



ASCA Code of Ethics

The intent of this code is to define the parameters of behavior of an ASCA member coach. Coaches not only represent themselves and their club, but the sport and the entire coaching profession. The code does not exhaust the moral and ethical considerations that should inform an ASCA member professional swim coach. It simply provides a framework for the ethical coaching of the sport of swimming.

SECTION A. PERSONAL CONDUCT

Article #1. Integrity is a basic part of coaching, whether financially or in dealing with organizations, swimming events, and entries. A member should be honest, accurate and forthright in all dealings.

Article #2. All professional communications shall be conducted in an honest, open manner consistent with the best interests of the athletes, the sport, and the profession.

Article #3. A coach member of the American Swimming Coaches Association shall not abuse alcohol in the presence of athletes. Additionally, a coach member of ASCA shall not use illegal drugs. A legal conviction involving drugs or alcohol shall be an automatic violation of this code.

SECTION B. COACH TO COACH

Article #1. Coaches should act with integrity when dealing with other coaches in all matters. In situations regarding the changing of affiliation of athletes, the initial discussion of any such change should be initiated by the athlete, and not by the coach or direct agent acting on behalf of the coach.

SECTION C. COACH TO ATHLETE

Article #1. A coach member of the American Swimming Coaches Association will always make decisions based on the best interest of the athlete.

Article #2. A coach member of the American Swimming Coaches Association shall not ever inflict physical or emotional abuse on an athlete.

Article #3. A coach member of the American Swimming Coaches Association shall not engage in sexual activity of any nature with any minor. Sexual misconduct consists of any behavior that utilizes the influence of the coaching position to encourage inappropriate intimacy between coach and athlete.

Article #4. Coaches shall not engage in sexual relations with athletes that they coach, even of legal age.

SECTION D. COACH TO COMMUNITY

Article #1. A legal felony conviction in any capacity will constitute a violation of the Code of Conduct.

Amended March 2018 by the ASCA Board of Directors