



## **MLC AQUATIC CODE OF CONDUCT**

The MLC Aquatic Swimming Club expects that those associated with the Club will conduct themselves appropriately at all times.

The Club has adopted the Swimming Australia Code of Conduct for members, service providers and employees, particularly those responsible for activities involving members under the age of 18 years.

To ensure a common understanding of behaviour, the following codes need to be observed.

### **A. GENERAL CODE OF BEHAVIOUR**

As a Swimming Australia member, service provider or employee you should meet the following standard of conduct:

- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
- Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealings with others.
- Be professional in, and accept responsibility for, your actions.
- Make a commitment to providing quality service.
- Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to, Swimming Australia standards, rules and policies.
- Operate within the rules of swimming including national and international guidelines that govern Swimming Australia.

Swimming Australia expects all members, service providers and employees to abide by this code of conduct, which upholds the principles and values of the organisation. They should recognise that at all times they have a responsibility, and a duty of care to other members, service providers and Swimming Australia employees. Specifically, they should:

- Understand the possible consequences of breaching Swimming Australia's member protection policy.
- Immediately report any breaches of the Swimming Australia member protection policy to the appropriate authority.
- Refrain from any form of abuse towards others.
- Refrain from any form of harassment toward others.
- Refrain from any form of discrimination toward others.
- Refrain from intimate relations with members with whom they have a supervisory role or power over.
- Refrain from any form of victimisation toward others.
- Provide a safe environment for the conduct of activities in accordance with any relevant Swimming Australia policy.
- Show concern and caution toward others that may be sick or injured.
- Be a positive role model.



## **B. CODE FOR COMPETITORS**

- Complete and train according to the policies rules and regulations set out by MLC Aquatic, MLC, Swimming Australia and Swimming Victoria.
- Never argue with an official. Always use the appropriate rules and guidelines to resolve a dispute.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other competitors, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good performances whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- Treat all participants as you like to be treated. Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor or training partner.
- Co-operate with your coach, team mates and opponents.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit, not just to please parents and coaches.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

## **C. CODE FOR PARENTS/CARERS**

- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children always to compete according to the rules and to settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skill by all participants.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Show appreciation for coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Ensure that conduct is compliant with the policies of MLC Aquatic Swimming Club, MLC, Swimming Australia and Swimming Victoria.

MLC Aquatic is proud to be a part of Swimming Australia and its Junior Sport Policy, Child Welfare Policy and Member Welfare Policy. To read the policies go to the Swimming Australia website [www.swimming.org.au](http://www.swimming.org.au) click on menu, and Junior Sport Policy is listed under Integrity, Other policies, Child Welfare Policy & Member Welfare Policy are incorporated into the Safe Sport framework and Code of Conduct also under Integrity.

Members should also be familiar with the MLC General Code of Behaviour and Discipline Policies: [http://www.mylc.net/docs/Code of Behaviour and Discipline Policy.pdf](http://www.mylc.net/docs/Code_of_Behaviour_and_Discipline_Policy.pdf)

**Social Media Guide:** Refer also to the Social Media Guidelines.