

Parents/Guardians and Spectators

1. Parent Etiquette
 - a. Love and support your child. Be their biggest fan and not their critic
 - b. Encourage effort and enjoyment of skill development (process) over performance (outcome)
 - c. Allow Coaches to coach
 - d. Do not stand on the pool deck
 - e. Do not distract or interrupt your child from their practice
 - f. Do not compare your child to others. All children develop at different rates. If you have any concerns about your child's progress, please speak to their coach.
 - g. Respect the coaches decisions with event selection and skill development within practice. We want to promote well rounded athletes which will improve their overall development and reduce overuse injuries.
2. Encourage Athletes to compete within the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
3. Never use violence in any form, including but not limited to physical, threats, verbal abuse, and intimidation
4. Never ridicule a Member, Coach, or Member of another team publicly for making a mistake during a competition or practice.
5. Respect the decisions and judgments of officials and encourage Athletes to do the same.
6. Support all efforts to stop and prevent verbal and physical abuse, coercion, intimidation, and excessive sarcasm.
7. Respect and show appreciation to all competitors, and to coaches, officials and other volunteers
8. Gain an understanding of The Langley Flippers Swim Club 24 Hour Rule (see below*)
9. Never harass Members or Coaches, competitors, Athlete Support Personnel, Officials, parents/guardians, or other spectators.
10. Never encourage, aid, cover up or assist an Athlete in cheating through doping, competition manipulation or other cheating behaviors.
11. Never approach a coach with complaints during a practice or competition. Schedule to talk after the practice or competition. Coaches are focusing on the task at hand and will be more attentive outside of practice or competition situations.
12. Encourage your child to seek their own answers. Coaches appreciate swimmers who come to them privately with their questions. This shows the coach that the swimmer is taking ownership of their progress
13. Do not criticize anyone connected with your swimmer's team. Criticism is contagious and often hurtful.
14. Do not coach your child or any other child from the sidelines or bleachers during practice and competitions
15. Do not express your opinion of the coaches or swimmers in front of your own child
16. Do not use foul language towards other parents, coaches, officials, or swimmers
17. Do not yell at or threaten Officials, competitors or coaches before, during or after competitions or practices

18. To promote fair play and respect for all participants within BCSSA, all parents must agree to the following before being allowed to participate in swimming and must continue to observe the principles of fair play.
- a. I will not force my child to participate in swimming
 - b. I will remember that my child swims for their enjoyment, not mine
 - c. I will encourage my child to follow the rules and to resolve conflict without resorting to hostility or violence
 - d. I will make my child feel like a winner every time by offering praise for competing fairly and swimming their best
 - e. I will never ridicule or yell at any participant for making a mistake or losing a race
 - f. I will remember that children and youth learn by example
 - g. I will applaud good performances by our team and competitors
 - h. I will never question the officials judgment or honesty in public
 - i. I will recognize officials are developing in the same manner as swimmers
 - j. I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from swim practice and competitions
 - k. I will respect and show appreciation of the rules and regulations as set by The Langley Flippers Swim Club and BCSSA

Disciplinary action

Any offenses may result in disciplinary action according to our By-Laws.

***24 Hour Rule**

Unless there is an immediate safety issue, parents/guardians of swimmers must wait 24 hours prior to contacting the team head coach or board member following the competition or practice of the incident related to their child. The 24 hour period is a time to logically assess the situation and afford “cooling off” time for all parties involved, so things can be discussed in a calm, unemotional manner and not in the “heat of the moment”.

Failure to abide by this guideline will result in the following penalties (on a per season basis).

1st offense: Verbal and written warning to the individual(s) in question

2nd offense: Removal from all Langley Flipper activities for 2 weeks. That means the individual(s) in question cannot attend practice, competitions, or any other events

Further offenses will be reviewed and assessed by the Board of Directors and will be dealt with at the discretion of the Langley Flippers Swim Club