Welcome to the 2024 summer season of the Parkland Whales!

These team protocols and expectations are meant to facilitate a safe, productive, and fun summer swim season.

OF COACHES...

We expect

- prompt attendance
- structured practices
- supportive feedback delivered to swimmers during practices
- development of team spirit and camaraderie

We do not expect

- feedback to parents regarding individual swimmer performance
- interpretation of officials' calls
- provision of swimmers' results/times during meets**
- collaboration with parents regarding events/heats

OF PARENTS . . .

We expect

- you to be easily located on pool grounds during practices
- at least one parent to officiate or serve a needed role during meets
- your support to help swimmers understand boundaries and expectations for safe engagement
- you to share questions or concerns with the parent rep
- you to show enthusiastic support for all swimmers (even those on the other team ;-)
- you to prioritize team building and growth over specific results

We do not expect

- your presence near the lifeguard stands during practices—coaches need space to coach, and kids need room to develop confidence
- your participation in meets where your swimmers will not compete
- you to provide direct feedback or to ask questions of the coaches

OF SWIMMERS . . .

We expect

- prompt arrival to practice, and a prompt exit from lanes when practices are finished
- engaged listening and respectful participation
- knowledge of pool rules and compliance with instructions from lifeguards, coaches, and parent volunteers (first time asked;-)
- a commitment to do our best, to be patient with ourselves and others, and to be supportive and kind to teammates and other swimmers

We do not expect

- anyone to be "perfect" (no such thing)
- anyone to show consistent growth and improvement—progress doesn't look the same for everyone, and it sometimes happens in unexpected ways

OF THE PARENT REP . . .

We expect

- structure and support during the season's initial practices
- organization of parent volunteers for meets and team events
- timely communication via Swimtopia
- reminders to swimmers regarding practice protocols; requests that swimmers suspend practice and return the next day when these expectations are not being met

We do not expect

- attendance to/oversight of all practices
- provision of swimmers' results or interpretation of officials' calls**
- communication outside of Swimtopia or beyond scheduled activities

**All our meets are dual meets (essentially two meets taking place concurrently). As a result, automation is more complicated, and meet results will be delayed. Event times should be available the day after each meet on the MCSL website: MCSL Meet Results