



## **CABSC CHANGING ROOM POLICY**

In accordance with leisure centre policies, parents of swimmers who are 8 and under should remain on the premises or in the viewing areas whilst their child is swimming and also be responsible for their supervision in the changing rooms.

### **Responsibility before, during and after a training session**

CABSC takes full responsibility for the swimmers, under the Duty of Care to Safeguard Children, whilst they are on poolside or in the water during training sessions. We also recognise that we have a duty of care for swimmers before, during and after training or competition i.e. when they leave poolside and are in the changing areas and toilets.

During a training session, if a swimmer leaves the pool area, (to go to the toilet for example) they should tell the coach or teacher. If the swimmer fails to return in a reasonable time or appears upset on leaving the poolside the coach or teacher should request a suitable official to check on them. It is best practice for two persons to look for the swimmer (the second person could be a senior swimmer or a parent).

If a swimmer leaves the training session before the scheduled end time for any reason, the coach or teacher will advise that they get changed and return to poolside to wait to be collected by a parent or guardian. Parents and swimmers should also follow CABSC Guidelines for the Safe Collection of Swimmers after Training Sessions.

If a complaint is received about an incident that has occurred in the changing room between a member of the club and any other person, the club has a duty to act upon that concern as appropriate, following the guidance in section 2.2 (pp. 39–50). If the incident involves a person not associated with the club, the pool manager should be made aware and consideration given as to whether the statutory agencies need informing.

Swimmers should ensure that their behaviour and personal conduct is of the highest standard during their training sessions and during competition at other facilities where they are representing the Club. Bad behaviour of any description is not tolerated at any time and any incidents will be dealt with in accordance with the Club Disciplinary Procedures.

It is important to note that if mobile phones are taken into changing rooms, the facility to take photos must **not** be used.

### **Responsibility in changing areas/toilets**

The ASA advise that parents of older swimmers should be discouraged from being in the changing rooms, even in a supervisory capacity whilst swimmers are changing, as this could place them at risk of allegation and the swimmers at risk of harm. Exceptions are swimmers under 8 years as previously mentioned, and any swimmers requiring specific additional assistance. In this case the parent must be the same gender as the child unless family changing facilities are available.

However we recognise that in an emergency, for example if a swimmer is taken ill, parents, coaches, lifeguards or CABSC staff may have to enter the changing areas to assist as necessary.

- Parents/guardians should be aware that sometimes changing facilities may be shared with members of the public.
- Swimmers should use the correct changing areas as appropriate for their gender.
- Swimmers should ensure that their behaviour and personal conduct is of a high standard at all times, both in and out of the pool, but especially when they are unsupervised in the changing areas/toilets.
- Masters (adult) members will be encouraged to use their own area wherever possible, when changing at the same time as children. Where this is not possible adults are to change in an appropriate fashion, and to be mindful that they are changing with children.