

2023/2024  
MEMBER HANDBOOK



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*SSWSC reserves the right to amend and adjust any policies and procedures outlined in this handbook. Any significant changes (either in part or in full) to this handbook will be communicated to membership via email.*

## WELCOME TO SSWSC

Welcome to the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club family! It is the people in the club – athletes, parents, coaches and staff – that will define your experience here. In the interest of making that experience a good one for everybody, we have outlined the policies and expectations in this member handbook. By completing your registration, you agree to abide by these guidelines, and are prepared to participate, and possibly compete, as a champion on and off the mountain!

Our mission is to create champions on and off the mountain by developing life skills and providing growth opportunities through participation in sports. We have a unique opportunity in Steamboat Springs to develop the best skiers and snowboarders in the world thanks to our venues, coaching staff, Ski Town U.S.A. culture and Olympic heritage. Across the board our staff is committed to the larger picture of using our sports as a vehicle for personal growth and embracing champion behaviors outside of the competition realm.

Our vision is to be the model community youth organization for long-term personal development through sport. In short, we aspire to develop the “complete” athlete – coaching every individual to achieve their highest level of human and athletic performance – resulting in healthy, contributing members of our community as well as skilled and passionate athletes.

We are guided by four core values: Teamwork, Integrity, Fun, and Achieve.

**Teamwork** is our secret weapon. While our sports are contested at the individual level, we know that a highly supportive team will not only push all to greater results but make the entire experience more rewarding. With a full slate of winter sports and summer programs as well, we look to take advantage of the expertise of our coaches across disciplines to make each other better. Effectively, the SSWSC is one team, working together with our support partners to expand our opportunities and enrich the community.

As we interact with each other, **integrity** drives our actions. We strive to do the right thing, even when it is not easy. We spend extra time teaching respect and supporting one another. We continuously honor the legacy of all the great champions on and off the mountain who have come before us and work to preserve the special place that the SSWSC holds in the community.

The number one reason children participate in sports is to have **fun**. Every youth program should have fun at its core, but in fact, fun is essential for developing champions on and off the mountain. Sport should be playful. We help athletes learn to enjoy the process, which can be difficult, but that will lead to enjoyment and fulfillment in the future.

Finally, we seek for all our athletes to **achieve** something meaningful to them. The process takes effort, courage, and skill that each possesses. Along the way we are not afraid to learn from our mistakes, and we exhibit passion every day.

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## CLUB INFORMATION

### SSWSC OFFICE

Howelsen Hill Lodge, 2nd Floor

Mailing Address: PO Box 774487, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

Physical Address: 845 Howelsen Parkway, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

Winter Office Hours 9am-5pm Monday-Friday

Summer Office Hours 9am-5pm Monday-Thursday

SSWSC main line: 970.879.0695

SSWSC fax: 970.879.7993

SSWSC website: [www.sswsc.org](http://www.sswsc.org)

SSWSC email: [sswsc@sswsc.org](mailto:sswsc@sswsc.org)

SSWSC on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/sswsc](http://www.facebook.com/sswsc)

### CONTACTS

Brian Krill	Executive Director	970.439.0845
Jon Nolting	Chief Operations Officer	970.439.0842
Dave Stewart	Athletic Director	970.439.0846
Amy Burkholder	Director of Finance	970.439.0843
Ellen Campbell	Director of Development	510.301.5200
Jeanne Mackowski	Director of Communications	970.439.0847
Blair Seymour	Director of People & Sport Dev.	970.439.0848
Gretchen Burkholder	Office Manager	970.879.0695 x100
Ali Givnish	Youth Program Director	970.846.7960
Brian Tate	Cross Country Director	970.734.7678
Alex Deibold	Snowboard Director	802.345.0246
Todd Wilson	Jumping/Nordic Combined Director	970.439.0853
Ann Battelle	Freestyle Mogul Director	303.819.0059
Andy Michnay	Freeskiing/Big Mtn Director	970.819.2467
Tyler Shepherd	Alpine Race Director	970.439.0850
Sasha Nations	Cycling Director	303.995.1535

Email addresses – first initial and last name @sswsc.org

### SSWSC BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2023/2024

Travis Mayer, President	Dan Gilchrist	Blaise Carrig
Jim Boyne, Treasurer	David Baldinger	Ryan Shorter
Amy Cook-Olson, Secretary	Todd Givnish	Steve Speer
Amy Satkiewicz	Roger Perricone	Lara Craig
Jim Schneider		

## MORE CONTACTS AND LINKS

U.S. Ski & Snowboard	<a href="http://www.uskiandsnowboard.org">www.uskiandsnowboard.org</a>
U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership hotline	435-647-2666
U.S.A. Snowboard and Freeski Association (USASA)	<a href="http://www.usasa.org">www.usasa.org</a>
U.S.A. Nordic Sports (USANS)	<a href="http://www.usanordic.org">www.usanordic.org</a>
Rocky Mountain Freestyle	<a href="http://www.rockymountainfreestyle.com">www.rockymountainfreestyle.com</a>
Rocky Mountain Nordic	<a href="http://www.rm nordic.org">www.rm nordic.org</a>
Steamboat Ski Resort	<a href="http://www.steamboat.com">www.steamboat.com</a>
Steamboat Season Pass office	877-276-2628
Steamboat Touring Center	<a href="http://www.steamboatnordiccenter.com">www.steamboatnordiccenter.com</a>
Howelsen Hill	<a href="http://steamboatsprings.net/index.aspx?NID=131">http://steamboatsprings.net/index.aspx?NID=131</a>

## REGISTRATION, SCHOLARSHIP & PAYMENT POLICIES

Each participant must be REGISTERED for the current season to begin training with any SSWSC program. Registration must be complete in advance of the first day of training. Certain programs will fill to capacity and others have registration deadlines well before the first day of training. Early registration is encouraged to get in the communication loop with coaches.

[Scholarships](#) and payment plans are available.

Enroll online at [www.sswsc.org](http://www.sswsc.org) using the ENROLL/LOGIN link. Your login can also be used to review your account and important club documents, update financial information, sign up to volunteer and more.

### PAYMENT OF SSWSC FEES

If fees for the prior season (including all travel and program fees) have not been paid before the following season begins, enrolling participants must pay all outstanding SSWSC fees in full before participation in any training for the upcoming season.

The SSWSC program fees and work deposit may be paid in full at the time of registration online by credit card or e-check or in the office with cash or check. A payment plan may be set up in the SSWSC office by the person financially responsible for the participant. Current credit card or e-check information is required when agreeing to a payment plan. Final payment must be made on or before the first business day in January of the current winter season.

### SSWSC Remedies for Non-Payment Of Fees

If the terms of any participant's payment agreement are not met, that participant shall have his/her club privileges revoked until the account is made current.

