



## Club Equality Policy Statement

October 2017

Hitchin Swimming Club is committed to treat everyone equally regardless of age, level of ability or disability, gender (including gender reassignment), marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or any other relevant characteristic. Hitchin Swimming Club is an inclusive club and aims to provide a safe, enjoyable and friendly environment to allow all our members to fulfil their potential as competitive swimmers.

The Club will ensure that equality as stated in the club rules is incorporated in all aspects of its activities and also recognises and adopts the Sport England definition of Equality and Diversity in Sport:

*Sport England believes sporting opportunities should be open to all and are committed to:*

- *Developing a culture that enables and values everyone's full involvement*
- *Creating an environment in which everyone has opportunities to play, compete, officiate, coach, volunteer and run community sport*
- *Overcoming potential barriers for those wishing to play sport, particularly if they are from groups who are currently under-represented in sport*

The Club also seeks to fulfil the ASA's Equality and Diversity Policy Objectives which states:

*The Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) and its subsidiaries are fully committed to the principles and practice of equality of opportunity in all its functions: as an employer, membership organisation, awarding body, in its training and development of teachers and coaches; involvement with officials and administrators; as an advisor to swimming pool designers and operators and as a facilitator of the aquatic disciplines by all its members. It is responsible for ensuring that no job applicant, employee, volunteer, member, service user or person within its jurisdiction (together 'Stakeholders') are unlawfully discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation (together the 'Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010') or any other irrelevant characteristic'.*

*The ASA considers the aquatic disciplines to provide 'sport for all'. They can and should be made accessible to everyone, to the greatest extent possible'.*

The Club is committed to ensuring that everyone has the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from the threat of discrimination, intimidation, harassment and abuse.

All Club members have a responsibility to challenge discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.

The Club will deal with any incidents of discriminatory behaviour seriously, in accordance to the club disciplinary procedures.

The full ASA Equality Policy and further useful information and equality guidance can be found at [www.swimming.org](http://www.swimming.org)