



CHAPERONE GUIDELINES

Surge Aquatics will rely on one or more authorized chaperones for certain trips designated as Surge Team Travel. The number of chaperones required for a trip will depend on a variety of factors. Surge will make every effort to have safe and reasonable supervision ratios of authorized adults (coaches and chaperones) for every Surge athlete. (ex. a minimum of 1 coach/ chaperone for every 10 Surge swimmers).

Qualifications

All chaperones must comply with USA Swimming Rules and Guidelines as it pertains to Safe Sport. Each chaperone must:

- Be at least 21 years old or older. (Current Surge swimmers regardless of age may not be chaperones).
- Be a current USA Swimming non-athlete member.
- Complete the USA Swimming background check.
- Complete the Athlete Protection Training (APT) for non-athlete members (online course through USA Swimming).

Duties and Expectations

Chaperones are expected to:

- Support Surge Aquatics athletes and coaches during team travel to pick up pre-arranged meals, have refreshments and snacks available, and other duties that ensure that athletes and staff time is spent focused on competition, meetings, and other important tasks.
- Support Surge staff in enforcing all rules, behavior expectations, etc.
- Attend all team meetings and other scheduled gatherings to support Surge staff and monitor athletes.
- Be a part of the two-deep leadership requirement for meetings, room checks, and lights out.
- Be a positive role model and lead by example.
- Be available for emergencies when LAC staff are not available.
- Be on time.
- Refrain from the use of tobacco, alcohol, or THC products in the presence of athletes at all times. Avoid any mind altering substances to eliminate potentially dangerous situations in case you are needed in an emergency.



- Be available for the entire duration of the team trip.
- Support other duties as requested by the Surge Aquatics Head Coach or senior staff.

Chaperones should NOT be responsible for:

- Providing medical assistance to athletes or other duties when a qualified Surge Aquatics staff member is available and/or present. For example, if an athlete must be taken to the emergency room, requires medication, or must go to urgent care; Surge Aquatics staff will be the primary in such situations, but may request secondary assistance from chaperones. In the event of an imminent health emergency, chaperones will act in the best interest of the athlete's safety and well-being for that situation. Chaperone's will notify Surge Aquatics staff immediately of the situation who will then be responsible for notifying parents/legal guardians of the situation and status.

Other

The following may be offered in exchange for support and services provided to Surge Aquatics as a chaperone on an officially sponsored Surge Aquatics team travel itinerary. Chaperones will be notified via email of the exchange for services in advance of the team travel trip(s). Surge Aquatics staff reserves the right to select chaperones, but will also welcome any volunteers that wish to participate. The number of chaperones on any given trip will be determined by the Surge Aquatics Head Coach.

1. Extensive Team Travel (ex. Travel via air or bus over an extended period of time to a meet or team sanctioned event)
 - a. Airfare to/from team departure city and destination (must travel with the team to/from destination)
 - b. Lodging during a team travel trip (at team hotel only)
 - c. Local transportation: chaperones may travel with the team in rental vehicles (vans, buses, etc.) or may opt to rent their own transportation at their own expense.
2. Shorter Team Travel Trips (ex. Travel within a distance normally traveled by Surge within the state of Texas.)