children of our Team. Each one of our members is striving for growth amongst our 4 main skills, and each one of our members will grow at their pace. Please help the Coaches support the growth of your child in all facets of the sport as it is our belief that a well rounded athlete is one that will ultimately grow to become an independent, well rounded adult.

## **Conflict Resolution Procedures**

In keeping with the Team Philosophy outlined in the Parent Handbook, all communication between parents and coaches should be respectful and constructive. Aggressive or abusive language is not permitted.

When a parent has questions or doubts about what is happening at the pool, the first step is to talk with the coach after practice about your concerns. If the parent is dissatisfied with the answers, they should **wait 24 hours** before further action. This requirement allows for a reassessment of the matter in hope of calming any emotional reactions.

If an agreement cannot be reached after discussion with the Coach, the parent Conflict Resolution flowchart should be used to determine the next appropriate action.

With everyone's help, we can continue to provide a program that is inclusive to all and allows for all of our members to grow at the pace that will most benefit their manner of learning.

**Conflict Resolution flowchart** Question about coaching, training, swimmer placement, progress, performance, etc **STEP 1**: have a brief discussion with your child's Coach. Usually post practice Cooldown period of 24 hours after any upsetting incident **STEP 2**: schedule a meeting with your child's Coach **STEP 3**: if either the Coach or the Parent is dissatisfied with the discussion, either party can request the involvement of the Head Coach STEP 4: if either the Head Coach or the parent is dissatisfied with the discussion, either party can request the involvement of the Family Liaison **STEP 5**: if the Family Liaison is unable to arrive at a resolution with both the Head Coach / attending Coach and the Parent(s), a meeting will be scheduled with the DST President **STEP 6**: Issue is discussed by the Board of Directors (representing the Duncan Swim Team Society) at the next scheduled BOD meeting

By agreeing to the online form with the Duncan Swim Team (DST) Registration, this is understood to be the equivalent to physically signing the paper copies of the DST Registration forms and agreeing to the terms of the Conflict Resolution policy as established by DST.