

KLEIN BEARKATS SWIMMING AND DIVING

Code of Conduct

Participation and inclusion in the swim program at KHS is a privilege and an honor that is earned and maintained through hard work and sacrifice. It is not a right granted simply because you are a good swimmer or diver and attend KHS. Please be advised that all school and district behavioral expectations are in effect, as well as the specific swimming and diving program rules that will be addressed. Our guidelines must and will be followed at all times. While you are a member of this team, you must always keep in mind that you represent KHS, the community, your family, and your teammates. Once again, you are a part of a very select group of athletes. You should be very proud of your association with this program. You have earned your status. KHS has a very long history of success in swimming and diving. The rules that follow go well beyond school and district policies. They are intended to ensure fairness and proper behavior for all swimmers and divers wishing to participate in the program. These rules have been established in an effort that only deserving student-athletes will represent KHS in competition.

Coaching Philosophy

As coaches, we employ the 6 S's:

- Safety
- Security
- Student Achievement
- Swimming Success
- Support
- Smiles

Not only do we try to improve swimming ability and technique, we try to make our swimmers well-rounded, positive individuals. We are here to support them in all they want to achieve, academically and athletically, all the while ensuring the safety and success of the whole TEAM.

GRADES

We believe that our main responsibility as your coaches is to ensure your academic success. While a swimmer or diver may be eligible to participate, if we are aware of severe academic issues, we may not permit that swimmer or diver to participate at meets or travel with the team to away competitions.

If a swimmer or diver is consistently having problems with grades, or has to be held from traveling and or practices due to grades, that swimmer or diver will likely be removed from the swim or dive team, so that they can focus on school.

Progress reports and report cards will be checked by the coaches every 3 weeks to ensure that the swimmers or divers are keeping their grades up.

To be successful in the program you must be able to balance school and swimming. By this we mean being at practice each and every day ON TIME. If you stay on top of your work at school, there is no

reason that you cannot devote your time to swimming before and after school each day. "I have lots of homework" is not an excuse for missing practice.

If you need extra time at school such as tutoring or make-up tests every effort should be made to do this before and after school, depending on your practice schedule. Please look at other options available before you commit to missing practice. Athletes are asked to make an effort to help any other athlete on the team if he/she is struggling with academics.

Tutoring and make-up testing does not excuse you from practice; you must be at practice unless you have a PRE-ARRANGED time or tutoring or make test with the coaches.

If you leave practice for tutoring or make-up testing you must get a make-up/tutoring slip from the coaches with your teacher's signature, and your teacher must email one of the coaches to confirm your attendance. If you deceive the coaches in any way regarding this issue there will be disciplinary action taken, up to and including removal from the team. It is your responsibility to talk with each teacher about work that will be missed BEFORE you miss school for a meet. It is always best to turn in assignments early that will be due on the day of a meet.

Conduct at School

Students must maintain satisfactory behavior in all classes.

If a teacher contacts the coaches about poor behavior in their class you will be punished in a manner that we feel is adequate and fair to the situation. Otherwise the following guidelines will apply:

1st Offense – Warning and parent contact

2nd Offense – removal from next meet

3rd Offense – exclusion from meets for remainder of school year, as per coaches' discretion

Conduct grades on progress reports and report cards will be monitored. If you receive an "N" or "U" on your progress report or report card it will be treated as a contact from a teacher regarding your behavior in class. So if you have already received a warning and then get an "N" on your progress report then that will be viewed as your 2nd offense violation.

D-Hall

4 D-Halls in one semester will result in removal from your next meet. Each D-Hall after 4 will result in an additional meet lost.

Saturday Class (or Thursday)

First Saturday class will result in removal from your next meet. Second Saturday class will result in removal from your next 2 meets. A third Saturday class will result in your removal from the team. These will accumulate throughout the school year, not by semester.

ISS

Anytime you are assigned to ISS (In-School Suspension) will be treated as a major violation in behavior, and could be grounds for removal from the team, as per coaches' discretion.

Major violations of school policy or insubordination in the classroom that result in AC or suspension from school or other major classifications of discipline, can result in removal from the team on the first offense.

Conduct at meets/ away meets

We are on display as a team each and every day, especially while at away meets. Like it or not we have a greater opportunity to look bad than we do to look good. Please keep that in mind each and every day we are at practice and at meets.

Most minor misbehavior will be dealt with through our conditioning program. This usually settles the issue. We will never invoke a penalty that will bring harm to a swimmer or diver. If you as a parent, have any concerns or questions about this issue please let me know.

Public Display of Affection (PDA) will not be tolerated at anytime during meets, home or away, or during practice for that matter. We are representing a team, not just individuals. Athletes are also requested to cheer for teammates when they compete and join in team cheers.

If a teacher or other team member informs a coach of improper behavior, we will deal with you personally. Improper conduct and or repeated minor offenses may result in removal from the swim team at my discretion.

Note: if we are at a meet and we observe improper behavior, or if another coach or swimmer/diver tells me of such, you will be taken out of the meet and you will not swim in another meet for remainder of the school year.

