

***Taunton Deane  
Swimming***

***Age Potential  
Code of Conduct***

## **Foreword from the Management Committee:**

Over recent years the culture of sport has changed and standards of behaviour of both participants and staff are constantly in the spotlight. It is therefore vitally important that sporting organisations constantly examine and adapt their procedures to keep pace with this change.

In addition with the club continuing to flourish there is a need for swimmers to understand exactly what is expected of them both in terms of training regimes and personal behaviour and it is no longer acceptable nor desirable to leave that expectation to individual choice.

These rules are not intended to impose restrictions on members but are designed so that fairness and equality can be maintained with everyone knowing exactly what is expected of them. They will work alongside the Constitution and within the confines of both the Discipline Code and the Grievance Procedure which can all be found on the Club Website [www.tdswim.co.uk](http://www.tdswim.co.uk).

## **General Potential Squad Rules**

### **Behaviour and Personal Conduct**

Must at all times be of a high standard and reflect favourably on swimming and the Club. Communication in public or relevant group situations must always be appropriate and socially acceptable.

### **Consumption and Possession of Alcohol**

Consumption and possession of Alcohol is totally forbidden for all swimmers whilst engaged in swimming activities. This includes all training and competitions.

### **Smoking**

Smoking is not allowed by swimmers whilst undertaking swimming activities and this includes en route to meets in club transport, prior to training sessions or any team activities.

### **Illegal Drugs, Substances and Performance Enhancing Substances**

Illegal Drugs, Substances and Performance Enhancing Substances as prescribed by the ASA are all strictly forbidden. If you are approached, offered or given anything do not accept it but let either the Team Manager or a member of staff know immediately.

### **Medication**

It is important that all medical information is up to date and any known allergies must be included.

### **Personal Appearance**

Personal appearance must be appropriate for the circumstances.

### **Jewellery**

All jewellery must be removed before entering the pool. However, Stud earrings may be worn.

### **Training Sessions**

Swimmers should swim a minimum of 4 sessions per week unless otherwise agreed with the Lead Coach (School sessions may be taken into account). For example allowances will be made during exam periods and those undergoing rehabilitation.

**Attendance** should be **above** 75% in any 3-month period. Where a swimmer fails to maintain their attendance for no valid reason he or she may be moved to another group where the commitment requirement is less demanding.

When ready swimmers will be given additional morning sessions, this will be done only when a good average attendance is achieved and will only remain in place as long as the attendance does not drop. Morning swims are additional sessions and should not be done instead of group sessions.

Swimmers should be on poolside up to 15 minutes before the start of the swim session (where possible) to complete the dry warm-up and core stability workout. This workout is key to our injury prevention work.

Swimmers must be respectful to the coaching team at all times and follow instructions from the coach/teacher during training.

Swimmers not fully participating or cooperating may be asked to leave the session and or asked to complete some land-based work. Where a swimmer is being disruptive he or she will be asked to leave that session.

Swimmers will be given a verbal warning as to their conduct prior to being asked to leave the session unless the incident warrants an immediate exclusion. In the event of an exclusion from a training session, swimmers under 18 (17 if driving themselves) will not be allowed to leave the premises unaccompanied unless a parent/guardian has granted permission and the Coach/Teacher informed.

In the event of an exclusion a report will be made to the Management committee who will decide if any further action is required.

Swimmers may not be allowed to participate in a training session if they do not have with them the required equipment.

Required equipment:

- Swimwear
- Fins and Paddles
- Stretch Cords
- Session Recorder and Pencil
- Log Book

### **Log Books**

Swimmers must have and maintain a logbook. This is used as a diary to record the activities of the swimmers training sessions and any thoughts feelings, changes, injuries as well as moans groans and good things. Information should be entered every day, even on rest days.

Swimmers should also include the volume in meters of the day and week that they achieved plus any missed work and why. Resting heart rate and the maximum heart rate of the session. Height and Weight should be recorded once a week.

### **Training Premises**

Swimmers are expected to maintain the highest standards of behaviour irrespective of training premises however; specific venues may have additional rules which must be followed.

As a guide, if you would not do or say it in front of parents, police, teachers, in the workplace or at school/college then it shouldn't be done or said anywhere near a swimming pool or swimming activity.

As the Club does not own its own facilities access to swimming facilities relies on the goodwill and tolerance of outside organisations. Any behaviour disrespectful to these organisations or their property, which could compromise the use of the facility by the Club, is strictly forbidden. Premises should be left clean and tidy any damage or mess should be reported to coaching staff immediately.

### **Taunton School**

Male swimmers should use changing room B. Female swimmers should use the area where the lockers are in the girls changing rooms.

Taunton School sports club members use this facility at the same time as the club and as such the **highest behavioural standards must be maintained.**

**For Clarity this includes (not exhaustive):**

**Disrespectful behaviour to yourself and or others. Foul, aggressive or disrespectful language. Intimacy of any kind.**

Anyone failing to do this will be banned from the facility at the request of Taunton School Sports Club.

### **Swim Meets**

Swimmers must accept that this is a competitive squad and be available for Galas when selected and should compete at all the meets advertised for their squad wherever possible and in any case Somerset County Championships, ASA South West qualifiers and National qualifiers.

Swimmers should be competing in a range of events and should liaise with coaches when entering meets with regards to the entries. (Meet packs will contain guidelines)

Swimmers wishing to compete at events outside of the competition programme should liaise with their coach before submitting any entries.

Swimmers should remain with the team throughout the event, unless permission is given to go to another area, and this includes seeing parents/guardians. Parents should not approach coaches during sessions, or in front of any swimmers.

The coach will make the decision whether or not to withdraw swimmers from events. Swimmers are expected to swim all swims entered and any resulting final except in special circumstances. No one else shall withdraw swimmers from events. If any injuries occur the swimmer shall be withdrawn from any following swims.

Any special dietary requirements medication etc should be notified to team staff in advance in the appropriate forms. Staff must be informed if swimmers can self regulate or not.

Should a disciplinary problem occur at Club Champs, Inter club, County, District, Open or National Event or during the Journey to or from such an event, the team manager, head coach or appointed deputy shall deal with such an occurrence as they feel appropriate, bearing in mind the spirit of the clubs discipline code. Any action will be reported to the next management committee. Such decisions are not to be questioned at the time of issue.

Swimmers must be respectful to others at all times, this includes team members, other swimmers, coaches, chaperones, team managers and if staying away overnight other people staying within the accommodation.

Swimmers must cooperate with coaches, teachers and team managers.

I have read the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by it. I agree to maintain the highest standards of behaviour and attend, except under exceptional circumstances, a minimum of 4 training sessions per week.

I understand that if I fail to meet the expected standards I may lose my place in the squad.

Swimmer Name:.....  
(please print)

Signed Parent Guardian:.....

Signed Swimmer:.....

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