

Code of conduct requirements for parents and guardians from all disciplines

As a registered Swim England Member and parent/guardian of a Member (under 18 years of age) at Seagulls Swimming Club (hereafter '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. You must understand that these are requirements (not guidelines) and the possible actions that may be taken against you or your swimmer. If you have any questions regarding the contents, please contact the head coach or welfare officers, and we will be pleased to discuss this further.

Maintaining your swimmer's membership constitutes acceptance of this code of conduct. Should you not accept this code of conduct, you may cancel your membership without penalty up to 1st February 2025. We may amend this Code of Conduct occasionally without prior notice. When we materially change this document, we will update the version date at the bottom of this page. The amendment will take effect once the revised Code of Conduct is available via a link on our homepage, www.seagullsswimming.club. You are advised to check our website regularly for any amendments (but amendments will not be made retrospectively). For significant changes to this notice, we will try to give you reasonable notice unless we are prevented from doing so.

As a parent/guardian, you have the right to:

- Be assured that your child is safeguarded at all times during activity with the club.
- Know who the Welfare Officer(s) is/are and how to contact them.
- Be informed of Wavepower and appropriate safeguarding and welfare reporting procedures.
- Know that any concerns about your child's welfare will be listened to and responded to.
- Know that anyone training or looking after your child at a club activity has the appropriate qualifications, checks and training.
- Be informed of any problems or concerns relating to your child raised by their coach.
- Know how to access the club policies, rules and procedures, including the Club complaints process and who to contact.
- Provide your consent or otherwise for photography and trips away.

As a parent/guardian of a Club Member (under 18 years of age), we expect you to:

- Make sure your child has the right kit for training and competitions.
- Ensure your child arrives at sessions on time and is picked up promptly.
- Let the club know if you're running late to collect your child, if your child is going home with someone else, or if you have made alternative arrangements.

- Complete all consent, contact and medical forms and update us immediately if anything changes.
- Respect the decisions made by your child's coach but understand that you have the right to raise any concerns regarding your child. We will arrange a mutually convenient time so you can talk to us. Details of the club's Welfare Officer are on the Seagulls website.
- Remember that children get a wide range of benefits from participating in one of our sports, including making friends, exercising regularly, and developing new skills. It's not all about winning.
- Not enter poolside or interrupt training or competitions unless in an emergency.
- Talk to your child and ensure they understand the club and sport rules.
- Ensure your child understands the Athlete Code of Conduct.
- Complete and return the Medical Information form, as requested by the club, detailing any health conditions/concerns relevant to your child on the consent form. Any changes in your child's health should be reported to the coach prior to coaching sessions and to the membership secretary where necessary. Ensure the club has up-to-date contact details for you and any alternative person.
- Deliver and collect your child from the poolside. Parental responsibility is in place until the swimmers enter the poolside and resumes as soon as they leave the poolside and enter the changing rooms. If you decide that your child is to be collected elsewhere, you indemnify the club from any responsibility.
- Deliver and collect your child punctually to and from coaching sessions/swim meets. Please inform a member of the committee or coaching staff if there is an unavoidable problem. If the club changes your child's lane and training times, please remember that the change is to provide appropriate levels of training and enable your child to progress. It should be facilitated and always encouraged.
- Inform the coach before a session if your child is to be collected early from a coaching session/meet and if so by whom.
- Respect that the club is administered by volunteers who generously give up their time. Behave responsibly as a spectator at training/meets and treat swimmers, coaches, committee members, and parents of yours and other clubs with due respect, meeting Swim England's commitment to equality.
- Do not use inappropriate language within the club environment and show appreciation and support for your child and all the team members.
- Ensure your child's hydration and nutritional needs are met and listen to the club coach's advice.
- Support the club coach and committee appropriately and raise any concerns you have appropriately.
- Only enter the training area if requested or in an emergency.
- Most of all, help your child enjoy the sport and achieve to the best of their ability.

We expect certain standards of behaviour from all club members and parents/ guardians/ grandparents.

By agreeing to this Code of Conduct, you agree to:

- Behave positively as a spectator at training or competitions and treat others with respect.
- Give encouragement to your child well and provide support when they are struggling.
- 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.
- Respect anyone competing for other teams at competitions.
- Respect all volunteers, committee members, coaches and teachers at the club.
- 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.

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 the Police and any other relevant authority by the club.

Disciplinary action

Failure to comply with these codes could result in action being taken against parents to protect the welfare of swimmers, parents, coaching staff or volunteers. Further details can be found in our Behaviour Policy. However, the following disciplinary action can be taken against parents or their swimmer:

1. Written warning.
2. Temporary exclusion.
3. Membership withdrawal.

The Committee can, if necessary, withdraw a swimmer's membership based solely on the conduct of their parent or parents — a decision not taken lightly but made in the interests of the safety and well-being of the swimmers and the club.

The head coach or welfare officer may bypass the verbal or written warning stages when an initial incident is considered severe. In these cases, the incident may be referred to the Committee to consider and possibly implement a temporary exclusion or a permanent membership withdrawal.

Serious incidents will be reported to Swim England following their guidelines.

The parent has a right to:

1. If they feel the club or a member is not acting appropriately according to Swim England / club rules and regulations, they can complain to the club. The club welfare officer can provide details of how to do this.
2. Make a complaint on behalf of their child to the Swim England office of judicial administration.