### Drop-In/Daily Training Fees

Any visiting athlete who trains by the day must have a signed SSWSC Liability and Medical Release on file with the Club office. This form must be signed by a parent or guardian if the participant is under the age of 18. Every athlete who trains for a day must pay the daily training fee in the Club office BEFORE training. Day training fees vary by program and length, including additional training fees for an athlete already enrolled in SSWSC programs.

### Definition Of Non-Resident

Families: A non-resident is defined as any participant, age 18 & under, whose family does not live year-round in Routt or Moffat County. Participants age 18 & under whose families have established residency in Routt or Moffat County will pay resident fees.

Individuals: A non-resident is defined as any participant, age 18 & over, who has not lived in Steamboat Springs, Routt County or Moffat County for 12 consecutive months before the program start date. Proof of residency must be provided. A Colorado driver's license, local vehicle registration, rent receipts, voter registration card, paycheck stubs, etc. may be considered as evidence of residency.

Attaining resident status: Any athlete whose family does not live year-round in Routt or Moffat County will be considered a non-resident for the first two years of SSWSC full-season programming. At the start of the third year of consecutively participating in SSWSC full-season programming, they will be granted "resident" status for the purpose of determining program fees even if they do not live in Routt or Moffat year-round.

Purpose of non-resident fee policy: Regular program fees generally make up only about two-thirds of the program costs. The balance is generated through local businesses and donors to support local participation. Non-resident fees more closely represent the actual cost of programming but still receive some donor subsidy in most cases.

### SSWSC REFUND POLICY

SSWSC makes our commitments to partners, coaches and staff based on program enrollments in the summer and fall. These expenses are not reduced by a participant's withdrawal during the season. As such, there are no refunds in the case of voluntary withdrawals or absences during the season, or in any case where the athlete is suspended from the program. Program fee refunds shall be considered in the event of an injury only whereby the athlete is unable to participate in any level of programming for a period greater than four weeks. Refund requests must be made by the athlete/family in writing to the SSWSC Office Manager ([sswsc@sswsc.org](mailto:sswsc@sswsc.org)). Requests must be made in a timely manner and will not be considered if received after March 31. If a refund is approved, it will be pro-rated based on the amount of time the athlete could not participate in the program. Refunds are calculated based on a pre-defined formula for each program.

### SEASON PASSES

Steamboat Ski Resort: Participants training at Steamboat Ski Resort are required to purchase an Ikon Pass. Passes are not included in SSWSC program fees and are purchased through Steamboat Ski Resort or at [www.ikonpass.com](http://www.ikonpass.com). Athletes are required to always have their pass on them while at Steamboat Ski and Resort.

Howelsen Hill: All participants training at Howelsen Hill (both alpine and cross country) are required to purchase a season pass at Howelsen Hill. Passes can be purchased online and picked up at Howelsen Hill Lodge in the fall. Athletes are required to always have pass on them while at Howelsen Hill.

Additional Passes: Cross country skiers may also need to purchase an additional trail pass from the Steamboat Springs Nordic Council for training at the Touring Center and Catamount.

## WORK DEPOSIT POLICY AND VOLUNTEERING

The purpose of the work deposit program is to ensure that workers are available and motivated to help with SSWSC programs, athletic and community events. Much of the success of the SSWSC is a result of the stellar contributions of parents and community members to produce world-class events. Each work opportunity is valued by a certain number of points. Each point earns the member \$1 back toward their work deposit. Work opportunities are posted on the SSWSC website under the Volunteer button. These opportunities are updated regularly. Sign up early to find the job you want.

### Work Deposit Program Structure

The amount of work deposit varies with each program. Refer to the current fee schedule in the program guide to determine the amount of work deposit your athlete's program requires. When more than one family member participates in SSWSC programs, only the higher work deposit fees will be applied.

Work hours and credits are non-transferable. Unless approved in advance by SSWSC, only immediate family members may contribute hours toward that family's work deposit. All work deposit positions will be assigned a number of points. Points will be determined prior to work deposit sign up and displayed so that each volunteer is aware of the number of points for their volunteer position prior to the volunteer experience. Point amounts may vary depending on several factors, including the certification or experience needed for the position or on the past difficulty of filling the position.

The work deposit shall be paid at the time of registration. Credit for work performed prior to registration may be credited at the time of registration by sending a request to [sswsc@sswsc.org](mailto:sswsc@sswsc.org). While work deposit points are applied automatically to member accounts, it is the member's responsibility to review these entries and notify the SSWSC office of any discrepancies no later than April 30th. Work deposit credits will be posted to the SSWSC accounts and can be tracked via the ENROLL/LOGIN link at [www.sswsc.org](http://www.sswsc.org). If you prefer a refund, please notify the SSWSC office. If you accrue extra work deposit credits during a season, there is no carry forward into the next season.

### Work Deposit Charitable Donation Option

SSWSC families who do not wish to participate in the work deposit program may elect to forego participation in that program and make a tax-deductible charitable contribution to the SSWSC

Foundation in an amount of at least 125% of the applicable family work deposit within five business days of registration. Families who choose this option are still welcome to volunteer but will not be eligible to earn back their deposit.

### Non-Work Deposit Situations

NO work deposit credit will be issued for:

- Board of Directors meeting attendance.
- Work at out of town competitions.
- Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation and City of Steamboat organized events.
- Other organized events not put on by SSWSC.
- Competition video or photography unless specifically designated as a volunteer position.

### Other Work Opportunities

If your work deposit is complete or if you do not have work deposit, there may be an opportunity to earn vouchers for Steamboat Ski Resort lift tickets by working at certain U.S. Ski & Snowboard or USASA events. All work deposit points must be worked off prior to earning vouchers for tickets. Eight hours of volunteer time will earn one voucher. Vouchers are for the current season only and may have holiday blackout periods.

Anything not listed in the written policy as a work deposit credit must receive prior approval by the SSWSC Chief Operating Officer to be considered for a refund.

## PROGRAM FEE SCHOLARSHIP POLICY

The following applies only to need-based scholarships for program fees. There are other scholarship opportunities available, go to [www.sswsc.org](http://www.sswsc.org) and choose Scholarships from the MENU bar.

### EZ Scholarship

The EZ Scholarship is offered to any resident family whose 2022 adjusted gross income (AGI) is \$160,000 or less. Scholarship levels are as follows:

- \$75,000 AGI or less: Scholarship = 40% of program fee
- \$75,000-\$100,000 AGI: Scholarship = 30% of program fee
- \$100,000-\$125,000 AGI: Scholarship = 20% of program fee
- \$125,000-\$150,000 AGI: Scholarship = 15% of program fee
- \$150,000-\$175,000 AGI: Scholarship = 10% of program fee

The EZ Scholarship only applies to winter or year-round programs and can only be selected when registering for programs and will immediately be deducted from the program fee total prior to processing payment (note that the reduced price does not show on the payment page, but it is adjusted prior to processing). For families choosing the payment plan, installments will be based on total fees less the scholarship amount. SSWSC reserves the right to request documentation to confirm the family's AGI level. The EZ Scholarship is not available to non-residents.



