



MOBILE PHONE POLICY

AIM AND SCOPE

The aim of the Mobile Phone Usage Policy is to promote safe and appropriate practice through establishing clear acceptable use through guidelines. This policy applies to all members of the club, and related directly to the appropriate codes of conduct.

RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of all club members including swimmers/coaches/volunteers to adhere to the guidelines outlined in this document.

It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to allow their child to have a mobile phone, and should be aware if their child takes a mobile phone to club sessions. Permission to have a mobile phone during the club session/event will be contingent on the parent/guardian permission in the form of a signed copy of this policy.

POLICY STATEMENT

It is recognised that smartphones contain a wide variety of functions which can be susceptible to misuse. Misuse includes taking and distribution of indecent images, exploitation and bullying.

Misuse of smartphones can cause distress to individuals, impact on self-confidence and mental well-being, as well as impact on privacy and right to confidentiality. Such concerns are not exclusive to children and young people.

It is appreciated that it can be very difficult to detect when smartphones are being used, particularly in relation to additional functions. The use of all mobile phones is therefore limited, regardless of their capabilities.

There are 'mobile phone free' areas within the Club setting. These are areas that are considered to be the most vulnerable and sensitive:

- Changing rooms
- Toilets
- Showers

There is a zero-tolerance policy in place with regards to use of mobile phones by any individual in these areas.

INAPPROPRIATE USE

Members using vulgar, derogatory or obscene language while using a mobile phone will face disciplinary actions as sanctioned by the Club.

Members using their mobile phone to engage in personal attacks, harass other people, post private information about others using SMS messages, taking/sending photos or objectionable images, and phone calls, will face disciplinary actions as sanctioned by the Club, and may be subject to criminal proceedings.

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Declaration

I have read and understand the Mobile Phone Usage Policy provided by GASC and the appropriate use of mobile phones within Club sessions and events.

I understand that this form will be kept on file and that the details may be used (and shared with a third party if necessary) to assist identifying a phone should the need arise (e.g. if lost, or if the phone is being used inappropriately).

I give my child permission to have a phone at club sessions and understand that my child will be responsible for ensuring that the mobile phone is used appropriately and correctly while under the Club's supervision, as outlined in this document.

PARENT / GUARDIAN

Name: (print) _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

ATHLETE

Name: (print) _____

Mobile Phone No: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Please Note: In line with the recommendation in the SASA Child Protection Policy, GASC request that any person wishing to engage in any video, zoom or close range photography including the use of mobile phones, tablets and any device that has an image, video capturing facility or can be internet enabled, must also adhere to the mobile phone usage policy above.