

Updated 2018

Code of Conduct

Tiger Sharks Swim Team





Byron Tiger Sharks Swim Team Code of Conduct



In the interest of creating and maintaining a positive atmosphere for the Tiger Sharks swim team, the Byron Park District has implemented the following team rules and disciplinary code and procedures.

Swimmer Expectations

- Adhere to all USA Swimming and Illinois Swimming policies as detailed on their websites, as well as Byron Park District, Byron School District and Byron Tiger Sharks specific policies.
- Become members of USA Swimming's local branch – Illinois Swimming within the first week of joining the team. (Register for the yearly USS fee/membership through the Byron Park District).
- Be respectful to others and their belongings. This includes but is not limited to coaches, teammates, fellow competitors, officials, Byron Park District staff, swim meet volunteers, swim team parents, and other patrons at the swimming pool.
 - Treat others, as you would like to be treated.
 - Cooperate with your coach, teammates and opponents.
 - No talking when others are talking; listen; answer respectfully when spoken to; follow directions/instructions.
 - Do not use inappropriate language or gestures.
 - Do not tamper with or hide other swimmer's personal belongings.
 - Take good care of swimming pool equipment and property.
 - Follow the rules of a host pool when the team is at an away meet.
- Always be supportive and encourage your teammates through positive comments and through cheering for them during races.
 - Avoid any derogatory remarks concerning teammates, competitors, coaches, parents, etc. and avoid use of derogatory language based on gender, race or impairment.
 - Refrain from any/all hurtful behaviors, including but not limited to pinching, scratching, hitting, kicking, fighting, pushing, teasing, name calling or ignoring.
 - Never interfere with the progress of another swimmer during practice or meets.
 - Experienced swimmers shall help less experienced and younger swimmers at meets.
- Exhibit the generally recognized attributes of good sportsmanship towards teammates, competitors, and officials.
 - The decisions of officials are not to be questioned. If you disagree, have your coach approach the official in an appropriate manner.
 - Understand and exhibit proper lane etiquette during practice and meets (Circle swim, let faster swimmers go ahead of you, etc.).
 - Acknowledge all "good swims" whether it's a teammate's or a competitor's
 - Be prepared to lose sometimes. Everyone wins and loses. Be a fair winner and good loser.
 - Swim for the "Fun of it" and not just to please parents and/or coaches.
 - Understand that swimmers are grouped in practice lanes based on individual speed, age, ability, number of other swimmers in the lane and coach's decision. Lane assignment is not a status symbol. All individuals learn and progress at different speeds; are good at certain things and struggle at others. Encourage and support your teammates; congratulate them on their achievements.

- Do not engage in bullying in any way. Bullying refers to chronic, systematic acts of aggression inflicted with the intent of causing physical hurt or psychological distress to another when a real or perceived imbalance of power exists. Bullying includes actions such as making threats, spreading rumors, attacking someone physically or verbally, and excluding someone from a group on purpose. The four types of bullying are: verbal, social or relational, physical and cyber.
 - Swimmers should report any bullying behavior they experience or witness to their coach immediately
- Arrive to all practices and meets on time and be prepared to work hard. Attend as many practices as your schedule permits.
 - Bring all necessary equipment/supplies, wear appropriate swimwear and be responsible for your belongings.
- Represent the Byron Park District and Byron Tiger Sharks swim team positively by behaving respectfully at all team functions. Promote the Byron Tiger Sharks swim team by wearing BTS shirts, suits and caps.
- Do not use a cell phone, camera, or any other video device in locker rooms. Change into and out of swimwear only in the locker room or designated area.
- Abide by the BTS/IL/USA Swimming electronic and social media policies.
- Do not illegally consume or purchase alcohol, tobacco products or any illegal drugs or substances of any kind, or share prescribed medications while participating in activities as a registered member of Byron Tiger Sharks.
- Any inappropriate sexual conduct or advance or other inappropriate oral, written, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature will not be tolerated.

