

Greenwich Royals Swimming Club

CODE OF CONDUCT – 2024

(incorporating Swim England Wavepower 2024)

PARENTS/CARERS/GUARDIANS

As a registered Swim England Member, and parent/guardian of a Member (under 18 years of age) at the Club, or a parent/guardian of a Club Member (under 18 years of age) but not a registered Swim England Member yourself, you are required to agree to this code of conduct.

Parents/carers/guardians of Greenwich Royals Swimming Club (GRSC) Members agree to abide by this code of conduct and any subsequent version when you complete the GRSC Membership Form.

Objectives:

To make the parents/ guardians of Greenwich Royals Swimming Club ("GRSC") members aware of their rights and responsibilities.

- Every member should aim to achieve as much as they can while having fun and staying safe.
- GRSC is both competitive and friendly. Nobody should be made to feel unhappy, frightened or embarrassed.
- Everyone associated with the club should at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others, as well as safety and welfare of themselves.
- GRSC members are encouraged to be open at all times and to share any safeguarding concerns or complaints with one of the Club's Welfare Officers.

As a parent/carer/guardian of a club member we understand you have the right to:

1. Be assured that your child is safeguarded at all times during activity with the club.
2. Know how to access the club policies, rules and procedures including the club complaints process and who to contact.
3. Know who the Welfare Officer(s) is/are and how to contact them.
4. Be informed of Wavepower and appropriate safeguarding and welfare reporting procedures.
5. Know that any concerns about your child's welfare will be listened to and responded to.
6. Know that anyone training or looking after your child at a club activity has the appropriate qualifications, checks and training.
7. Be informed of any problems or concerns relating to your child raised by their coach.
8. Know the procedure should your child be involved in an accident or become injured.
9. Provide your consent or otherwise for photography and trips away.
10. Make a complaint to the club committee or Welfare Officer (as appropriate).

As a parent/carer/guardian of a club member we expect you to:

ESSENTIALS

1. Make sure your child has the correct club kit for training and competitions. All personal property should be identified by the swimmer's name.
2. Make sure your child has enough appropriate food and drink, before and during training and competitions, making sure you follow any guidelines on nutrition that have been provided.
3. Ensure your child arrives for the start of a training session in good time i.e. is on poolside and ready 10-15 minutes before a session is due to begin.
4. Ensure you arrive to pick up your child before a session or competition is due to finish.
5. Let the club know if you're running late to collect your child, if your child is going home with someone else or you have made alternative arrangements.

6. Not enter poolside or interrupt training or competitions unless in an emergency situation or invited to do so by the teacher or coach.
7. Complete all consent, contact and medical forms and update us immediately if anything changes.
8. Respect the decisions made by your child's coach or teacher but understand you have the right to raise any concerns regarding your child. We will arrange a mutually convenient time so you can talk to us.
9. Remember that children get a wide range of benefits from participating in one of our sports, including making friends, having regular exercise and developing new skills. It's not all about winning.
10. Adhere to any policies or procedures issued/ re-issued by the Club.
11. Ensure your child fully understands their Code of Conduct, helping and encouraging them to take responsibility for their performance and behaviour.
12. Talk to your child and ensure they understand the rules of the club and the sport.

BEHAVIOUR

1. Behave positively as a spectator at training or competitions and treat all others with respect at all times. Including;
 - respect other members, other parents/ guardians, committee members, coaches/ teachers and all volunteer helpers at the club
 - respect the children and adults competing for other teams at competitions.
 - publicly accept the officials' judgments.
2. Give encouragement to your child and tell them when they've done well and provide support when they are struggling. Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.
3. Never 'belittle' your child, or others, for losing or for making mistakes.
4. Respect anyone competing for other teams at competitions.
5. Respect and celebrate differences in the club and not discriminate against anyone else on the grounds of gender, race, sexual orientation, faith, ability, or any other relevant characteristic.

