

POLICIES, RULES AND REGULATIONS OF NEW RIVER VALLEY AQUATICS SPONSORED AQUATICS PROGRAMS

Swimmers, parents and guardians will be informed of their responsibilities to New River Valley Aquatics sponsored swim teams at Registration and will sign an agreement to abide by the following:

A. Fee Payments

All registered swimmers or their parent-guardians will be responsible for timely payment of dues and other Team charges. Assessments are to be paid in full within thirty days of receipt of their statements. Unpaid balances after sixty days may result in late fee penalties and collections proceedings. In the event that a swimmer chooses to resign or take leave of absence from for more than four weeks, the swimmer shall inform the Team Registrar in writing in the month prior to his or her departure. **Member(s) will be subject to continuing dues assessments unless Registrar is so informed.** The Non-refundable registration fee will be forfeited.

The NRVA-BOD will establish fee levels for each swim group based on anticipated budgeted expenses for the year. Dues will be the same for all swimmers within his/her assigned group regardless of swim site, unless subject to scholarship reductions. Added fees for meet registrations, travel assessments and other special charges will also be assessed.

B. Scholarships

A scholarship fund will be established as a line-item account separate from NRVA General Operating fund. Scholarship funds will be generated through targeted capital fund raising campaign(s); Scholarships will be awarded in the form of swimmer dues reductions, travel support registration fees and other expenses as defined by the NRVA-BOD. Scholarships will be given primarily on the basis of financial need, as determined by formal petition from the anonymous swimmer, his or her parents or guardian, to the NRVA-BOD Scholarship Committee. Funds will be transferred on behalf of the Scholarship recipients from the scholarship fund to the NRVA General Operating fund to the extent of the available Scholarship principle. All swimmers and their parents-guardians will be made aware of the availability of the Scholarship program at the time of their registration. The qualifications of each individual receiving scholarship award will be reviewed by the NRVA BOD Scholarship Committee before the start of each swim session. For more information please write NRVA, Inc. Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 1076, Christiansburg, VA 24068.

C. Volunteer Policy

As a non-profit, parent run organization, NRVA-sponsored Swim Teams are dependent upon and require volunteer support from all swimmer parent-guardians to carry out their missions. All swimmer parent-guardians will be informed of this at

registration and will agree to respond to requests from Swim Site Volunteer coordinators to provide reasonable aid when called-upon. A matrix listing current specific volunteer needs will be maintained on the Team web-site as well as acknowledgements of accumulated individual volunteer contributions. Individual members who do not meet the minimum team volunteer requirements will be subject to fee assessments as determined by the NRVA-BOD.

D. Drug Use Policy

NRVA is a sponsor of youth swim teams committed to the provision of a safe and wholesome practice and competitive environment. The use of performance-enhancing drugs, alcoholic beverages and tobacco products introduces unacceptable ethical practices and risks to the safety and health of all athletes. Therefore, the NRVA issues the following policy:

NRVA sponsored swimmer(s) will be sanctioned in the event that;

- 1) swimmer is found to be in possession of or proven to be using performance enhancing drugs;
- 2) swimmer is using performance-enhancing drugs, recreational drugs, alcohol or tobacco in the presence of other Team members , coaches, parents or other competitors while representing NRVA sponsored team events.

Violation of these rules, as determined by fair hearing of the Board of Directors, shall subject the swimmer to sanctions by the Head Coach, assisted by the Board of Directors which may include, but are not limited to, restriction from team trips and/or swim meet, loss of Team privileges, probation, suspension or dismissal.

E. Swimmer-Athlete Code of Conduct

The purpose of this code of conduct is to promote the best possible individual, and team conduct and foster the development of first class athlete-citizens. This Code of Conduct of any New River Valley Aquatics sponsored team, governs swimmer-athlete participation in all Team related practices, swim competitions, meetings, and travel throughout the entire swim year.

GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT RULES

- 1) **All participants will wear designated team suits and T-shirts during all competition unless policy is suspended by the Head Coach.**
- 2) **Use of drugs other than “over the counter” agents or those prescribed or recommended by the athlete’s physician is unacceptable at any time during the year. All athletes will abide by the substance abuse policies defined in the New River Valley Aquatics Policies, Rules and Regulations (see D. Drug Use Policy).**
- 3) **Curfews at NRVA sponsored events and at all related activities will be obeyed. Extension will only be granted by the Head Coach. Curfew is not enforced if participant is with parents.**
- 4) **Male and Female swimmers may not be in each other’s room on any team trip unless supervised by designated Team official.**

- 5) **Disrespectful, indiscreet sexual or social behavior, or destructive actions by swimmer-athletes toward swim coaches, meet official, designated Team chaperones, fellow Team members or other swim competitors will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of each swimmer to make every effort to avoid guilt by association with such activities at any time during the year.**
- 6) **All participants and their parents have a responsibility to do their best to ensure that this Code of Conduct is adhered to and to help ensure the safety of these Team participants.**

VIOLATION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT RULES

At the discretion of the Head Coach, assisted by the Board of Directors of NRVA as needed, any or all of the following penalties will be applied in the event of violation of Code of Conduct:

- 1) **Swimmer may be sent home immediately from practice or meet at his own expense; if there is extra expense it will be swimmer’s responsibility**
- 2) **Swimmer may be scratched from the meet.**
- 3) **Swimmer may be suspended from the team until the swimmer and parents have had a conference with the Head Coach and Board of Directors as needed, and appropriate disciplinary actions have been implemented.**
- 2) **Violation of Code of Conduct Rules at any NRVA sponsored function may result in the swimmer being suspended from ALL team activities for the remainder of the swim year and/or a specific period determined by the Head Coach.**

I have read and understand the above policies, rules and regulations of New River Valley Aquatics (NRVA), Inc., and agree to abide by them.

Signed _____ Date _____
 Parent/Guardian

I have read and understand the Swimmer-Athlete Code of Conduct.

Signed _____ Date _____
 Athlete/Swimmer (if age appropriate)

Please sign, date and mail to: **NRVA, Inc. P.O. Box 1076, Christiansburg, VA 24068**
Note: Your registration will not be complete until this form is received.