

## Lake Erie Silver Dolphins Parent Code of Conduct

The Lake Erie Silver Dolphins was formed with the objective of helping young swimmers develop physical fitness, self-confidence, self-discipline, proficiency in competitive swimming strokes, and good sportsmanship. The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character". The expectation of LESD is that both swimmers and parents will exhibit the highest standards of sportsmanship at all times while participating in all swimming events. Parents have a key role in developing a positive team and family environment. In doing so, parents hereby agree to comply with and support the following rules that constitute the LESD Code of Conduct.

As a parent:

- I will demonstrate good sportsmanship by conducting myself in a manner that earns the respect of my child, other swimmers, parents, officials and the coaches at meets and practices.
- I will not coach or instruct the team or any swimmer at a practice or meets (from the stands or other areas) or interfere with coaches on the pool deck.
- I will ensure punctuality of my child at practices and at meets.
- I will not force my child to participate in sports and will promise not to relive my athletic pursuits through my child.
- I will praise my child for trying hard, and will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will maintain self-control at all times. I understand that my role is that of a parent, not a coach, official or swimmer.
- I understand that criticizing, name-calling, degrading personal comments, use of abusive language or gestures directed toward coaches, officials, parents, spectators and/or any participating swimmer will not be permitted or tolerated.
- I will support the swimmers, coaches, and other parents with positive communication and actions and not participate in idle gossip.
- I will abide by an official's decision and direct questions or concerns regarding such decisions to a member of our coaching staff. I will address officials via coaching staff only.
- I will share the burden among parents by volunteering to time or assume other volunteer positions at meets at which our children are swimmers.
- If I am not performing an official USA or LESD function, I understand I will not be allowed on deck at any meet or practice.
- I will promise to uphold the image of the Lake Erie Silver Dolphins and to project an image that the team can be proud of.

Should I conduct myself in such a way that brings discredit or discord to the Lake Erie Silver Dolphins, or USA Swimming, I voluntarily subject myself to disciplinary action. LESD reserves the right to terminate any member with/without cause in the interest of the vision, mission and objectives of LESD. By signing below, I hereby certify that I have read and agree to abide by the Lake Erie Silver Dolphins Code of Conduct.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian (signature)      Parent/Guardian (signature)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian – print name      Parent/Guardian – print name

Swimmer(s) Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_