



PHS Swimming Team Policies

Policies:

When you signed up for swimming, understand that you signed up for a *class* as well as for a *competitive sport*. The window for schedule changes came and passed quickly, so by remaining, you will be expected to adhere to all policies (in categories of school, class, and team policies) reviewed here.

School policy:

*If you do not REPORT to the instructor (Coach Nall) by 7:20, you are counted TARDY for the period.

*If you do not REPORT to the instructor (Coach Nall) by 7:35, you are counted ABSENT for the period.

*You are not excused because I 'didn't see you'. If you choose to be elsewhere, it is TRUANCY. This includes the team locker rooms and other on-campus facilities.

*If you report to an on-campus teacher without my prior knowledge, and this causes you to be tardy or absent, you will keep that tardy or absence. Tutoring should be done after school, and if you or a teacher cannot arrange for this, discussion and permission from me must be carried out prior to the missed practice.

Class Policy (grading):

*Reporting on time and participating is the only 'sure' way to receive full credit for the day.

*If you are injured, you will be dismissed without penalty as long as you are appropriately documented to do so by either a trainer on campus or by a doctor. If it isn't important enough to see a trainer or doctor over, it isn't significant enough to keep you from practice. Note that injured players must still arrive on time and be on deck for the duration of the practice.

*If you are ill but well enough to attend school, you are well enough to practice. This is not negotiable, discomfort is part of being an athlete. If I can evaluate that your condition is making you unfit to practice (something observable like fever and/or vomiting) or that it has worsened with physical exertion, you will be removed without penalty and sent to the nurse for further evaluation.

*If you must attend tutoring and your teacher cannot arrange to do so after school, the teacher (not you) must call or email me prior to that. Once this has been done and we've determined that there is no other option, you will be excused. Notifying me after the fact will adversely affect your grade and team participation.



*Failure to be in the water for warm-up time (no later than 6:15) will result in your being barred from water time. The only exception here are the few athletes (that I have already met with) that have transportation issues and are forced to ride buses to campus. Anybody who does not attend on time will assist team managers with their duties for a daily grade of 60.

*Non-participation outside of the above-mentioned scenarios will result in a grade of zero being given for the day. Your grades will be set by your performance (just as they would be in any other class), and you CAN fail this class should you choose to ignore its criteria. Excuses will not positively affect your grade any more in swimming than they would in a core academic class.

Team policy (participation/competition):

*Training absences and training tardies: Failure to work out, while not counted as an absence or a tardy for attendance purposes, is still documented as a failure to train for competition. 'Training absences' and 'training tardies' can and do affect your ability to participate.

*Attendance: Participation policy is more stringent than grading policy. When in-season practices begin (September 28th), an athlete with ANY training absence that results in a daily grade of zero (see grading policy) will sit out the following meet that they are eligible to swim. An absence is also given when an athlete reports after 6:50 (even if they finish the drylands associated with training tardiness).

*Conduct: Appropriate conduct in practice and competition are an expectation. This extends into classroom behavior as well. Teacher reports of rude, disrespectful or lazy behavior will result in consequences in practice and meet participation.

*Grades: Expectations of maintaining UIL eligibility are as they would be with any other team. A failing six-weeks grade does not get you 'home' from meets. You will be a permanent managers' assistant and will encounter additional consequences (at coach's discretion) outside of swimming until your grades are in order.

*Tardiness: Failure to begin practice AT 6:00 will be a TRAINING tardy. Swimmers that are excessively tardy CANNOT enter the water and will assist team managers in any tasks asked of them in order to maintain their status as 'tardy for training'. Failure to do these duties that follow will be an unexcused training absence (miss next meet). Two 'practice tardies' will equal one 'practice absence' (miss next meet). IN OTHER WORDS, BE ON TIME...EVERY DAY...NO EXCUSES.



*Meets: You will attend meets based upon your placements from tryouts and/or adjustments. If you have not been designated as Varsity or Junior Varsity, you do not compete until you have met the standards to compete at that level and will be designated as 'practice squad' until promoted. As mentioned before, any absence or tardy for training will keep you from competition.

*With tryouts complete and placements made, any further adjustments will be made (and athletes notified) on an individual basis. You can be both promoted or demoted at this point based upon your effort, attitude and performance.

*Competing in varsity meets or being designated to swim the varsity schedule does not guarantee you a letter. See the lettering policy for reference.