



Health And Safety Policy

The Club undertakes to agree with pool operators on the arrangements necessary for ensuring the safety of Club members and volunteers at all times when pool hire occurs. The Pool Operator is obliged to follow the Health and Safety Executive Guidance on safety at Swimming pools (HSG179 (Fourth edition, published 2018) The Pool operator and The Club Health and Safety Officer will periodically agree a risk assessment that covers the hire sessions. The Club Health and Safety code follows the Swim England safety guidelines.

Such agreement will provide for the Pool Operator to provide for lifeguard cover. The detailed Health and Safety code that follows relates to the Clubs other responsibilities and includes general guidelines and rules for all Club members, volunteers, teachers, coaches, lifeguards and parents/carers who have defined responsibilities and duties which complement and reinforce or aid the Club's basic obligations.

Basic Obligations

The Pool Operator will ensure suitably qualified personnel will be present on each and every occasion and in appropriate numbers as circumstances dictate. Where this cannot be done adequately on any occasion no activities will take place. If there are insufficient lifeguards then the small pool will remain closed throughout the session. During Inter-Club Galas, Club Championships or other organised competitions, the above supervision will be supplemented by the Club, other clubs attending or by the hire facility.

Poolside Alarms, will be in the form of an electronic sounder or bell, if one of the alarms is sounded and the lights will flash. All Club representatives should take all instructions from the host venue lifeguards until the safe area is reached or the alarms are silenced.

Fire / Emergency Drill. The purpose of this will be to get all the members familiar with leaving the pool safely. The following will indicate this. If the alarm sounds during a session this will indicate a Fire / Emergency Drill. Everyone should leave the pool in a calm and orderly manner and assemble at the designated fire alarm assembly area indicated by the Head Teacher or Coach of the session or the Health and Safety Officer.

General Guidelines

Please ensure that changes to your own or family's medical conditions are regularly updated to the membership desk so that the Swim team are aware of any new issues as soon as possible.

Swimmers should not enter the water if they have the following:

- Vomiting, Diarrhoea, Infectious skin rashes, Open wounds, Ear infections
- If you or anyone in your party starts feeling unwell whilst swimming, please immediately inform one of the Pool lifeguards.
- Swimmers **should not** run on poolside, as the tiles are slippery when wet. Extra care should be taken if the swimmer does not fully place their feet firmly on the floor whilst walking.
- If you (or the vulnerable individual you support or any other children) have/had a fit in the previous week YOU MUST tell a SeniorTurtles Swim Teacher.
- If you (or the vulnerable individual you support or any other children) require taking medication in the event of an episode in the pool **YOU MUST HAVE** that medication at Poolside and YOU MUST tell a Senior Turtles Swim Teacher where it is located and how to administer it.
- No one should push anyone into the pool at any time.
- Dive-bombing is strictly prohibited.
- There should be no diving or persistent jumping in . Instructors may allow jumping in when in the course of a lesson in order to promote safe practices. Members should make a Senior Turtle swim teacher aware of any physical issue that may be exacerbated by activities such as diving.
- Adult members may jump into the water on first entry but only where it is safe to do so.

The Club will draw the attention of all its members to its Health and Safety Policy and will ensure that they are familiar with and understand the emergency procedures.

Parents/Carers

Parents/carers must take responsibility for their children or the vulnerable adult in their care. Parents carers must at all times remain responsible for any medication required by a member and for administering it as required and in addition if necessary make a Senior Turtles Swim Teacher aware of the location of the medication

Parents/Carers and Members with Epilepsy

Members diagnosed with Epilepsy whose epilepsy is not completely controlled (had recent or unpredictable seizures) will need a carer with them at poolside or in the water at all times. We would require the carer to;

- Be able to spot early signs that the member is approaching a seizure and know how to avert if possible.
- Be able to inform and advise qualified first aiders poolside.
- Be able to provide a full medical history if required.

- Be able to accompany the member to hospital if required.
- Be responsible for any emergency medication and know how to administer if required.

Use of Equipment

Turtles Training equipment should only be used by trained instructors or helpers and if members use equipment without supervision they do so at their own risk. Equipment once used should not be left at poolside but returned to the equipment trolley.

The hoist should only be operated by trained personnel. Anyone wanting to use the hoist should attract the attention of the lifeguard. Only pool staff should operate the hoist.

Written Operating Procedures

The Club will ensure that all Volunteers, Teaches, Coaches, Club Lifeguards are familiar with the Pool operators written statement or rules setting out the organisation and arrangements for ensuring users safety in normal and emergency conditions. The Club will ensure all Volunteers, Teaches, Coaches, Club Lifeguards are familiar with the club induction pack

Range of Activities Covered

The Clubs activities covered by this Safety Policy include the following:

- Club Sessions.
- Club Home Galas - for the duration of the Gala.
- Club Away Galas - for the duration of the Gala where the host Club have not provided adequate arrangements (see also the Supervision When Visiting Other Locations - Policy Statement).
- Open Competitions - the Club expect host clubs/organisations to provide adequate lifeguard facilities

Accident / Incident Reporting and Insurance

The Club will ensure a current and valid insurance policy is in operation. Details of this are available from the Club Secretary. All accidents or incidents will require a report verbally immediately following the occurrence and in writing subsequently from those responsible for the group or event in progress at the time of such accident / incident. This written report must be submitted to the Club Health and Safety Officer and the details entered in the venue's accident report book.

Updating the Health & Safety code

The Club will receive and update this Safety code as and when required by new circumstances, Pool Operator requirements or changes to current safety legislation.

The Swim England Health and Safety guidelines are currently unavailable on the Swim England web site. This policy will be reviewed when their guidelines are republished.