### Program Fee Scholarships

Winter program fee scholarship applications are due the 15th of each month, September through December. Summer program fee scholarship applications are due May 15 and June 15. Scholarships are awarded by the end of the application month. Scholarships must be complete with all sections and required attachments by the deadline to be considered for that month. Scholarship applications are made online at [www.sswsc.org](http://www.sswsc.org) using the scholarship link. Any participant in a full season program may apply for program fee scholarships with the exception of Master's programs. If granted a scholarship, the participant and their family are expected to complete 100% of their work deposit hours in the current season as a condition of the scholarship. If the applicant is a returning member, the previous season's work deposit volunteer hours will be a consideration. Post graduate athletes are eligible to apply for scholarship only if they have completed two full time seasons of programming with the SSWSC. Academic and athletic merit, in addition to financial need and volunteerism, will be considered.

### Distribution Of Scholarship Funds

If awarded a scholarship, the funds are applied to the participant's SSWSC account. Once all SSWSC program fees have been paid, any remaining scholarship funds will be applied to the athlete's travel account or refunded if appropriate.

## ATHLETE INFORMATION

### SSWSC ACADEMIC STANDARDS

SSWSC and our cooperating public and private school systems have a unique relationship that allows SSWSC skiers and riders to have training and competition opportunities that are available in very few other communities. SSWSC athletes are able to receive the highest caliber coaching and training available in this country while attending local schools, public or private. This system works when the student-athlete makes it work. It is important to the SSWSC that all parties help student athletes to achieve personal success athletically and academically.

Elementary and middle school aged student-athletes generally do not miss a significant amount of school. Elementary and middle school students are required to maintain the same educational requirements as the high school athletes. Good study habits and positive attitudes should begin at these levels. A reputation as a responsible and trustworthy student will follow each student-athlete from school to school. The same holds true for parents. Working hard to develop a positive relationship with teachers and the school administration will help when an athlete reaches the competitive traveling level of the high school programs.

### Steamboat Springs Middle School

The Steamboat Springs Middle School requires that all athletes involved in extracurricular activities maintain passing grades. Steamboat Springs Middle School runs weekly eligibility reports for SSWSC competitive athletes. Eligibility reports are run every Monday. Students are ineligible if their grades include one "F" or two "D's". Middle school students and parents will

be informed via email when they are ineligible to participate in their respective sport. Any student who receives an ineligible notice can visit the SSMS office and pick up a "Ticket to Play" slip. Once the student-athlete has completed their assigned work, their teacher will sign the "Ticket to Play" form. This completed form should be turned into both the SSMS office and to the Director of People and Sport Development via the SSWSC Main office. Once this form is completed and turned in, the athlete can participate again.

### Steamboat Springs High School

SSWSC has a long-standing relationship with the high schools in Steamboat, specifically Steamboat Springs High School and Steamboat Mountain School. This partnership has allowed our student athletes to excellence and pursue their dreams both academically and athletically. Students will need to work closely with their school counselors to develop an academic plan and schedule that allows them to meet academic and athletic goals. Each student must be proactive in addressing their scheduling needs. Beginning freshman year, it is recommended that each student-athlete sit down with his/her guidance counselor and develop a comprehensive four-year plan. It is important to be sure that all graduation requirements will be met as well as prerequisites for college admission and NCAA eligibility requirements if applicable. \*\*Note: Graduation requirements and college prerequisites are not the same and NCAA requirements are also more specific than general graduation requirements.

In the spring, SSWSC will provide SSHS a list of competitive athletes and their desired school schedule to accommodate their training schedule. The high school works with athletes on an individual basis. They can make accommodations to help students meet the requirements if the situation warrants. Please DO NOT expect across-the-board rulings for all athletes. Every case can and should be handled individually. The student-athlete (not the parents) should initiate contact with the high school. Please don't hesitate to contact the SSWSC Director of People & Sport to assist with any school meetings.

With college admission in mind, it is important also to figure out the scheduling of ACT and SAT tests. During the sophomore year, begin to look at when the tests are offered and design a plan for preparing and taking the tests. Remember, it is often recommended to take these tests more than once.

For seniors interested in competing in college (alpine or cross country), the SSWSC program directors and athletic director have listings for schools with ski teams and can help you by contacting coaches and writing recommendations. It is important to know that as a competitive athlete, college coaches can be of great assistance in the admissions process, but they only can help if they know you are interested. It is a good idea to prepare a general letter and athletic resume expressing your interest and describing yourself - age, graduation date, points, results and future goals - that you can send to college coaches. For further assistance with this, please see your guidance counselor or Dave Stewart, Athletic Director at the SSWSC.

## SSWSC ACADEMIC INELIGIBILITY POLICY

### Student-Athlete Ineligibility

The SSWSC will support the academic and disciplinary decisions made by the educational institutions with which we share our constituency. This means that if a student-athlete is suspended from or expelled from school, that athlete will not participate with the SSWSC for training or competition during the period of suspension or expulsion. This is also true for academic ineligibility. When a student is listed as ineligible in his/her school, he/she will be ineligible to compete with the SSWSC. SSWSC receives an ineligibility list from each of the schools weekly and we will adhere to that list. If you are unaware of the policy at the school that your student attends, you should communicate with your school immediately to educate yourself. It is important that all student-athletes and all parents understand and agree to abide by the current policy.

### SSHS Weekly Eligibility

Steamboat Springs High School has a no-F policy and will run weekly eligibility grade checks. A school-wide Grade Report is run every Tuesday afternoon to check grades. An email will notify parents & students that their student is on this week's D and F probation list. The list of athletes with D and/or Fs is distributed to coaches, Athletic Director, Assistant Principals, and SSWSC.

Athletes must remain aware of their grades. They need to communicate and work directly with their teachers to get their grades up.

An Eligibility Report is run every Friday afternoon. Student Athletes who have any Fs at that time will not be eligible the following Monday – Sunday to travel or compete.

The grades posted on Fridays are the final determination of eligibility for the next week.

Non-SSHS Students' grades will be checked weekly by their Athletic Secretary and reported to Steamboat Springs High School Athletic Office. Homeschool students must also report weekly grades to the Athletic Office by no later than 9:00 a.m. on Friday. All athletes participating in Steamboat Springs High School Athletics and Activities will be held to the SSHS No-F eligibility policy.

Ineligible athletes may go to practices. However, they may not miss any class time to attend games or training until they have regained eligibility.

**SSWSC athletes that are on eligibility list will be required to attend study hall.**

### SSHS Semester Eligibility

The policy for Failed Semester grades follows the restrictions implemented by CHSAA. Students will be ineligible if they fail classes with credits totaling more than .5 units and must pass 5 academic classes. If they fail an online class, they will not be eligible to take an online class the following semester.

