



SUPPORT POLICY

Introduction

Durham City Aquatics is keen to be inclusive and to support our swimmers if they or their family encounter financial hardship. The Club operates on a non-profit basis, recognising its social as well as fiscal responsibilities. Given the turbulent economic climate and continued cost of living crisis the committee have agreed to operate a Support Fund to support our members and their families and enable our swimmers to continue training even during periods of financial hardship.

The committee recognises that this fund is only possible should our financial position enable funds to be allocated to it and so long as our fundraising efforts are successful enough to positively contribute.

The Support Fund

The Support Fund will operate under the following guidelines:

- This fund is designed to be of temporary support, to help bridge the gap whilst families explore local Trusts, Charities, and other agencies to financially support the swimmer's fees.
- To be eligible to apply for funding under the Support Policy, swimmers must have been a member of the Club for a minimum of three months and demonstrated a commitment to the Club having regularly attended sessions.

If the Club receives multiple applications for funding, or funds are limited, the length of membership may determine priority.

If the Support Fund has been exhausted and the Club is deemed to be running with minimum reserves, no funding may be available.

What is Available?

- Support would be available for a maximum of 6 months or when the funds run out, whichever is the soonest, for up to two swimmers per family. The application would be reviewed after 3 months.
- An application for funding can only be applied for once per swimmer, with each application considered on a case-by-case basis.
- A reduction of monthly fees by up to 50% is available. Funds may also be used for other swimming related expenditure e.g. Swim England fees, annual membership fees, competition entry fees, annual camp costs or training equipment costs and will not normally exceed £300 in total.
- The committee may also consider support other than financial which may be to provide equipment or waive fees to internal galas.

How to Apply

Applications to the Support Fund must be made in writing to the Club Chair or Club Treasurer. All applications will be considered and dealt with confidentially by the Committee for funding under the Support Policy.

If approved, the Treasurer will make the necessary adjustments on Xero to ensure the correct fees are charged.

If approved, the start and finish time of the fund will be agreed and provided in writing to the family.

Appendix 1: Application Form

Application for Durham City Aquatics Support Fund

Durham City Aquatics operates a hardship fund to support members who would otherwise not be able to take part in activities provided by the Club. The funds are limited but each request will be considered on its own merits. Conditions may be imposed on any funds granted and not all applications may be successful.

Please complete this form as fully as possible for each request and send to dca.sarahjudson@gmail.com

Item to be subsidised (e.g. Kit/Gala/Subs/Travel/Accommodation)

Item/Event:

	From	To
Date of event (if applicable):		

Member name: _____

Squad:

Total cost of event/item:	
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Total cost of event/term:	
Total you can contribute:	

Total requested from fund:	
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Reason for request

Reason for request:

Parent/Guardian/Member Name	Signature
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Parent/Guardian/Member Name	Signature

Evidence seen / notes

Evidence seen / notes

Coach signature _____ **Exec signature** _____

<p>_____ Teacher Signature</p>	<p>_____ ERSC Signature</p>
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Completed forms should be treated as confidential
Completed forms should be retained by the Treasurer