



## **Changing Room Policy**

This policy is based on the Swim England (SE) Changing Room Policy guidelines set out in the Swim England Wavepower, 2016/19 document.

### **1. General**

**1.1** The Changing Rooms at Hutton Moor, Churchill, Sidcot and Brean Leisure Centre's offer separate changing facilities for males and females

### **2. Purpose**

**2.1** To clarify how parents / carers and swimming club members are to exercise their duty of care to safeguard swimmers in swimming pool changing rooms.

**2.2** The Club's duty of care is exercised by providing this policy

### **3. Duty of Care to Swimmers in Changing Facilities**

**3.1** Under the Duty of Care to Safeguard Children WSM SC (Weston-super-mare Swim Club) sets out its criteria for the well-being of swimmers in the changing rooms.

**3.2** Parents/Carers are responsible for ensuring that their child/children are made aware of the standard of behaviour expected by the club and set out in this policy.

**3.3** In order to exercise this duty of care, parents / carers of swimmers attending teaching sessions must remain within the pool complex for the duration of the swimming lesson.

**3.4** Parents / carers of swimmers swimming in the club's development/competitive squads may leave the complex as, whilst training, the swimmer is under the responsibility and duty of care of the coach. However, parents / carers must ensure that a designated adult returns to the pool complex promptly at the session finishing time to assume responsibility for their swimmer whilst changing.

### **4. Responsibility during a Club Session**

**4.1** Whilst a swimmer is training, she/he remains under the supervision and duty of care of the swimming coach or teacher.

**4.2** If a swimmer goes out of the pool area, the coach or teacher must be made aware of this.



**4.3** If the swimmer fails to return within a reasonable time or appeared upset when leaving poolside, the coach will request that two persons leave poolside to find the swimmer. These two persons could be a Swimming Club Committee member, another parent or an older swimmer.

**4.4** If the club receives a complaint about any incident that has occurred between a swimmer and any other person, the club will:-

- Investigate the matter if the other person is a club member and take the appropriate action under the Club's rules. The club has the power to suspend swimmers or terminate membership.
- Inform the pool manager should the incident involve a member of the public.

## **5. Conduct of Swimmers Using Changing Facilities.**

**5.1** All swimmers are to use the changing rooms to get ready for their sessions, and not to get changed on poolside.

**5.2** WSM SC has high expectations of its swimmers and requires them to abide by the code of conduct which they have signed

**5.3** Any swimmer found to have breached the code of conduct will be dealt with under the Club's Rules and may be suspended or have their membership terminated.

**5.4** All swimmers are to place their belongings in the lockers provided. The Club and the Leisure Centres cannot accept responsibility for any items lost or stolen – do not bring valuable items to the pool.

## **6. Conduct of WSM SC, Parents and Carers whilst Swimmers are using Changing Facilities**

**6.1** All parents should be in the pool complex whilst their swimmer is changing.

**6.2** WSM SC accepts and will follow the advice of the SE and will not supervise changing facilities as this could place them and children at risk of harm or allegation.

**6.3** Swim England do not advise any adults to supervise changing facilities for the same reasons.

**6.4** Parents, therefore, should not be in the changing rooms whilst swimmers are changing unless their child is younger than 8 years of age or requires specific help to change. Where a



parent assists their child in changing, the parent must be of the same gender as the child due to the separate changing facilities offered by the pools.

**6.5** Report incidents of bad behaviour immediately to a Teacher /Coach or to a club official or the Club's Welfare Officer.