Any adjustment to the ineligible list will only be honored when calls are made from either the SSHS Athletic Director, Principal or Assistant Principal, or from the Dean of Students at Steamboat Mountain School to Blair Seymour, SSWSC Director of People & Sport Development. It is recommended that students who are ineligible communicate immediately with their

teachers to rectify the situation for the following weeks and inquire at the SSWSC office about study table or tutoring opportunities. If an athlete is on the list, he/she will be ineligible the entire next week, Monday through Sunday. The ineligible list for the SSHS will be communicated to head coaches on Friday and will take effect on the following Monday-Sunday.

If an ineligible athlete chooses to compete during their period of ineligibility, disregarding the SSWSC policy, that athlete severs his/her ties with the SSWSC for the remainder of the season. This includes all coaching, locker space, SSWSC vouchered ski passes and skier schedule. No refunds will be issued in this situation.

### Early Release Schedule

A request for an early out schedule at Steamboat Springs High School must be made when registering for next year's classes (usually in February - students who transfer to Steamboat after that date are exempt). Students must attain a "C" average (2.0) or better and be in good disciplinary standing for the first quarter in order to receive an early release schedule. Any discipline problems reported by the school during the first quarter can prohibit an athlete from obtaining an early out schedule. Tardies for zero hour are not acceptable. If a SSWSC athlete is frequently tardy for zero hour, they will forfeit their eligibility to take zero hour classes next semester. In addition, the need for an early out schedule must be approved by the athlete's discipline program director at the SSWSC. A recommended schedule for each competitive program is shared with SSHS in the spring.

All our local schools offer many educational opportunities outside of scheduled classes. These include but are not limited to study halls, tutoring, parent-teacher and student-teacher conferences, etc. We expect our student athletes to take full advantage of these opportunities. Contact Blair Seymour if you need help in scheduling the appropriate assistance for your educational needs.

### ATHLETE CODE OF CONDUCT

Each athlete member, parent and staff member shall always conduct herself or himself in a respectful manner that supports and enhances the reputation of the SSWSC. Failure to do so may result in suspension or expulsion from the SSWSC. The welfare of all athletes is of the utmost importance. It is impossible to list specific behavioral guidelines for every situation, but the following should be carefully noted:

Athletes are to always be respectful toward their coaches and teammates. Each athlete is expected to conduct themselves in a sportsman-like manner. Sportsmanship is embedded in the core values of the SSWSC participation. Each participant is responsible for his or her own actions while training, competing at home or away, traveling and while involved in any team activities.

- Athletes shall refrain from use of alcohol or non-prescription drugs.
- No smoking, vaping or use of chewing tobacco.
- No swearing or abusive language.

- Be honest - no stealing or misrepresentation whatsoever.
- Show self-control and have consideration for others. No one will be allowed to injure or bully others.
- Respect other people's belongings. Tampering with other athletes' equipment or belongings will not be tolerated.
- All team members have the inherent right to learn. No one shall interfere with or prevent others from learning.
- Be supportive of others in their efforts to achieve and encourage the success of other competitors.

Any criticism of coaches, staff or programming should first be directed to the discipline program director, then the Athletic Director and finally the Executive Director. SSWSC reserves the right to involve a neutral third party to assist. If the matter is not resolved after these contacts have been made, any member of the SSWSC Board of Directors may be contacted.

Athletes found violating the code of conduct may be suspended from training, competition, and membership privileges.

### SSWSC COMPETITION OATH

As a member of the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club, I accept the principle that healthy competition will enhance my growth as a successful individual. As a result, I will endeavor to approach training and competition with five sportsmanship behaviors in mind:

1. When I train and when I compete, I owe it to myself and to my competition to put forth my maximum effort.
2. I accept that victory is signified by more than the top step of a podium.
3. I accept that a defeat can be more beneficial than a victory.
4. I am willing to assist another competitor when it does not sacrifice my own performance.
5. I will acknowledge the achievements and contributions of those with whom I compete and with those whose efforts allow us to compete.

### ANTI - HARASSMENT & ABUSE POLICIES

#### INTRODUCTION:

Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club ("SSWSC") is committed to maintaining an environment where all SSWSC members, athletes, and spectators enjoy a safe and supportive environment, free of discrimination including harassment. Discrimination based on a person's race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, age (over 40), marital status, religion, national origin, ancestry, disability or need for special education services will not be tolerated. SSWSC prohibits discrimination prohibited by state, federal, and local law.

All SSWSC staff, members, and athletes share the responsibility to identify and prevent misconduct in order to develop a culture of dignity and respect in sport. SSWSC will respond promptly to reports of misconduct and will take appropriate action to correct, and, if necessary, to discipline behavior that violates this policy.

**HARASSMENT:**

SSWSC strives to maintain an environment free of harassment. Harassment of any member, athlete, or spectator on the basis of his/ her age (40 and over), race, sex, color, religion, national origin, disability, military status, genetic information, or any other status protected by applicable federal, state, or local law will not be tolerated by SSWSC.

Harassment is any unwelcome, hostile, or offensive verbal, written, or physical conduct based on or directed at a person, including unwelcome conduct that demeans, or shows hostility or aversion towards, individuals because of their status as noted above and which has the purpose or effect of creating a hostile, intimidating, or offensive club environment.

Harassing conduct may take many forms, including but not limited to:

1. Verbal acts and name-calling, epithets, derogatory comments, slurs, or jokes;
2. Graphic depictions and written statements, which may include cartoons, e-mails, posters, drawings, or photographs; or
3. Other conduct that may be physically threatening, harmful, or humiliating.

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

SSWSC does not tolerate sexual harassment or inappropriate sexual conduct. Sexual misconduct is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other inappropriate conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to or rejection of this conduct explicitly or implicitly affects an athlete or member's athletic performance, competition, training, learning, or participation in SSWSC activities;
- Submission unreasonably interferes with a member's athletic performance, competition, or training; or
- Such conduct creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive performing, competing, or training environment.

In the interest of preventing sexual misconduct, SSWSC will respond and evaluate reports of any such alleged conduct.

Sexual harassment may include incidents between any members of the SSWSC membership, including coaches, athletes, officials, spectators, and volunteers. Sexual harassment may occur in hierarchical relationships or between peers, or between persons of the same sex or opposite sex. Some examples of sexually inappropriate or offensive conduct include:

- Written form, such as cartoons, posters, calendars, notes, letters, or email;
- Verbal form, such as comments, jokes, foul or obscene language of a sexual nature, gossiping, or questions about another's sex life, or repeated unwanted requests for dates; or
- Physical gestures and other nonverbal behavior, such as unwelcome touching, grabbing, fondling, kissing, massaging, or brushing up against another's body.

