

## Code of conduct requirements for parents from all disciplines

The purpose of this document is to establish a minimum standard of behaviour by parents (including carers or other responsible adult) both on and off poolside. In order to maintain the club's reputation of providing a friendly, safe and disciplined environment for everyone's wellbeing, all parents must agree to abide by the rules contained in this Code of Conduct. The word "swimmers" when mentioned in this Code of Conduct includes water polo players and synchro members. It is important that you understand that these are requirements (not guidelines) and you understand the possible sanctions 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.

We may amend this Code of Conduct from time to time without prior notice. When we change this document in a material way, 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](http://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.

### Parents are expected to:

1. Complete and return the Medical Information form as requested by the club and detail any health conditions / concerns relevant to your child on the consent form. Any changes in the state of your child's health should be reported to the coach prior to coaching sessions and the membership secretary where necessary. Ensure the club has up to date contact details for you and any alternative person.
2. Deliver and collect your child from poolside. Parental responsibility is in place until the swimmers enters poolside and resumes as soon as the swimmers leave poolside and enter the changing rooms. If you decide that your child is to be collected elsewhere, then by doing so you indemnify the club from any responsibility.
3. 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/or training times, please remember the change is to provide appropriate levels of training and enable your child to progress and should be facilitated and encouraged at all times.
4. Ensure your child is properly and adequately attired for the training session/events including all required equipment.
5. Inform the coach before a session if your child is to be collected early from a coaching

session/meet and if so by whom.

6. Encourage your child to obey rules and teach them that they can only do their best.
7. 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 the Swim England commitment to equality.
8. Do not use inappropriate language within the club environment and show appreciation and support for your child and all the team members.
9. Ensure your child's needs are met in terms of hydration & nutritional needs and listen to advice given from the club coach.
10. Support the club coach and committee appropriately and raise any concerns you have in an appropriate manner. Details of the club Welfare Officer can be found on the Seagulls website and on the club board.
11. Do not enter poolside unless requested to do so or in an emergency.
12. Most of all, help your child enjoy the sport and achieve to the best of their ability.

### The club will undertake to:

1. Inform you at once if your child is ill and ensure their wellbeing until you are able to collect him / her.
2. Ensure good safeguarding guidelines are followed to keep your child safe.
3. Ensure all activities are properly supervised / taught / coached and consent is obtained for any activity outside of that previously agreed.

### Sanctions

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. A verbal warning is generally the first stage. This is usually issued by the head coach or a welfare officer. A verbal warning will be followed by a confirmation email from the Committee detailing the reasons for the warning. If breaches of the code of conduct continue, 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 required, withdraw the membership of a swimmer - a decision not taken lightly, but taken in the interests of the safety and well-being of the swimmers and club as a whole.

Where an initial incident is considered serious, the head coach or welfare officer may choose to bypass the stages of verbal or written warnings. 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 the Swim England in accordance with their guidelines.

The parent has a right to:

1. Make a complaint to the club if they feel the club or a member of the club is not acting appropriate to Swim England / club rules and regulations. Details of how to do this can be obtained from the club Welfare Officer.
2. Make a complaint on behalf of their child to the Swim England office of judicial administration.