



ACA | Canoe - Kayak - SUP - Raft - Rescue
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To all ACA athletes, parents, competitors, staff members, club coaches and volunteers:

It has recently come to my attention that within our paddling community, there still exists a culture of bullying, harassment, and unsportsmanlike conduct among our team. It goes without saying that this type of behavior will not be tolerated by the ACA. Being part of a team means working together to strive towards a common goal of achieving the best results possible. By not cooperating with teammates, coaches, and staff, not only do we put ourselves at a distinct disadvantage during competition but we also isolate those who are suffering the direct impact of such behavior. Simple words, texts, emails, social media posts, including snapchat, and any other type of verbal or electronic communications that put down, degrade, discriminate, make fun of, or in any way cause someone to feel ostracized from the team or group will result in the immediate suspension of the person or persons perpetrating these actions from the team and/or the ability to compete in all ACA events.

The ACA Code of Conduct specifically outlines the type of behavior ACA athletes, staff, and volunteers are expected to uphold. Appropriate actions will be made to ensure that every member of the ACA community feels safe. If the above mentioned behavior continues to happen, regardless of the level of athlete, staff, or volunteer, actions will be taken to ensure that they are removed from having the privilege of being part of the ACA community.

Across all disciplines, we are one team. We must work together to build each other up and not tear each other down. Remember that your words and your actions have consequences. You can change someone's life by offering words of encouragement and helping them achieve their potential or you can just as easily destroy someone's self-worth and rip apart the fabric of what holds a team together. A rising tide floats all boats. Remember that you can make a difference every single day. Moving forward, it is my expectation that the differences you make and the actions you take will be made with the intent of creating and developing a culture that allows for each person the best possible opportunity of achieving their potential.

Sincerely,

Morgan House
Director of High Performance & Competition