**DISSEMINATION OF THE POLICY:**

As part of SSWSC's commitment to providing a harassment and discrimination-free environment, this policy shall be disseminated widely to the SSWSC membership through publications, handbooks, websites, continued education & trainings, and other appropriate channels of communication.

#### **REPORTING OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT:**

Any SSWSC member, athlete, or spectator who believes conduct that may constitute sexual harassment under this policy has occurred has a responsibility to report the situation as soon as possible.

Any of the following staff members can be contacted for reporting violations of this policy:

**David Stewart, Athletic Director:** [dstewart@sswsc.org](mailto:dstewart@sswsc.org)

**Blair Seymour, Director of People and Sport Development:** [bseymour@sswsc.org](mailto:bseymour@sswsc.org)

**Brian Krill, Executive Director:** [bkrill@sswsc.org](mailto:bkrill@sswsc.org)

Any violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of membership in SSWSC, exclusion from SSWSC activities for non-members, and reporting of conduct that may be illegal to law enforcement. To the extent practical, concerns of violations or suspected violations will be kept confidential, consistent with the need to conduct an adequate investigation.

Complaints of harassment will be investigated promptly and in as impartial and confidential a manner as possible. In some cases, SSWSC might utilize legal counsel and/or 3<sup>rd</sup> party human resource counsel. After an investigation, a determination shall be made regarding the appropriate response to any complaint. A timely resolution of any complaint should be reached and communicated to the parties involved. All parties will be treated fairly and with respect.

## SSWSC GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

SSWSC Grievance Procedure provides athletes, parents, coaches, club leaders, and employees with a system to address and report grievances in a productive, systematic way. The following procedures provide the appropriate parties a means to properly investigate, intervene, and take disciplinary action when needed.

The Head Coach has the authority to impose penalties for infractions of the Parent and Coach Codes of Conduct or any behavior(s) they deem not conducive to the best interests of SSWSC or other athletes. Consequences are at the sole discretion of the coaches and may include, but aren't limited to, verbal warnings, dismissal from practice, contacting parents, temporary suspension from SSWSC activities, or expulsion. Involved parties, including the coach's direct supervisor, will be informed of the processes and range of potential consequences. The U.S. Center for SafeSport, USSA and local law enforcement (if applicable) will be contacted within 24 hours if a coach, parent, or an athlete violates the SafeSport Code for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Movements, the USSA Code of Conduct or local laws.

Issues concerning misconduct, harassment, or abuse reported to SSWSC may also be reported to following agencies:

For issues dealing with sexual misconduct, sexual harassment and/or sexually explicit or inappropriate communication; including through social media:

- [U.S. Center for SafeSport](https://www.safe-sport.org/): 720-524-5640

For issues dealing with physical abuse, emotional abuse, criminal charges and the use, sale, or distribution of illegal drugs:

- [USSA Safe Sport Reporting](#) and Steamboat Police 970-879-4344

For issues dealing with known or suspected child abuse:

- [Routt County Abuse & Neglect Hotline](#): 970-367-4056

COMMUNICATION PATHWAY:

**Regarding the Conduct of an Athlete - Notify the athlete’s coach**

Should a parent or an athlete feel another athlete’s conduct is inappropriate or violates the SSWSC Anti-Harassment Policy, the parent or athlete should discuss these concerns with the coach of the athlete responsible for the conduct. This complaint should be made in person or in writing. Coaches will ensure the SSWSC head coach is notified of the complaint and will participate in assessing behavior.

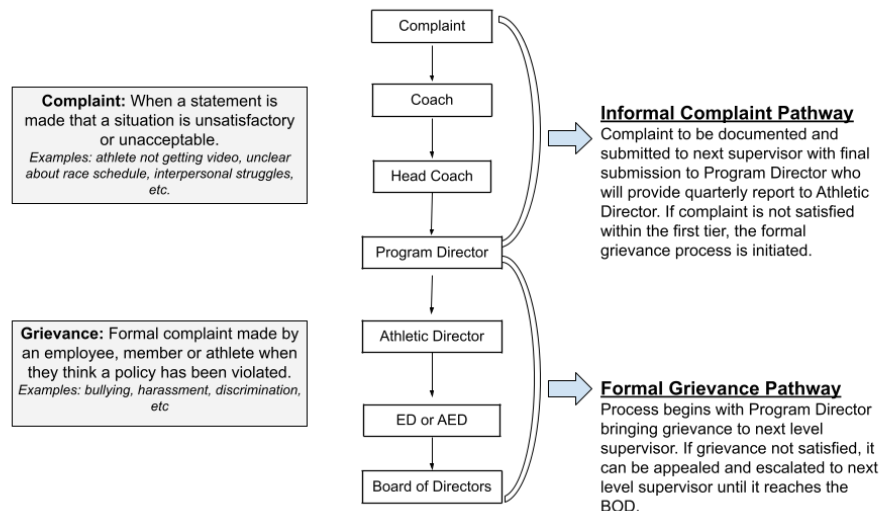
**Regarding Conduct of Head Coach – Notify the SSWSC Program Director**

Should a parent or athlete feel the Head Coach’s conduct is inappropriate or violates the SSWSC Anti-Harassment Policy, the parent or athlete should notify the SSWSC Athletic Director of this violation. This complaint should be made in person or in writing.

**Regarding Parent or Official Conduct - Notify the Head Coach**

Should a parent or athlete feel another SSWSC parent’s or an official’s conduct is inappropriate or violates the SSWSC Anti-Harassment Policy, the parent or athlete should notify the Head Coach of this violation in person or in writing.

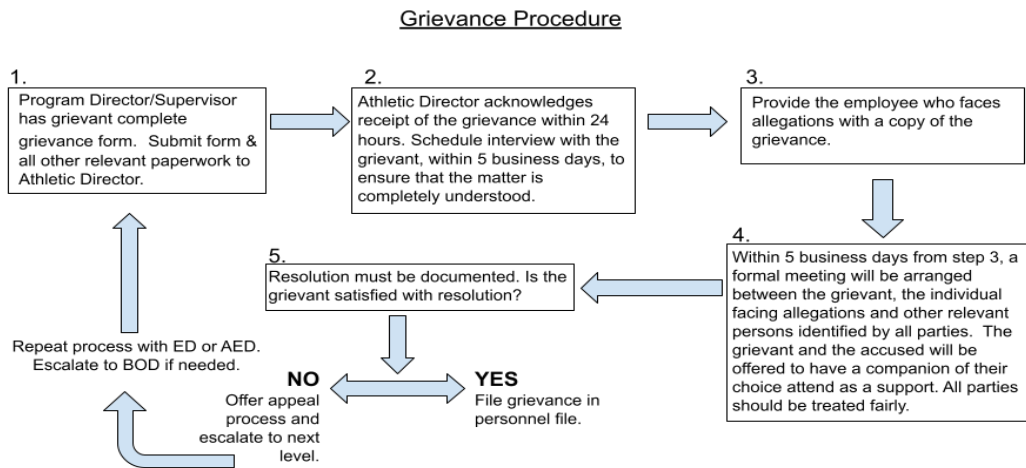
**Note:** With the exception of issues which immediately affect the health and safety of athletes, all matters should be discussed before or after a coaching session.





