



# Wexford Pool & Surf Lifesaving Club

## Code of Conduct

– adopted on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The motto of Irish Water Safety is “Every person a swimmer, and every swimmer a Lifesaver”, we at Wexford Pool & Surf Lifesaving look to promote this through safe and healthy fun, a competitive hunger and a knowledge that may help save lives. In order to meet this, we ask all members & parents/guardians of members, to read the following, and tick the appropriate box on the club membership form before signing it. The Club officials will meet to investigate any breaches of the code and discuss how to proceed in dealing with them.

### **1. Respect**

- 1.1 All members, parents/guardians, coaches, helpers and other club officials are expected to cooperate with and show respect to the each other. It is important that there is mutual respect and unity amongst team members and officials.
- 1.2 Always remember that lifesaving is a team sport and therefore you are expected to encourage your fellow members, as well as trying your best for your team at all times.
- 1.3 Members must avoid using foul or abusive language.
- 1.4 Members with a grievance should communicate it, preferably in writing/email, in a respectful manner to the competitions sub-committee of Wexford Water Safety. If they are still dissatisfied, they have a right to appeal this decision to the Sport's Commission of Irish Water Safety and ultimately if still dissatisfied, can use the IWS appeals procedure with the Council of IWS.

### **2. Role of Coaches & Club Officials**

- 2.1 To ensure the safety of all members.
  - 2.1.1 On the pool deck to ensure: there is no behaviour that may lead to an accident, that members are not put into situations that they are unable for, and that the pool area is free from any hazards.
  - 2.1.2 On the beach to ensure: there is a back-up plan should conditions prove too dangerous, there is a record of parents' details should the need arise to cut training short or should there be a need to inform them of any incidents which they need to be notified of, to ensure all equipment is fit for its use and that any equipment that is not, is removed, and disposed of or repaired.
  - 2.1.3 At any club event, ensuring that everyone is kept together as a group, that numbers are regularly checked to ensure none have gone missing.
- 2.2 To encourage and inspire members to achieve their best, through constructive feedback, positive motivation and team work.
- 2.3 To maintain inclusion, fair play and collegiality between all members and officials, in all club activities, achieving this with constant communication with other club officials and with members and their parents/guardians.

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- 2.4 To ensure all decisions made are done so with the best interests of the club and its members in mind.
- 2.5 To keep up-to-date with the latest rules and regulations water safety, as well as attending courses in the areas of Ethics, Good Practice, and Coaching Skills in order to maintain best practice within the club.

### **3. Parents/Guardians**

- 3.1 Bring or arrange for your children to be brought to and from training on time.
- 3.2 Ensure your child has the proper gear for training and competing.
- 3.3 Support the coaches, by allowing them to complete their role during training sessions, and help out whenever necessary. Help is particularly appreciated and needed on the beach in the transport of equipment from the car park to the beach and back.
- 3.4 Please stay off the pool deck unless requested to be there by a coach.
- 3.5 Ensure that your child is registered and fees have been paid.
- 3.6 Show your support for your child/club by attending training/competitions on a regular basis and assisting in the organisation of club activities.
- 3.7 At club social events, it is the responsibility of parents/guardians or a nominated adult, and not the responsibility of club personnel, to supervise members under the age of 18.

### **4. Punctuality**

- 4.1 Members are expected to be at the venue 5 minutes before training and ready to take part at the scheduled training time. In cases where a member is late it is only polite to apologise to the coaches and ask their permission to join the training session.

### **5. Club Property**

- 5.1 Members will respect the equipment of the club and the facilities used by the club.
- 5.2 Any defects/damage found on club equipment will immediately be brought to the attention of a coach in order for it to be assessed before it can be used again.
- 5.3 Equipment naturally deteriorates over time, or can be damaged by accident, but should equipment be damaged due to misuse and/or abuse, the club may look to the individual/s involved to cover the cost of replacing or mending the piece of equipment.

### **6. Fees**

- 6.1 Fees must be paid by every member and by the date stated on the Fee Structure Sheet. For the club to function we need to be able to pay for new equipment, and as well as paying the pool fees.

### **7. Team Selection**

- 7.1 Any team selection made by the coaches is made with the best interest of the club in mind, in an attempt to put forward our strongest teams to compete at the highest level.
- 7.2 While we look to include everyone, this may not always be possible when picking teams due to restrictions put in place on the number of members allowed on a team.
- 7.3 The team selection process will be announced prior to trials taking place.

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- 7.4 Should a member deem the selection process unfair, it must be brought to the attention of coaches on the day that the selection process is announced. Complaints received about the selection process may not be heard after this time as it would be unfair to change it at short notice.
- 7.5 On announcement of the team/s, any protest to the selection can be made in accordance to section 1.4.

**8. Unreasonable Behaviour**

- 8.1 Members must be free of the effects of alcohol and/or other illegal substances and must not consume such items until the competition or training is over.
- 8.2 Members under the legal age of 18 are **NOT** permitted to consume alcohol at any time. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure that their child is aware of this. Intoxication will not be tolerated by the club officials.
- 8.3 Members are required to ensure that the club officials are fully informed of approved medications required. If a medical doctor has approved the medication then a written statement from them as to its content and dosage is required to be presented to the coach prior to any competition. Under the rules of the World Anti-Doping Authority (WADA), **YOU** are responsible for ensuring that you do not breach WADA drug laws and you may be required to submit to a WADA drug test during competition. Information on medical conditions and medication will be treated as strictly confidential by the team officials.
- 8.4 Any form of sexual activity is considered inappropriate within a training or competition experience and IS **FORBIDDEN** whilst the member is under the jurisdiction of the club officials.