

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES
ETHICAL BEHAVIOR AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST
METROPOLITAN SWIMMING, INC

Those who choose to serve Metropolitan Swimming, Inc (Metro), whether as volunteers or paid professionals, are held to a high standard of conduct. Those who serve Metropolitan Swimming, Inc. must do so without personal gain in order to avoid any institutional loss or embarrassment and to behave in such a way that the organization's trust and public confidence are enhanced. It is important to avoid any real conflict of interest.

While no set of guidelines can guarantee acceptable behavior, the principles that guide behavior in this area, is disclosure, non-participation in the decision making process where personal or family gain is a possibility, and a commitment to honor the confidentiality of organizational information. All conduct is founded on the individual's own sense of integrity. Any individual accepting the honor of serving Metropolitan Swimming, Inc. must accept the burden of public disclosure and public scrutiny.

In our complex society, the mix of volunteer work, business interests, governmental activity, and family relationships often creates potentially conflicting interests. What is required is disclosure of potential conflicting interests when they arise, and strict nonparticipation in any evaluation process relating to the matter in question.

The following seven items reflect specific expectations by Metropolitan Swimming, Inc. of people signing this agreement. These items cannot and do not however completely define what is acceptable. They are intended rather as guidelines and not a precise road map to what is acceptable conduct. Each individual must find his or her own way within this guidance.

1. A good faith effort must be exercised by those signing this statement to conduct the business of Metropolitan Swimming, Inc. in observance of both the spirit and letter of applicable federal and state laws.
2. Metropolitan Swimming, Inc. properties, services, opportunities, authority and influence are not to be used for private benefits.
3. All individuals who participate with Metropolitan Swimming, Inc. will disclose the nature and extent of an actual or potential conflict of interest when it occurs in the evaluation of an issue and will avoid evaluating or voting on the matter involved. This includes the award of contracts, the purchase of goods and services, the award of contracts for professional services, and the allocation of Metropolitan Swimming, Inc. resources for individual use.
4. Gifts, cash, travel, hotel accommodations, entertainment, or favors are neither to be given (except with full approval of the Board of Directors) nor received, except those of nominal value exchanged in the normal course of business. Gifts and favors of more than one hundred dollars (\$100) value should not ordinarily be accepted. If circumstances render it awkward to refuse such a gift, the donor should be thanked and told the gift is being accepted on behalf of and will be delivered to Metropolitan Swimming, Inc.

5. Expenses incurred in the furtherance of Metropolitan Swimming, Inc. business are to be reasonable, necessary and substantiated.
6. All are expected to exhibit honesty, loyalty, candor, and professional competence in their relationships with Metropolitan Swimming, Inc. and with each other.
7. Each individual has the responsibility to maintain the confidentiality of the organization this includes both proprietary and sensitive information.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT AND UNDERSTANDING

I acknowledge receipt and understanding of Metropolitan Swimming's Statement of Principles on Ethical Behavior and Conflict of Interest and I pledge my full support of the spirit and the letter of the requirements contained therein.

Print Name

Position/Committee

Signature

Date

Please Return to:

Metropolitan Swimming, Inc.
Metropolitan Office
99 Sheep Pasture Rd
Port Jefferson, NY 11777
Metro.office@metroswimming.org