For issues dealing with peer-to-peer bullying, coach-athlete bullying, parent issues and violations of the SSWSC Code of Conduct. These issues are initially handled at the club level following the procedures outlined above and may escalate to the formal grievance pathway if needed.

FORMAL GRIEVANCE PATHWAY:



- **Gathering Information:** Executive club leadership will contact the person who filed the grievance, and the person against whom the grievance is being filed, to investigate. In addition, other witnesses may be contacted for more information. All information will be recorded on the SSWSC grievance procedure form. All parties will be treated fairly.
- **Assessing Behavior:** The behavior of the person(s) against which the grievance was brought, will be evaluated using club policies and facility rules, USSA Code of Conduct, USSA Safe Sport policies, as well as applicable federal, state, and local laws.
- **Consequences will be determined and disciplinary action will be taken, if appropriate.** These consequences and disciplinary actions will be decided using the following general guidelines:
  - Nature of the misconduct
  - Severity of the misconduct
  - Prior disciplinary actions
  - Adverse effect of the misconduct
  - Application of the Code of Conduct

**SSWSC DISCIPLINE POLICY AND SUBSTANCE USE CONTRACT**

The objective of the SSWSC discipline policy is to ensure a positive, safe, and rewarding learning environment for all participants in support of our mission which is to create champions on and off the mountain. The primary purpose of our discipline policy is to redirect inappropriate behavior and to contribute toward the development of solid community citizens.

Research has shown negative impacts on youth athletic and academic performance from alcohol and recreational drug use. In addition, the use of alcohol and drugs under age 21, and the sale of tobacco to anyone under age 18 is illegal. For these reasons, this discipline policy specifically addresses those issues as well as others that affect the safety and well-being of our athletes.

All participants must understand that verbal warnings may precede the issuing of any disciplinary procedure. In addition, when deemed necessary by the SSWSC will refer athletes to a third party for assistance with these matters.

SSWSC may communicate with the school attended by a student athlete and determine suitable consequences that are agreed upon by both the school administration and the SSWSC discipline committee. In addition, any alcohol or substance abuse infractions taking place at the athlete's school or outside the school that the school issues disciplinary action for may also be considered a SSWSC infraction and result in disciplinary action by the club.

### Disciplinary Offenses

Willful disobedience, including: (Suspension period one day or more)

- Continued disruptive conduct.
- Continued vulgarity & profanity.
- Continued disrespectful behavior towards others, including teammates, community members, resort staff and all facilities, vans and club locker room.

Vandalism, including: (Suspension period one week or more)

- Damage to personal equipment, lockers, or property
- Hiding of any equipment, moving or damaging locks and/or tampering with equipment of others with malicious intent

Physical/Verbal Violations towards others, including: (Suspension period two weeks or more)

- Physical abuse with the potential for bodily injury.
- Fighting
- Hazing: The practice of rituals and other activities involving harassment, abuse or humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group.
- Verbal threats
- Bullying (any overt act or combination of acts directed against a participant by another participant or group of participants, which is repeated over time and is intended to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate the participant, including using on-line means such as texting and social media)
- Sexual Harassment (including inappropriate sexual comments). This includes bullying or coercion of a sexual nature, or the unwelcome or inappropriate promise of rewards in exchange for sexual favors.

Illegal Activity, including: (Suspension period four weeks or more)

- Use of, sale of, possession of, and/or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco including vaping, or any controlled substance, or its associated paraphernalia. The SSWSC will respond and address any situation where an athlete is arrested by law enforcement.

- Prohibited substances include, but are not limited to, tobacco, alcohol, marijuana, and all illegal drugs including cocaine, methamphetamine, opiates and PCP and drugs found in these named categories, the use of prescription medication without a valid prescription, and all banned substances as defined by USADA.
- Athletes shall not participate in gatherings involving consumption of prohibited substances. Contact with illegal substances, e.g., being in places or situations where others are in contact with a prohibited substance, is a substance policy violation. The only exceptions are adult-organized and supervised gatherings where alcohol is available to adults, but to which athletes are also invited.

### Disciplinary Consequences

- Conference with coach, plans made to correct behavior, parents notified.
- Suspension from competition and/or training depending on severity of infraction.
  - Any suspension that exceeds the winter season will be carried into summer programming.
- Community service hours may be assigned to the athlete.
- Athlete may be required to write an essay of 1,000 words and submit it to the Athletic Director. This essay will discuss the incident in question and why the athlete chose to participate in this activity and what the athlete would do differently if a similar situation occurred in the future.
- Expulsion from the SSWSC.
- In drug or alcohol offenses, parents may be required to provide an evaluation performed by a qualified professional to determine the extent of the drug or alcohol problem, at their own expense.
- Law enforcement may be notified in any instance where illegal activity occurs.

All offenses will be documented in the athlete's confidential file.

Disciplinary consequences will be dependent on the severity of the infraction and whether the athlete has had previous infractions, and will be determined by the disciplinary committee on a case-by-case basis.

### Self-Reporting – Non-Punitive Response

Our codes of conduct and disciplinary processes allow for self-referral. Self-referral means that an athlete or other member of the club community may come forward to ask for assistance in dealing with a situation that has to do with a breach of the club's codes, policies or values. This self-referral may then be dealt with through educational, medical or other appropriate means, and may result in reduced disciplinary measures. This process is only available for those who self-refer, and not after getting caught. Members should be aware of this policy and its limits with regards to confidentiality and reporting that may be required by law. The non-punitive response (NPR) may not apply if the participant has already received an NPR for similar behavior.

## Drug Screening

Any SSWSC participant who is 13 years of age or older is subject to testing at the discretion of the SSWSC administration or discipline program director who in good faith believes there is reason for testing. By completing the SSWSC registration process and acknowledging that the participant and parent have read and are familiar with the policies in this Member Handbook, the participant shall consent to undergo testing if in good faith the SSWSC staff believes there is reasonable suspicion. Prohibited substance testing includes, but is not limited to, consenting to the collection of urine, hair, blood, saliva and/or breath samples to be tested for the presence of the above referenced prohibited substances.

Testing may be administered at a third party lab, medical facility or other location. Any requested retest of a positive test will be performed at a third-party provider at the cost of the participant, parents or legal guardian. A participant can request a retest up to 72 hours after notification of a positive test. Each participant, along with their parent or legal guardian, will have an opportunity to discuss the substance test with a testing professional in a confidential setting. Upon written request, within seven days of taking the test, a participant, parent, or legal guardian may access records relating to his/her substance test.