6. Understand that the use of abusive or inappropriate language, bullying, physical violence or any other behaviour which hurts others will not be tolerated at the club.
7. Understand that poor behaviour by you or your child may result in the club taking disciplinary action against you. Any behaviour which alleges a criminal offence will be reported to police by the club.
8. Talk to your child and ensure they understand the rules of the club and the sport.
9. Ensure your child fully understands their Code of Conduct, helping and encouraging them to take responsibility for their performance and behaviour.
10. WhatsApp group conduct – each squad has a group in which they can communicate with their coach for practical information, i.e. sharing training times, gala information, etc. Please remember:
 - that these groups are not chat rooms or personal forums,
 - group members have joined to ensure a communication channel with the coach/club,
 - access to other members' personal contact data is not to be abused by using the group for purposes other than which those members have signed up to,
 - Other members' personal contact data is not to be shared with others without their consent.

In addition you are expected to

1. Actively support the club by either helping with the running of the club and/ or participating in club activities.
2. Help your child enjoy the sport and perform to the best of their ability.
3. Encourage your child to take part in swimming but never force them to do so.
4. Be supportive and not intrusive, trust the coaches and do not try to interfere with a session or competition. Refrain from communicating with your swimmer(s) during a training session; let the coach do the coaching.
5. Be patient with your child's progress; understand that everyone develops differently and that the 'journey to the top' can be a long one.
6. Refrain from criticising a coach or teacher in the presence of others; recognising the bond between swimmers and their teacher/ coach is important and should not be undermined.

7. If necessary, discuss any concerns that you may have regarding your child's development with the coach or teacher, at a mutually agreed and convenient time.
8. Check the arrangements/ timings of any competitions or events that your child has entered e.g. location, requirements to sign-in for a competition, warm-up times, event schedule etc.
9. Inform the coach or Team Manager as soon as is practically possible if your child cannot compete or is going to be late for an event they have entered or have been chosen to represent the Club.

SAFEGUARDING AT COMPETITIVE EVENTS

All Clubs adhere to Swim England's Safeguarding policy to ensure the correct safeguarding policies are followed. If this is not followed, it compromises the safety of ALL swimmers at the event.

FOR SWIMMERS ATTENDING THE EVENT

Parents/carers/guardians - please discuss with your swimmers to ensure they follow & understand the safeguarding information below:

1. When you arrive at the event for each session, please find your Team Manager immediately (or Coach if Team Manager is unavailable), who will ensure you are marked as Arrived on the event's Team Register.
2. You must speak to a Team Manager (TM) before leaving the poolside and/or venue for any reason.
3. Your TM or Coach must know where you are at all times:
 - for your safety
 - to ensure you are not leaving poolside if you should be preparing for your next race
4. Swimmers – it is your responsibility to check what time you are needed back at poolside, and to be there on time to prepare for your next race.
5. If you are leaving the event session or venue, please find your Team Manager (or Coach if Team Manager is unavailable); you must inform the Team Manager/Coach that you are leaving, and who you are leaving with. The Team Manager will ensure you are marked as Leaving on the event's Team Register.
6. Mobile phones and/or devices are NOT allowed to be used under any circumstances in a changing room area during Swim England regulated activity. All use of mobile devices in a changing area will be reported to the GRSC Welfare Team and the event venue.
7. Poolside, no photos or videos are allowed to be taken under any circumstances.

FOR PARENTS/CARERS/GUARDIANS ATTENDING THE EVENT

GRSC has a safeguarding responsibility to ALL swimmers attending the event, not just our own members. Therefore, please note:

1. It is your responsibility to ensure your swimmer has read and understood the above safeguarding policies, prior to the event.
2. Unless there is an emergency situation:
 - you are only allowed poolside if you are an official volunteer for this event AND you have a valid GRSC DBS certificate (if required for the volunteer position);
 - parents/carers/guardians are not allowed into the changing areas whilst children are changing.
 - if you attend the poolside or changing areas, you will politely be asked to leave.
3. If there is anything important you need to discuss with the GRSC Team at this event, please message them and they will contact you or your swimmer as necessary.

CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

Breaches of this Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action being taken against you by the club committee and any behaviour which may be a criminal offence will be reported to Police and any other relevant authority, by the club. This may result in your membership being terminated.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/CARER/GUARDIAN

PRINTED NAME

DATE: