

USE OF MOBILE PHONES/EMAIL BY TEACHERS/COACHES

OBJECTIVE: Electronic Communication between Teachers, Coaches and Swimmers must not put any young swimmer¹ at risk.

¹ A child is defined as any young person under the age of 18.

- 1) **Boldmere SC** Coaches and Teachers should not contact young swimmers by text or voice directly to their mobile phone. *(unless failure to do so would place the young swimmer at risk. Should such a communication be made by a **Boldmere SC** Coach/Teacher, then the Coach/Teacher concerned should notify the parents/guardian of the swimmer concerned - and the **Boldmere SC** Welfare Officer).* All other such communication should either be from the coach/teacher to the swimmer's parent(s) / guardian.
- 2) **Boldmere SC** Coaches of Squad swimmers may, *with the consent of the swimmer's parents guardian*, use text messaging or email to communicate with the swimmer *when they are away at a gala/meet/swim camp with **Boldmere SC***. Such text messages or emails must be restricted to information on *training, events, results etc.*
- 3) **Boldmere SC** Coaches and Teachers should not email young swimmers directly unless it is a *circular email to an undisclosed distribution list held by a nominated female club member who has undergone CRB checking and is authorised to hold the email addresses of young swimmers with the consent of each swimmer's parent or guardian.*
- 4) **Boldmere SC** Coaches and Teachers should not take or make calls whilst supervising young swimmers at a gala or in a teaching or training session. It is permissible for a coach to make or take a call during a swimming event providing she/he is not the sole supervisor of the swimmers and is not actively engaged in supervising swimmers at the time of the call.
- 5) **Boldmere SC** Coaches and Teachers who have mobile phones with camera facilities must not use their phones to take photographs of young swimmers.
- 6) In the event of a swimmer showing a **Boldmere SC** teacher or coach a text message or image which is considered to be inappropriate for a child to have, the teacher/coach must advise the **Boldmere SC** Welfare Officer.
- 7) This policy should be read in conjunction with the **Boldmere SC** Data Protection Policy.

This policy is compliant with a joint policy statement by the British Swimming Coaches and Teachers Association (BSCTA), Institute of Swimming (IoS), British Swimming and the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA). It is endorsed by the Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU).

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