## Testing Protocol

Drug and alcohol testing at the SSWSC can be conducted when any SSWSC participant exhibits behavior that could reasonably be assumed to be due to the use of a prohibited substance. Additionally, participants are required to consent to appropriate searches and inspections as may be deemed necessary. Inspections may be conducted if SSWSC suspects that a participant is in possession of or under the influence of any prohibited substance. Should it become necessary, the participant may be required to open his/her locker or vehicle or to empty his/her pockets, handbag, backpack, ski bag, wallet or any other article, container, or device in which prohibited substances could be kept.

The participant may be temporarily suspended from participating in SSWSC programming pending receipt and review of the test results by SSWSC.

Participants, parents, or legal guardians of minor participants are required to notify SSWSC of any criminal conviction for a prohibited substance violation within five days.

## Disciplinary Committee

All disciplinary situations will be handled by the SSWSC disciplinary committee. The disciplinary committee makeup is as follows, and could include a third party:

- For offenses generally resulting in less than four weeks suspension:
  - SSWSC Athletic Director, the athlete's department director and the athlete's primary coach.
- For offenses generally resulting in a four week suspension or greater:
  - The committee makeup is the same as above with the addition of the SSWSC Athletic Director and a discipline director from another SSWSC department.

### Discipline Policy for Occurrences While Traveling

All previously mentioned discipline policies are in effect while on the road with SSWSC. An athlete's right to travel with the team will be in jeopardy if any disciplinary action is required due to inappropriate behavior while traveling on camps or competitive trips. If an athlete violates a discipline policy while traveling with the SSWSC, additional consequences may be added. These consequences are not limited to, but may include the following:

- Loss of travel privileges with SSWSC for next competitive trip. If an athlete is sent home early, there will be no refund for travel expenses for adjusted trip length.
- Loss of travel with SSWSC for one full calendar year (both winter and summer) or for remainder of membership.

In cases where a participant has received a training and competition suspension due to a disciplinary policy infraction, the participant must agree not to participate in competitions during the suspension period, even independently. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the SSWSC without refund.

### Travel Conduct

The coaches in charge of each out of town trip have the authority to call an athlete's parents and have them pick up that athlete if it is determined that the athlete's behavior is causing a problem at any time during an SSWSC sponsored trip.

**Van behavior:** When traveling in an SSWSC van, all athletes are required to wear seatbelts. This is the responsibility of the passengers/athletes - NOT the coaches. Athletes must not behave in a manner that distracts the driver at any time. Inappropriate behavior in vans will not be tolerated.

**Hotel/condo behavior:** SSWSC athletes represent Steamboat Springs and SSWSC when traveling to an away competition or training camp. An athlete's behavior can impact our future access to hotels and other services. If an athlete is unable to follow the rules for appropriate behavior when traveling with the team, they will not be allowed to travel with the team.

#### **Appropriate hotel/condo behavior:**

- Respectful and appropriate level of noise in common areas and in hotel rooms (both conversation and music)
- Full respect for all coach rules regarding room check, curfew, study hall, etc.
- Respect for all facilities and properties utilized by the team on trips.
- Male and female athletes may not be together in hotel rooms or condominium bedrooms without coach supervision/approval and must be with the door open.

Additional guidelines for conduct during team travel will be included in the travel handbook. If any suspended athlete and their family does not comply with the consequences administered and chooses to compete during their period of suspension, disregarding the SSWSC policy, the athlete cuts off his/her ties with the SSWSC for the remainder of the season. No refunds will be issued in this situation.

### Disciplinary Appeal Process

If an athlete believes that he/she has been unjustly treated with regards to disciplinary consequences delivered, an appeal may be filed by the athlete and their parent/guardian. The appeal process begins with a written request for appeal delivered to the disciplinary committee within one week of the disciplinary decision and notification.

The athlete and their family will receive consideration of the athlete's immediate head coach and Program Director and then the Athletic Director and Executive Director and third party if deemed necessary. If not resolved, the issue may be brought before the Board of Directors. The athlete will not be further disciplined or suffer any additional form of reprisal for the good faith use of the appeal procedure. Such a procedure is in place to protect and ensure that athletes' disciplinary problems and concerns are addressed.

### SAFESPORT

The SSWSC has adopted and will enforce U.S. Ski & Snowboard Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policies (MAAPP) and provides education to club board members and staff members through the U.S. Center for SafeSport. Parent and age-appropriate athlete training may be found on the U.S. Ski & Snowboard SafeSport resource page <https://usskiandsnowboard.org/safesport-athlete-safety/safesport-resources>.

**All athletes aged 18 or older, or who turn 18 during the season, must be members of U.S. Ski & Snowboard or must complete the SafeSport training and NCSI background check that are requirements of U.S. Ski & Snowboard membership.**

### EQUIPMENT

#### SSWSC Helmet Policy

Helmets are required as per U.S. Ski & Snowboard, USASA and FIS rules and Steamboat Ski Resort. SSWSC requires all SSWSC athletes and parent volunteers to wear helmets while skiing or riding as part of training in an SSWSC program with the exception of cross-country skiing. Helmets are required for all users of the SSWSC-Stevens Family Alpine Venue at Steamboat Ski Resort, including volunteers and spectators.

The SSWSC neither specifies nor recommends any particular helmet design and undertakes no responsibility or liability in connection with the requirement that helmets be utilized. It is the sole responsibility of the participant to select an appropriate helmet for safety and accident protection. The helmet used must be designed for the sport in question.

**CAUTION:** The protective qualities of all safety helmets are affected by age and use. Some older helmets and any helmets that have been damaged either in a fall or from some other impact may no longer provide sufficient protection - even if there are no visible indications of damage. SSWSC neither specifies nor makes any warranties as to the fitness for use of any particular safety helmet nor assumes any responsibilities or duties to any participant by requiring the use of a helmet.

## Athlete Equipment

Skiing or riding on appropriate equipment is important in successful participation in SSWSC programs. We provide assistance for families in selecting the right equipment for their children. We work with certain equipment professionals in town that offer quality, season-long rental packages and offer discounted purchase options of snow sports gear through fitting and purchase sessions in the fall. Contact your child's coach or program director for details.

## SSWSC TEAM UNIFORMS

SSWSC team jackets are provided to full season participants in U10 and older programs at the start of the season. These jackets are included with the athlete's registration and must be returned at the end of the season. There are limited quantities, and certain sizes will run out. Jackets are issued on a first-come, first-served basis. SSWSC has worked hard with its support partners to make this opportunity available to its members. 100% of the cost of team jackets are covered by support partners, not registration fees. All team jackets must have all support partner logos affixed to them and no additional logos or emblems may be applied to team jackets under any circumstance, without prior approval of the Executive Director of the SSWSC. Athletes are strongly encouraged to wear team jackets while training and at all race events (unless wearing a race suit). Athletes are required to wear the team jacket at all competition awards acceptance ceremonies, including when receiving awards. Team jackets must be cleaned and returned in good physical condition (no rips, tears, broken zippers, stains, or any other damage) at the end of the season, or replacement or repair costs may be charged. SSWSC team cycling jerseys are distributed to all cycling competitive team athletes. Athletes are encouraged to wear jerseys at competitions and out of town team travel. Additional SSWSC logo apparel may be available for purchase online at the [SSWSC Pro Shop](#).

