

## CHANGING ROOM POLICY

**OBJECTIVE:** Boldmere SC is committed to a club environment in which all children<sup>1</sup> participating in its activities have a safe and positive experience. In order to achieve this Boldmere SC has define responsibilities with regard to supervision of changing rooms – in line with ASA guidelines.

<sup>1</sup> A child is defined as any young person under the age of 18.

**Boldmere SC** Parents/Guardians and Swimmers should. . .

- 1) Be aware that changing facilities at venues may be shared by both club members and members of the general public.
- 2) Be aware that different venues have different types of changing room e.g. separate for male and female or changing villages.
- 3) Be aware of the following (from the **Boldmere SC** Swimmers Code of Conduct):  
*Swimmers must respect the pool staff, pool facilities, equipment and other pool users when attending training sessions or open meets/galas.*  
*When using/sharing facilities with the public or in the public eye, swimmers are expected to behave in a manner at all times that reflects the good name of the club.*  
*Swimmers must be on their best behaviour in changing rooms (before and after swimming) and respect others using them - as well as facilities.*
- 4) Be are aware that they should not be in the changing room while their swimmers are changing, unless the swimmer is of an age where help is required from parents or the swimmer requires additional specific assistance. This is usually 8 years of age (and under). In such circumstances the parent must be the same gender as the child, unless the facility has family changing facilities or is a “mixed changing village”.
- 5) Be aware that at events where other clubs are involved in a gala/meet the facilities are likely to be open to the general public at any time during the gala/meet.
- 6) The ASA do not advise adults supervise changing facilities as that places them and the children at risk of harm and allegation.
- 7) When the Changing Facilities are also accessible to non members for public swimming, the ASA do not recommend a club to conduct a search of the Changing Areas to look for a junior club member.
- 8) Be aware that that while a child is training she/he remains under the responsibility/ duty of care, of the person who is teaching/coaching him at that time on behalf of the club. If a swimmer goes out of the pool area, the coach/teacher should be made aware of this. If she/he fails to return in a reasonable time, or appears upset upon leaving the poolside the coach/teacher will request a suitable club official to ensure that he/she is all right. *“It is best practice for two persons to look for the swimmer (the second person could be a senior swimmer or another parent)”.* (ASA Guidelines)
- 9) Be aware that if a complaint is received that an incident has occurred in the changing room between a swimmer and any other person, the club has a duty to act upon that concern and investigate appropriately. If the incident involves a person not associated with the club, the pool manager will be made aware and consideration given as to whether the statutory agencies need informing.
- 10) Be aware that if a parent fails to collect a child at the end of a session, **Boldmere SC** Volunteers/Club Officers will follow the procedures described in the club’s Policy on the Late Collection of Children.

The Committee of **Boldmere SC** will review this policy at regular intervals to ensure that it is effective and is achieving its stated objectives.