

YMCA Character Contract



Our swim team's goal is to provide an atmosphere for swimmers and parents to develop a variety of satisfying skills and relationships, while enjoying healthy activities.

*Throughout the summer and winter sessions, we continue with our Character Development mission to develop the YMCA's core values of **Respect, Responsibility, Caring and Honesty** among our swimmers. As a family, please read and discuss this Character Contract **TOGETHER**. Then sign and return the contract by the 1st day of swimming.*

 Appropriate Conversation – Swimmers will not be allowed to discuss inappropriate topics or contribute to demeaning conversations about other swimmers or staff.

 Appropriate Language – Swimmers must refrain from using obscene language or gestures for any reason.

 Respect – When asked to do or not to do something, a swimmer needs to follow directions first time given. This is for the safety of all swimmers. **Please speak to staff and other swimmers with respect.**

 Play – Swimmers are asked not to engage in any horseplay with each other or with a coach. No one will be allowed to hit, kick or display any type of aggressive behavior. We will use words to settle our differences. We keep our hands and feet to ourselves.

 Responsibility – All swimmers need to remain with their group and within eyesight of their coach. This applies here on the YMCA grounds and on off-site swim meets. At all times – we want swimmers to be safe.

 Caring – It is important to use and care for equipment, toys and games properly so that other swimmers can enjoy them. We will care for the property of the YMCA, of other swimmers and of the YMCA staff.

What will happen when this contract is in violation:

If an incident occurs where a swimmer or parent conducts himself/herself in such a manner, which jeopardizes their safety, the safety of others, or is not in accordance with the mission of the YMCA and team, this is what steps will be taken.

- 1. First violation – a staff member will address and document the issue directly with the participant. We will discuss the situation and possibly remove the participant from the activity.*
- 2. Second violation – if the same inappropriate behavior occurs, the incident will be documented and the parent or guardian will receive a phone call and be asked to sign the document at pick-up time.*
- 3. Third violation – if the same inappropriate behavior continues for a third time, a parent/guardian will be immediately notified and the swimmer will be sent home for the day and may be suspended from the swim team.*

The following guidelines have been read and discussed

Swimmer's signature and date

Parent/guardian signature and date