

## **CB AQUATICS ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS POLICY**

*USA Swimming clubs are now required to implement an electronic communication policy. The policy must be reviewed with and agreed to by all athletes, parents, coaches and other adults affiliated with the club.*

### **PURPOSE**

CB Aquatics recognizes the prevalence of electronic communication and social media in today's world. Many of our swimmers use these means as their primary method of communication. While the Club acknowledges the value of these methods of communication, the Club also realizes that there are associated risks that must be considered when adults use these methods to communicate with minors.

### **GENERAL CONTENT**

All communications between a coach or other adult and an athlete must be professional in nature and for the purpose of communicating information about team activities. The content and intent of all electronic communications must adhere to the USA Swimming Code of Conduct regarding Athlete Protection. For example, as with any communication with an athlete, electronic communication should not contain or relate to any of the following:

- \*drugs or alcohol use;
- \*sexually oriented conversation; sexually explicit language; sexual activity;
- \*the adult's personal life, social activities, relationship or family issues, or personal problems; and
- \*inappropriate or sexually explicit pictures

### **FACEBOOK, MYSPACE, BLOGS, AND SIMILAR SITES**

Coaches may have personal Facebook (or other social media site) pages, but they are not permitted to have any athlete member of the Club join their personal page as a "friend." A coach should not accept any "friend" request from an athlete. In addition, the coach should remind the athlete that this is not permitted. Coaches and athletes are not permitted to "private message" each other through Facebook. Coaches and athletes are not permitted to "instant message" each other through Facebook chat or other IM method. Coaches are encouraged to set their pages to "private" to prevent athletes from accessing the coach's personal information.

### **TWITTER**

The Club has an official Twitter page that coaches, athletes and parents can follow for information and updates on team-related matters. Coaches and athletes may follow each other on Twitter. Coaches cannot re-tweet an athlete or parent message post. Coaches and athletes are not permitted to "direct message" each other through Twitter.

### **TEXTING**

Texting only shall be used for the purpose of communicating information directly related to team activities within reasonable hours in relation to the timing of an event.

### **EMAIL**

When communicating with an athlete through email, a parent, another coach, or a fellow CBSD employee must also be copied.

### **REQUEST TO DISCONTINUE ALL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

The parents or guardians of an athlete may request in writing that their child not be contacted by coaches through any form of electronic communication. This can be done by contacting Roberta Lichter at [richter@cbsd.org](mailto:richter@cbsd.org).

\*See also the CB Aquatics Locker Room Monitoring Policy for information regarding cell phone usage.\*