

Surf Life Saving Association of Wales – Appendix 2 **Code of Conduct for Parents, Guardians and Carers**

As a parent of a child taking part in our club / organisation's activities, we'd like you to :

The Essentials

- ✓ Maintain a good relationship with your child's coach or trainer and catch up with them as much as you can about your child's development activity.
- ✓ Talk to us if you have any concerns about any part of your child. We want to hear from you and we will listen.
- ✓ Complete all consent, contact and medical forms and update us straight away if anything changes. Any changes in the state of your child's health should be reported to the coach prior to coaching sessions. This will ensure that coaches are aware of any health or behavioural issues prior to your child or children being placed in their care during the duration of a training session.
- ✓ Make sure your child has the right kit for the session and wears any protective kit that we advise they wear for their safety or we provide for them
- ✓ Ensure they have enough food and drink.
- ✓ Try to make sure your child arrives to sessions on time and is picked up promptly; or let us know if you're running late or if your child is going home with someone else.

Behaviour

- ✓ Engage and learn about your child's sport and what it means to them.
- ✓ Behave positively on the sidelines and lead by example, shout encouragement and say well done and let your child know that you are proud of their achievements regardless of the finish results. Think about how the way you react and behave effects not just your child but other children present too.
- ✓ It's not all about wins and losses, remember that children get a wide range of benefits from participating in sport, like making friends, getting exercise and developing skills for life.
- ✓ Encourage your child to respect and celebrate difference in the club and talk to them about the harm that bullying can do.
- ✓ Use social media responsibly when talking about what goes on at your club, by behaving in the same way that you would do in person. Raise any concerns you have in the correct manner according to the policies of the SLSA Wales Child Protection Policy.
- ✓ Talk to your child about embracing good etiquette and sportsmanship and encourage them to play by the rules.
- ✓ Ensure that your child understand their Code of Conduct
- ✓ Do not negatively compare your child's achievements against those of other youth / nipper members.
- ✓ Show appreciation and support your child and all the team members displaying inclusive and supportive behaviours.
- ✓ Do not force your child to compete. Any child seen to be in distress at the start line may be withdrawn from the race / event.
- ✓ Ensure you do not use inappropriate language or behaviour within the club environment / training area / competition area
- ✓ Do not enter training/competition areas unless requested to do so or in an emergency. If you wish to have a discussion with the coach, please indicate this and then wait for an appropriate time if there is a session / race / event / competition being held.
- ✓ Most of all help your child to enjoy the sport and achieve to the best of their ability.



As a parent we understand you have a right to

- ✓ Be assured that your child is safeguarded during their time with us
- ✓ Know who the safeguarding officer responsible for your child is and have their contact details
- ✓ Be involved and contribute towards decisions within the club or activity
- ✓ know what training and qualifications our staff have
- ✓ be informed of problems or concerns relating to your child
- ✓ know what happens if there's an accident or injury, be informed if your child is injured and see records of any accidents
- ✓ have your consent sought for anything outside of our initial consent form, such as permission to go on trips or photography
- ✓ have any concerns about any aspect of your child's welfare listened to and responded to
- ✓ We expect all parents to follow the behaviours and requests set out in this code. If any parent behaves in a way which contradicts any of the points set out above, we'll address the problem straight away with the parent and aim to resolve the issue.

Please note, the safety of your child is paramount and all sessions either at the pool, beach or in open water, must be risk assessed to ensure that we as an organisation and our affiliated clubs can provide a safe session for all our young members.

If a risk assessment is completed and it is not possible for a young person to join in an organised training session, this is not a reflection on the young member from the characteristics mentioned in the Youth Code of Conduct. It is a matter of safety and a duty of care to our young members and session leads.

Session leads / coaches will be more than happy to discuss any decisions made not to include a young member in any particular aspect of a session for safety reasons.

SLSA Wales prefer that in all instances (where possible) that you remain for the duration of the training session and any other activity arranged by the club should a health concern or incident arise.

You will also be present to experience the improvements your child /children are making and also if a coach would like to discuss your child's progress in the club and their sport and what can be better done to support them as they gain experience and ability.

If this is not possible then please discuss with the coach before leaving or request some time when convenient for both parties.