Parent/Guardian Expectations

- Help your swimmer(s) understand and adhere to the Athlete Code of Conduct
- Keep informed by regularly checking email, the BTS website page and bulletin boards for Byron Park District/Byron Tiger Sharks news and information.
- Register your swimmer(s) by the stated deadline for swim sessions and meets. Bring your swimmer(s) to practices and meets at the time specified and notify the coach if your swimmer(s) can no longer attend a meet.
- Keep current on payment of all fees
- Be an active part of the Byron Tiger Sharks Swim Team by volunteering at BTS sponsored meets, participating in other fundraising for the team, and attending any scheduled parent meetings.
 - Please refer to the Fundraising information packet for more information.
- Act in a sportsmanlike and respectful manner towards members of the team, their family members, fellow competitors, coaches, Park District staff, meet volunteers, and officials.
 - Do not use inappropriate language or gestures
 - Avoid the use of derogatory language based on gender, race or impairment
 - Refrain from any/all hurtful behaviors including name calling, criticism, exclusion, teasing, ignoring, etc.
 - Be supportive of all swimmers and their achievements. Acknowledge “good swims” whether it’s your swimmer’s, a teammate’s or a competitor’s.
 - Do not criticize your swimmer(s) in front of others, but reserve constructive criticism for more private moments.

- Experienced swim family members shall help less experienced/new swim families understand the sport of swimming.
- Set a good example by your own conduct, behavior, manners and attire. Children learn best by example.
- Support and promote the team by wearing BTS team apparel at team functions.
- Encourage your swimmer(s) to participate and perform to the best of their ability. Do not force them to participate if they are not interested. Remember that children are involved in a sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Communicate with coaching staff only at an appropriate time, not during practice. Express any concerns or frustrations in an appropriate manner that does not cause a scene in front of the swimmers. If you feel that your concern is not addressed by a coach, please contact the Byron Park District Aquatics Manager, then the Park District's Executive Director, and finally the Byron Park District Board of Commissioners.
- Do not use a cell phone, camera, or any other video device in locker rooms.
- Abide by the BTS/IL/USA Swimming electronic and social media policies.
- Follow the USA Swimming rule that states, "No parents are allowed on pool deck at any time during practices or meets, unless it is in an official/swim meet volunteer capacity."
- Any inappropriate sexual conduct or advance or other inappropriate oral, written, visual or physical conduct of a sexual nature will not be tolerated.

Disciplinary Procedures

If a swimmer or parent/guardian is in violation with the above Code of Conduct, discipline will be handled in the following manner. Each disciplinary step is determined by the specific infraction and therefore is on a case-by-case scenario.

First Offense – Warning to swimmer(s) or parent/guardian about their behavior and explanation of WHY behavior is unacceptable. Recommended discipline will be determined by the coaching staff. Possible discipline includes but not limited to: sincere apology, push-ups, extra laps, clean-up duties, and/or time out of practice.

Second Offense – A second warning will be given to the swimmer(s) or parent/guardian. Recommended discipline will be determined by the coaching staff and could include parent/guardian notification (if swimmer), Byron Park District administrative staff notification, and/or immediate removal from current practice, meet or swimming area.

Third Offense – The coach will notify Byron Park District staff and discipline will be determined by the coaching staff and Byron Park District administrative staff. Possible discipline could include suspension from practices or meets for a length of time as warranted by the situation. No refunds for time missed will be issued.

Additional Offenses – Additional offenses will be discussed between the coaching staff and the Byron Park District administrative staff. Discipline could include a formal investigation into the matter, additional suspension from practices or meets, and/or dismissal from the team for the remainder of the season or indefinitely, if merited. No refunds will be issued.

NOTE: There is a sign-off sheet acknowledging that you have read and agree to abide by this code of conduct. In order for swimmers to participate in any BTS activities, including practice, this sheet **MUST** be signed by both swimmer and parent/ guardian and returned to the bpd office at a swimmer's initial registration on the swim team and each year at the beginning of the spring session (April).



Byron Tiger Sharks Swim Team



Code of Conduct Signature Form

Swimmer: I, _____ have received a copy of Byron Tiger Sharks' Code of Conduct. I have read and agree to act in accordance with the Code of Conduct expectations and guidelines. I understand the consequences of not following the Code of Conduct.

_____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian(s): I/we _____ have received a copy of Byron Tiger Sharks' Code of Conduct. I have read and agree to act in accordance with the Code of Conduct expectations and guidelines. I understand the consequences that will occur as a result of my child or myself/ourselves not following the Code of Conduct.

_____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____

Byron Park District office Use Only

Date received Signature Form: _____

Staff Initials: _____