



**Davenport Dolphins Swimming Club**  
Affiliated to East Midlands Region & Northamptonshire ASA

[www.davenportdolphins.co.uk](http://www.davenportdolphins.co.uk)

Dear Swimmers (and parents/carers),

It has been fantastic having you all back in the pool over the last couple of weeks and we would like to thank you all for your help in allowing our return to training to run so smoothly. The vast majority of you have followed the new guidelines really carefully and made Davenport Dolphins a fun and safe place to be during these uncertain times.

Unfortunately, there have been one or two occasions when swimmers (predominantly in the older squads) have neglected to follow our 'Return to Swim' policy in its entirety and, as such, we just have a couple of areas of concern:

Firstly, prior to some training sessions there has been a lack of adherence to social distancing measures (despite continued reminders); the entrance area to the pool is an area of potential congregation between squad bubbles. In light of this, and the new stricter government guidelines, Davenport Dolphins Swimming Club will be introducing a new mandatory face covering policy. As of Monday 14th September (you may wish to start using face coverings straight away), all swimmers aged 11 and over **MUST** wear a face covering whilst waiting to enter the pool and until they have reached their designated lane area poolside (this rule also applies to poolside volunteers if they feel they are not able to maintain social distancing). In addition, there will be cone markers placed outside the entry area to the pool to enable swimmers to maintain their distance whilst waiting (siblings in the same training sessions will be able to wait together). In the event that our extra cones do not arrive in time, there will temporary chalk markings in place.

If you are unable to wear a face covering due to medical reasons can we please ask that you contact [ddscovid19@gmail.com](mailto:ddscovid19@gmail.com) or [ddscteamanager@gmail.com](mailto:ddscteamanager@gmail.com) and we will suggest alternatives ways for you to safely wait for your session.

Secondly, there are still swimmers who (despite having signed a return to training declaration), maintain that they are unaware of the changing procedures. Can we take this opportunity to remind you of the following: ALL swimmers must come 'beach ready' under their outer wear; girls your costumes should be fully on and you should not be stopping to pull up straps pool side. At the end of a training session, swimmers (with the exception of those Aqua swimmers who wish to use the changing facilities) may quickly towel dry but then **MUST** immediately put on outside clothing and leave the poolside area. It is recommended that you wear loose fitting outer clothing and sliders/flipflops rather than lace-up trainers.

We are still seeing swimmers trying to fully change poolside under towels. Not only is this unacceptable in terms of child protection policies, it prolongs the amount of contact between different households in an indoor space. Whilst we appreciate that this current arrangement is not ideal, especially for those of you who live outside of Davenport, the alternative is that DLC and Everyone Active stop us from training. If there are extenuating circumstances that require you to use the disabled change area or the toilet before you leave please speak to a poolside volunteer in advance.

We have been informed by 1 or 2 swimmers that they are unable to sanitise their hands on entry to the pool due to skin conditions. Unfortunately, all swimmers must sanitise their hands before training, so we

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ask that if you suffer from eczema or a similar skin complaint that you either bring along your own hand sanitiser (that you use on entry) or a prescription moisturiser that you can use after sanitising.

We also need to remind you that it is VITAL that personal equipment (especially drinking bottles) is clearly named. There are many swimmers with identical or similar drinking bottles and this is an area of high cross-contamination risk. As per our policy, any unnamed drinking bottles left behind at the end of a session will likely be disposed of to minimise risk. Coach Rupert has already picked up 10 unnamed bottles in less than a week; this is not something that he should have to do and, as of Sunday (13th), all of these bottles will be disposed of and no further unnamed bottles will be kept. If you believe that one of these bottles belongs to you, please ask your squad coach.

Lastly, just a reminder that the Government have updated their travel advice. Crete, Lesvos, Mykonos, Santorini, Serifos, Tinos, and Zakynthos have been removed from travel corridor list, therefore people arriving home from these destinations are now expected to self-isolate for 14 days from their return. Swimmers should not be attending any training sessions during this time.

This advice is being kept under constant review so anyone travelling abroad should consult the Government website for further advice.

AQUA SQUAD: A quick note to remind you that whilst all lanes swim clockwise, odd lanes start and finish at the beach area end and even numbered lanes at the opposite end – thank you.

If you have further questions or concerns please contact [ddscovid19@gmail.com](mailto:ddscovid19@gmail.com).

Yours Sincerely,

DDSC COVID Team and DDSC Committee Members

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