



Bletchley & District Swim Club

Affiliated to the ASA South East Region and the Oxon & North Bucks ASA

Child Protection

The ASA has developed a child protection program which provides guide lines to all members who coach or are involved with young people. These guide lines include information to parents detailing their responsibilities and the measures to be taken if at any time they are concerned about how their children are cared for.

The Club Child Protection Policy

Objective

To implement the recommendations of the Child Protection Policy outlined in the publications of the ASA

Actions

1. To ensure that all coaches and Team Managers are aware of their responsibilities by identifying the areas of risk and sensitivity.
2. To encourage all members who may be involved in casual coaching to enroll on Child Protection/Working with Children Courses. Thereby acquiring the knowledge necessary to ensure child safety.
3. To ensure that parents and children are aware of the Clubs procedures for dealing with Grievances/Disputes and the methods of access to them.
4. To ensure that parents and children are aware of the ASA complaints procedures and the methods of access to them.
5. To ensure that parents and children are aware of the responsibilities of coaches and Team Managers and the limits of these responsibilities.





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Advice to Coaches/Team Managers/Parents and Helpers

The ASA has implemented the Child Protection Policy whose objective is to support and protect both the young people (under 18) and the adults who are involved with the club activities

The risks can be divided into two categories:

- Danger to children
- The risks to coaches and/or clubs who may be accused of negligence or impropriety.

It follows therefore that we as a club should be satisfied that any members of our club involved with children are competent and trustworthy.

1 Child Safety

1. All potential new pool side staff are to be CRB checked and attend an approved Child protection/Working with Children course, prior to helping on the pool side.
2. Specify the earliest arrival time before any event and the latest completion time. Do not leave children on their own after the event.
3. Ensure the venue is safe
4. Ensure that first aid facilities are readily available.
5. Ensure that parents know the start and finish times of any event.
6. Ensure that parents have details of your clubs Disputes/Complaints procedure

2. Coaches

1. Be aware of the clubs (Investigation/Dispute) procedures
2. Be aware of the ASA complaints procedure.
3. Try not to be alone with a child, if it can be avoided.
4. Be cautious in making physical contact with a child.
5. Be cautious in conversation with a child.
6. Be aware of the sensitivity of photography.





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We realise that most coaches/Team managers will have followed this advice by using their common sense. It is however, worth noting that the advice would apply to young people (under 18) when traveling to or competing in swimming competitions.

The club has an Disciplinary & Grievance procedure for children and parents who do not feel able to discuss any problems directly with the person or parent of a minor concerned. Details of this are contained in the attachment aimed at parents.

The club actively encourages and recommends that all Teaching/Coaching Staff should affiliate to the IOS.

Clubs Advise to parents

1. The club will specify the minimum age at which parental presence at training sessions is not required.
2. The club will specify the earliest arrival time before any training session and the latest completion time for your child to be picked up. The club will not leave children on their own after training session.
3. The club will specify the earliest arrival time before any event and the latest completion time. The club will not leave children on their own after the event.
4. Ensure the venue is safe.
5. Ensure that first aid facilities are readily available.
6. Ensure that parents know the start and finish times of any event.
7. Ensure that parents have details of your club (investigation/Dispute) procedures.
8. Ensure that parents have details of the ASA complaints procedure
9. Make aware procedures for use of photography and Video equipment.

Please be aware of the ASA Insurance cover for claims arising from alleged negligence or omission, and also, be aware of the limitations of this cover.

The sample letter below should be handed out to each parent when their child is being coached by a member of the Club.





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Dear Parent,

Your child is being coached, accompanied or supervised by a member of Bletchley & District Swim Club. Our objective is to make this time enjoyable, rewarding and safe. This objective is part of the program of Child Protection being implemented by the Club.

As a club we will do everything in our power to ensure we offer a safe and friendly environment for all our members, but we must advise you that the changing facilities at Leon Pool can be shared with the general public. As a parent/Guardian you may choose to stay with your child whilst they change, please can we ask that you only do this if the situation requires it, but please exercise caution in order to protect yourself and prevent an accidental one on one situation from occurring with another child.

Children under the age of 8 years must have a responsible person (someone over the age of 18) present for the duration of the training session/event.

The club responsibility starts when the child enters the changing facilities to get ready for swimming. I can appreciate that during the summer nights they may want to come down earlier to socialise, but it is impossible for the club to keep track of them when our coaching staff is on the poolside.

We would appreciate it if you will be aware of the earliest arrival time of any event to ensure that your child is not left alone until at least two people in charge arrive. Please will you also arrange for the collection or transport of your child at the end of the event at the correct time.

Please assist us by informing the individual teacher/coach concerned if your child has any special needs or problems.

If you have any issues about the experiences of your child during any of our training sessions/events, please discuss these with the person responsible. If you do not feel able to do this, please contact:-

Pauline Barry (Club Secretary) Sandra Quinton (Club Welfare Offer).

Phone: - Phone: -

Child line No



www.bletchleyswim.com