## ATHLETE DROP-OFF AND PICKUP

It is important that athletes arrive ready to ski or snowboard at the published start time. Since groups may be skiing or riding at different parts of the training venue, a late arriving athlete may not be able to join their group, and coaches are under no obligation to wait for late arriving athletes. If you are running late, it is important to communicate with your coach. There will not be makeup training for athletes that miss training.

Drop-off and pickup locations are often crowded and busy. Please plan ahead. The parking area in front of the Howelsen Hill Lodge is for active loading and unloading only. Certain lanes require that a driver be with the car at all times, other lanes allow for up to five minutes to leave the car to drop-off or pick up items or kids.

There will be multiple drop-off locations at Howelsen Hill in order to reduce large congregations of athletes. Athletes should find their specific group, no mingling with other groups. Parents should remain with their car to minimize congregation in meeting areas.

Programs training at Steamboat Resort will communicate drop-off locations, meeting areas and times. The Sheraton, T-Bar, Northside Lot and Torian Plum areas may not be used for drop-off/pick-up.

## TRAVEL, TRANSPORTATION AND ACCOMMODATION RULES

A separate Travel Handbook explaining all travel related information is available to our traveling athletes on the SSWSC website or in the main office. Please review this handbook to make yourself aware of all travel policies. Any athlete competing at an event – even if they do not travel with the team or stay with the team – will be required to share in the cost of the coach's travel expenses.

## PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Parents can have as much of an impact on their children's sport experience as our coaching staff, if not more. For children to have a positive experience, good communication and understanding between the parent and coach, the athlete and coach, and the athlete and their parents is necessary. We expect all parties – athletes, coaches, and parents – to maintain a positive attitude and uphold the ideals of fair play and good sportsmanship. When we all work toward this together, it improves everyone's experience. In becoming a member of SSWSC, parents pledge to conduct themselves in a manner that honors the sport by demonstrating respect to athletes, caches, officials, public and fellow parents.

### **SSWSC parents shall:**

- SSWSC parents shall maintain high standards of moral and ethical conduct, which includes self-control and responsible behavior, consideration for the physical and emotional well-being of others, courtesy and good manners.
- The emphasis on winning should never be placed above the value of good sportsmanship, the concepts of good, positive behavior or the skills of the sport.
- Derogatory comments are unacceptable. Use positive reinforcement with athletes and adults alike. It should be remembered that criticism, once made, can never be retracted.
- SSWSC parents are always welcome to encourage their athletes through voice, as long as it is at an appropriate volume and intensity level so as not to disturb or distract any other athletes, coaches, officials and parents in training or competition at any time.
- SSWSC parents, like coaches, must always be aware of the tremendous influence they have on their athletes. They should always strive to be positive role models in dealing with young people, as well as with adults.
- SSWSC parents that are in the training or competition environment must always practice good behavior and never criticize, badger, harass, or threaten any athlete, coach, official or program.
- Rules of knowledge of one's sport must be respected and adhered to by all who participate, both in the letter and the spirit of the sport. Attempts to manipulate rules to take unfair advantage of an oversight, or to teach deliberate unsportsmanlike conduct, is considered unacceptable conduct.
- SSWSC as an organization holds itself to a sport-leading standard of conduct at all times. Therefore, parents are expected to conduct themselves at this higher standard in support of SSWSC's core values of Teamwork, Fun, Integrity, Achieve.



The success and development of an athlete relies on the positive interaction and communication of the Parent <> Athlete <> Coach <> Parent triangle. Parents should educate themselves with the rules of the sport, show interest and become involved by volunteering.

## **FACILITIES and OTHER POLICIES**

### **HOWELSEN HILL LOCKER ROOM, WAX FACILITY AND LODGE**

Athlete members of the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club have access to the storage and wax room on the first floor of the Howelsen Hill Lodge. By using the storage and wax room, the athlete agrees to abide by the following:

- The SSWSC has no changing facilities. Athletes will be expected to come dressed for practice or use public restrooms to change clothes.
- SSWSC members only in the storage and wax room area.
- Offices and work cage are off limits unless invited by a coach.
- All your equipment must be kept in designated areas – in cubbies, under benches, on shelves or in ski slots. Do not leave your belongings lying around - they will be lost or discarded.
- No snowboards, skis or gates may be placed against the Lodge walls.
- No snowboards or skis are allowed inside the Howelsen Hill Lodge except for in the storage room.
- Bring equipment in locker room through exterior entry door only, not through Lodge main entry.
- All trash must be placed in garbage containers.
- Waxing irons must be turned off after use and those under 12 years old must be supervised when using waxing irons. No waxing with fluorinated wax.
- Wax benches and floors must be swept after use.

### **WEATHER POLICIES**

All the disciplines of SSWSC take place outdoors. Athletes need to be prepared for frequently changing weather conditions. Training is rarely canceled, but the following are policies that might affect training:

**Lightning:** Lightning can occur any time of year, but is more likely in spring, summer and fall. If weather conditions and radars show likelihood of lightning, training will be canceled or suspended until conditions are safe. If lightning occurs during training, groups will seek a permanent building or vehicle. Training may resume 30 minutes after observable strike.

**Air Quality:** When smoke from wildfires is in the air, it is important to be vigilant monitoring Air Quality Index (AQI) conditions for the safety of our athletes and staff. Training could be canceled or modified depending on AQI numbers. SSWSC looks at [Purple Air Map](#) and the 10 min average.

AQI: 91-149 – modified training

AQI: 150-200 – modified training, not recommended for those with respiratory issues. No exertion recommended.

AQI: above 200 – canceled training

**Temperature:** If temperatures dip to -20 degrees Fahrenheit, training may be canceled or delayed for the safety of our athletes.

### Vaccination Policy and Testing

The SSWSC is dedicated to the health and safety of our athletes, coaches, and community. We have sought to comply fully with all county, state, and federal regulations and have established protocols that allow SSWSC athletes to excel while adhering to best practices.

Attached are the policies the SSWSC is following regarding positive tests, exposure, and team travel. The policies are based on the guidance provided by the CDC, U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee, U.S. Ski and Snowboard, the Colorado Department of Public Health, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. **The SSWSC will closely monitor changes to guidelines and will adjust this policy as necessary.** [Covid Policy](#)