

Upper Canada Swim Club – River Otters (UCRO)

Policy - Athlete Agreement

Approved: January 24, 2024

This agreement is designed to set clear expectations for athletes and their commitment to UCRO while promoting a positive and respectful team environment.

This Agreement ("Agreement") is entered into on _____ between the UCRO or the "Club," and the undersigned athlete, hereinafter referred to as the "Athlete".

Welcome to UCRO! We are excited to have you as a valued member of our swimming community. This agreement outlines the expectations and standards for athletes within the Age Group category to ensure a positive and enriching experience for all.

UCRO is committed to fostering an environment that promotes respect, open communication, and excellence in all aspects of our swim program. We strive to create a positive and supportive community for our athletes to achieve their full potential.

WHERE AS:

- The Athlete is a registered swimmer with Swimming Canada and Swim Ontario engaged with UCRO.
- UCRO is a swim club that fosters excellence in swimming and values open communication and respect.
- Both parties recognize the importance of fostering an environment of mutual respect, open communication, sportsmanship, and excellence in all aspects of athletic participation.

1. COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE - The Athlete agrees to:

- a. strive for excellence in both athletic performance and personal conduct. This commitment includes attending all scheduled practices, competitions, and team events, giving maximum effort during training, and maintaining a positive attitude.
- b. strive for excellence not only in your athletic performance but also in your conduct outside the pool. Uphold high standards of integrity, discipline, and ethical behavior.
- c. demonstrate commitment to your training, attend all scheduled practices and competitions, and conduct yourself with excellence both within the club and the broader community.

2. RESPECT AND SPORTSMANSHIP – The athlete agrees to:

- a. treat coaches, teammates, officials, and all others associated with UCRO with respect and sportsmanship at all times. Disrespectful behaviour, including but not limited to bullying, harassment, or discrimination, will not be tolerated.
- b. acknowledges the importance of a positive team environment and agrees to treat teammates with respect, cooperation, and support.
- c. adhere to the guidance and instructions provided by the coaching staff, demonstrating a cooperative and respectful attitude toward their expertise.
- d. treat officials, referees, and judges with the utmost respect, refraining from any behaviour that may be perceived as confrontational or disrespectful. Disagreements with officiating decisions shall be expressed in a constructive and respectful manner, following proper channels established by UCRO.

3. SAFE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

- a. The Athlete will actively contribute to maintaining a safe and inclusive training environment. Inclusion means respecting and embracing diversity in all its forms, including but not limited to race, gender, ability, and background.

4. OPEN COMMUNICATION

- a. The Athlete commits to maintaining open communication with coaching staff and teammates, fostering an environment where concerns and feedback can be addressed in a constructive manner.

- b. Any issues or conflicts shall be communicated promptly with the goal of resolving matters in the best interest of the Athlete's personal development and the team.

5. ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

- a. The Athlete agrees to attend all scheduled practices and competitions unless prevented by illness, injury, or other unavoidable circumstances. In case of absence, the Athlete will inform the coaching staff in advance.

6. ADHERENCE TO CLUB POLICIES

- a. The Athlete agrees to abide by all UCRO policies, including those related to training, competition, travel, and any other rules set forth by the Club. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action.

7. REPRESENTATION OF UCRO

- a. The Athlete understands that they are representing UCRO both in and out of the pool. This representation includes behaviour on social media platforms. The Athlete agrees to always uphold the values and reputation of UCRO.

8. PARENT/GUARDIAN SUPPORT

- a. For athletes under the age of 18, parents/guardians agree to support their child's commitment to UCRO, including attendance at events, adherence to club policies, and open communication with coaches.
- b. Parents or legal guardians agree to support and encourage their child's participation in UCRO activities.
- c. Parents or legal guardians will communicate any concerns or issues to the coaching staff in a respectful and timely manner.

9. CONSEQUENCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

- a. Failure to follow the terms outlined in this Agreement may result in the termination of the swimmer's UCRO membership.

10. ATHLETE'S COMMITMENT DURATION

- a. This agreement is effective for the current season and will be reviewed annually.

11. CLUB CONTACT INFORMATION

Board Chair/President – admin@riverotters.ca

Head Coach – headcoach@riverotters.ca

12. SIGNATURES

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE TERMS OF THIS ATHLETE AGREEMENT.

ATHLETE

Full Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian (if applicable): _____ Date: _____

UCRO

By: _____ Date: _____

[Signature of UCRO Representative]