

*Red Deer Catalina Swim Club
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August 1st, 2010

Dear RDCSC Parents and Members:

As our organization grows and we continue to expand our programs, we seek to establish or clarify our policies. Our policies help to guide the organization and ensure continued success. This letter is to address the issue of parent behaviour - specifically, what type of behaviour is expected of swimming parents. All parents are asked to **review the Parent Code of Conduct, sign it, and return the signed copy** to the coaches or the club office **by September 30th, 2010**.

Red Deer Catalina Swim Club is fortunate to have experienced, professional coaches working to develop our children into better swimmers and more importantly, disciplined people. As parents, it is absolutely essential that we give our coaching staff the respect and authority they deserve to run our swim team. Our coaches are hired for that purpose. We encourage open communication between parents and coaches, however, we also need to ensure that the communication is appropriate and that it occurs at a proper time and place. The Parent Code of Conduct provides guidance on expected parent behaviour.

RDCSC as an organization highly encourages the following parental behavior:

- Open communication between parents, swimmers and coaches emphasizing goal-setting and focusing on the performance expectations of both the swimmer and the parents
- Meeting with the coaches/swimmers/parents during normal operating hours to discuss issues
- Positive reinforcement of all swimmers in all situations - team spirit, team loyalty
- Parental involvement on the Board of Directors and in organizing and running of meets and other team events

RDCSC as an organization will not tolerate the following behavior from parents:

- Coaching your children at practice or during meets, that is the coach's job
- Interrupting or confronting the coaching staff on the pool deck during practice or meets
- Abusive language towards coaches, swimmers, parents, officials and your own children
- Any behavior that brings discredit or disruption to our swimmers and our organization

Attached is a Parent Code of Conduct. The Code was developed as a standard to emphasize our organization's commitment to making everyone's involvement with our club a positive experience.

Please review the Parent Code of Conduct, sign it, and return the signed copy to the coaches or the club office **by September 30th, 2010**. All parents are expected to sign to Parent Code of Conduct.

Sincerely,

James R.W. Brown

James Brown
President



RED DEER CATALINA SWIM CLUB

Parent Code of Conduct

As a parent of a swimmer and member of Red Deer Catalina Swim Club, I will abide by the following guidelines:

- I. Practice *teamwork* with all parents, swimmers and coaches by supporting the values of *Discipline, Loyalty, Commitment and Hard Work.*
- II. As a parent, I will not coach or instruct the team or any swimmer at a practice or meets (from the stands or any other area) or interfere with coaches on the pool deck.
- III. I will not Interrupt or confront the coaching staff on the pool deck during practice or meets
- IV. 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.
- IV. I will maintain self-control at all times. Know my role.

Swimmers – Swim
Coaches – Coach
Officials – Officiate
Parents – Support

- V. I understand that criticizing, name-calling, use of abusive language or gestures directed toward the coaches, officials, and/or any participating swimmer will not be permitted or tolerated.
- VI. I will enjoy involvement with Red Deer Catalina Swim Club by supporting the swimmers, coaches and other parents with positive communication and actions.
- VII. During competitions, I will direct questions or concerns regarding decisions made by meet officials to a member of our coaching staff. Parents address officials via the coaching staff only.

Sanctions. Should I conduct myself in such a way that brings discredit or discord to Red Deer Catalina Swim Club, or to Swim Alberta/Swim Canada, I voluntarily subject myself to disciplinary action, as per Red Deer Catalina Swim Club’s policies and Bylaws.

Swimmer Name: _____

Parent Signatures

Name _____ Date _____ Signature _____

Name _____ Date _____ Signature _____