Cheating, swearing, goggle throwing, fighting, or any other instances of violent and unacceptable behavior will not be tolerated. They will be dealt with in the severest of manner, up to and including removal from the team on the first offense, and you may not be allowed the future opportunity of rejoining the team.

This code of conduct applies every day. If we are informed of improper behavior on weekend or holiday we will deal with you in equity. You represent the team year round and you will not be allowed to cast a negative light on the program just because school is not in session.

Social Media Networks

Any swimmer or diver posting negative comments on any social media networks about coaches, teammates, the program, or Klein ISD employees will be removed from the team. Remember once you click "send", you cannot take it back.

Practice

Practice days are Monday through Friday before and after school, depending on whether you are on JV/Varsity squad. Periodically practices will be held on Saturday and holidays – you are expected to be in attendance.

You must be at practice EARLY each day. IF YOU ARE EARLY, YOU ARE ON TIME. IF YOU ARE ON TIME, YOU ARE LATE!! If the team or individuals have a problem with showing up early to practices on a repeated basis then the coaches will start locking the door at the start of each practice, and will not allow tardy swimmers or divers to attend practice.

Being on time means being dressed, with your equipment and ready to begin by the designated times.

Practice will be “businesslike”. There will be no goofing off, loud talking, or standing around doing nothing. If you do any of these you may be asked to leave practice, and it will be treated as a missed practice.

Missing practice is not an option. If you miss a practice the week before a meet, you will not be allowed to attend that meet. This includes District, Regionals, and State.

If you have a job you may not miss practice for work. NO exceptions.

If you must miss day(s) of practice, the coach must be informed (preferably in writing) 24 hours prior to the practice(s) to be missed, as to when and why you cannot participate. This includes Dr. Appointments and tutoring.

Playing/ goofing around during practice will not be tolerated. Swimmers who show lack of self-control will be removed from practice or will be disciplined accordingly.

Meet Behavior

Always wear your TEAM suit and TEAM warm-ups – EVERYONE, including managers, swimmers, divers, coaches, and even families. We want everyone to look the part and be supportive of our TEAM.

Walk into the pool area together – EVERYONE AS A TEAM, led by our captains.

Leave your gear in our designated TEAM area – this is your TEAM fortress.

Stretch as a TEAM – TEAM stretching should be practiced daily and captain should lead stretching. This should be a place where the other teams can see you and become aware of your presence and professionalism.

Warm-up as a TEAM and do what is expected of you during warm-ups. Insufficient warm-ups not only harm you, they harm your team’s chances of a successful meet. Always wear your TEAM cap during meets.

Always cheer together as a TEAM. Also cheer for your teammates before, during and after the meet.

Team Attire

Only Klein High School attire will be accepted at practice, meet, and any team functions. No other high school or swim club attire will be allowed at any time. You will be asked to leave and change clothes before returning to practice, meet, or team function.

Lettering

Swimmers or Divers will only be considered to receive a letter jacket when they qualify for their regional meet and are in good standing with the team. Swimmers and divers must place in the top 6 at District meet to qualify for regionals.

Grooming

Inappropriate and/or (underwear showing above the belt line) excessively baggy clothing and exposed cleavage will not be allowed at any time.

Athletes are required to wear TEAM Suits/ TEAM attire during competitions.

Hair must be neat, clean, and well groomed.

Athletes will "Shave" for their championship meet, which will be determined by their coach.

Attitudes

Always display excellence in sportsmanship. Do not display fits of temper or demonstrate lack of self-control. Be gracious in defeat and modest in victory. Do not use profane or vulgar language. Be respectful in language and actions toward meet officials, opposing teams, teammates and coaches. Demonstrate appropriate classroom conduct toward teachers, administrators, and all other students. Don't be vocal about your negativity before or during practice, it only brings others down. Athletes who fail to live up to team expectations (work ethic, behavior, practice participation) will be removed from the team.

Hazing

"Hazing" means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act, occurring on or off the campus of an educational institution, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization.

Any and all hazing acts against any one, swimmer or diver, on the Klein Swimming and Diving Team will not be tolerated. Violations of hazing will result in immediate removal from the team, and disciplinary actions taken through the school.

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Summary and Signature

It is an honor for us to be your coaches. We want you to achieve all that you can in the classroom and in the pool. We will do everything that is in our power to help you along the way. However, we intend to develop and preserve the reputation of the KHS swim and dive program, and will not tolerate any individual that interferes with the success of the program and what it presents. If you have any concerns with the policies and methods, please let us know and we will address them immediately. We are a team and a family, so let's all work together to reach our goals and persevere through adversity.

Sincerely,

Jim Svoboda – Head Swim Coach

Curtis Lewis – Asst Swim Coach

Julie Shehata – Head Dive Coach

Klein High School Bearkats

I have read and understand to terms and conditions in the Klein High School Swimming and Diving Code of Conduct. I will abide by the rules and policies in this document and in the KISD student manual and athletic manual.

Student Name (Please Print)

Student Signature

Parent Name (Please Print)

Parent Signature

Coach Signature

DATE