

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

A responsible sports coach helps the development of individuals through improving their performance. This is achieved by:

- Identifying and meeting the needs of individuals.
- Improving performance through a progressive programme of safe, guided practice, measured performance and / or competition.
- Creating an environment in which individuals are motivated to maintain participation and improve performance.

Coaches should comply with the principals of good ethical practice listed below.

- Coaches must abide by the Scottish Swimming and Club Child Protection Policies, be a member of Scottish Swimming and the current PVG scheme.
- Coaches must respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and treat everyone equally within the context of their sport.
- Coaches must place the well-being and safety of the performer above the development of performance. They should follow all guidelines laid down by the sport's governing body and hold appropriate insurance cover.
- Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with performers (especially children), based on mutual trust and respect. Coaches must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward. In particular, coaches must not use their position to establish or pursue a sexual or improper relationship with an athlete or someone close to them.
- Coaches must encourage and guide performers to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Coaches should hold relevant, recommended, and up to date and nationally recognised governing body qualifications.
- Coaches must ensure the activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual.
- Coaches should, at the outset, clarify with performers (and where appropriate with their parents) exactly what is expected of them and what performers are entitled to expect from their coach. A contract may sometimes be appropriate.
- Coaches should co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, officials, sport scientists, doctors and physiotherapists) in the best interest of the performer.
- Coaches should always promote the positive aspects of their sport (e.g. fair play) and never condone rule violations or the use of prohibited substances.
- Coaches must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.

I agree to abide by the above principles.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Position: _____