

Crawley Swimming Club: Code of Conduct – Parents and Guardians



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As a parent/guardian of a member at Crawley Swimming Club, you play a vital role in our community. Whether you are a registered Swim England member yourself or not, you are required to agree to this code to ensure our club remains a safe, supportive, and successful environment for all.

Our Core Values in Action

We ask all parents to model the Crawley SC Core Values:

- **Safety first:** Ensure your own actions never compromise the safety or well-being of any member.
- **Always do the right thing:** Act with integrity and support the club's rules and safeguarding policies.
- **Give your best:** Support your child's development and the club's efforts with a positive attitude.
- **Honour the community:** Represent Crawley SC and the swimming community with pride at all events.
- **Respect fellow members:** Treat all swimmers, coaches, volunteers, officials, and other parents with courtesy and respect.
- **Enjoy the sport:** Help your child—and others—to focus on the joy of swimming and the achievement of their personal goals.
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Commitment to Volunteering & Meet Support

Crawley Swimming Club is run almost entirely by volunteers. To ensure the club's survival and your child's ability to compete, we rely on the active participation of our parent body.

- **Shared Responsibility:** It is an expectation of membership that parents from **every squad** contribute their time. We specifically require volunteers to train as **Officials** (Timekeepers/Judges) and **Team Managers (TMs)**. There are also many other volunteer roles required for Open Meets, many of which don't require any previous training.
- **The Meet Requirement:** When the club enters a competition, we are required to provide a specific number of Officials and TMs. This is a standard requirement for almost all swimming clubs.
- **Consequences of Non-Participation:** If we cannot meet our volunteer quotas:
 - The club may be banned from future invitations to that meet.
 - We may be forced to withdraw our entries entirely.
 - **Financial Impact:** In the event of a withdrawal due to lack of volunteers, the entry fees you have paid are typically **non-refundable** and will be lost.

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- Your squad may not be eligible to enter Club Champs (CC) if you cannot contribute to the organisation and running of CC
- **How to Start:** No prior experience is necessary, and training is provided. Please contact **Membership Secretary** to obtain your Swim England (SE) number and find out how you can support your child's squad.
- If you're unable to volunteer for personal reasons, please let the club know. We understand that circumstances change, and we may be able to offer other ways for you to contribute behind the scenes.

Your Rights as a Parent/Guardian

You have the right to:

- Be assured that your child is safeguarded at all times during club activities.
- Know who the Welfare Officer(s) are and how to contact them.
- Be informed of Wavepower and the procedures for reporting safeguarding or welfare concerns.
- Know that any concerns about your child's welfare will be listened to and acted upon.
- Ensure that anyone training or looking after your child has the appropriate qualifications, DBS checks, and training.
- Be informed by the coach of any problems or concerns relating to your child.
- Access club policies, including the complaints process, and know who to contact.

Expectations of Parents/Guardians

To help the club run safely and effectively, we expect you to:

- **Preparation:** Ensure your child has the correct kit and arrives on time for sessions and competitions.
- **Punctuality:** Pick up your child promptly. If you are running late or have made alternative transport arrangements, you must inform the club immediately.
- **Documentation:** Complete all consent, contact, and medical forms, and update the club immediately of any changes.
- **Professionalism:** Respect the decisions of the coaching team. If you have concerns, please arrange a mutually convenient time to discuss them outside of active pool time.
- **Boundaries:** Do not enter the poolside or interrupt training/competitions unless there is a genuine emergency.
- **Perspective:** Remember that swimming offers many benefits beyond winning, including friendship, health, and life skills. Encourage your child to give their best rather than focusing solely on results.

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Standards of Behaviour

By signing this code, you agree to:

- **Positive Spectating:** Be a positive role model at competitions and training. Treat all competitors, including those from other clubs, with respect.
- **Inclusion:** Respect and celebrate differences. We have zero tolerance for discrimination based on gender, race, sexual orientation, faith, or ability.
- **Zero Tolerance:** Abusive language, bullying, physical violence, or any behaviour that causes distress to others will not be tolerated.
- **Changing Room Policy:** Respect the privacy of all athletes. The use of mobile phones or any device capable of taking images is strictly prohibited in changing areas.
- **Safeguarding:** Report any incidents of unacceptable behaviour or concerns regarding a child's welfare to the Welfare Officer.

Breaches of the Code

Breaches of this Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action by the club committee. Serious misconduct or behaviour that may be a criminal offence will be reported to the Police and relevant authorities.

Important Note (Wavepower 2025): Under Swim England's Wavepower policy, continued or serious breaches of this code by a parent/guardian may result in the club being required to stop your child's continued participation in club activities to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the wider membership.

Digital Acknowledgement (via Swim Manager)

By checking this box, I confirm that I have read, understood, and agree to the terms of the Crawley Swimming Club Code of Conduct, and to abide by all Crawley Swimming Club policies, including but not limited to the Parent/Swimmer Guides, Safeguarding & Welfare Policy, Behaviour Policy, and Disputes/Complaints Policy. I understand how breaches of the Codes of Conduct are managed internally by the club.