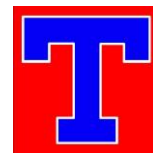




# Tiverton Swimming Club

## Behaviour Management & Disciplinary Procedure



### Introduction

TSC is a friendly community amateur sports club that aims to help its members have an enjoyable local club experience, make friends, join in swimming opportunities, and develop swimming and competing abilities. The club is run by parents and other volunteers who manage the club processes and teach and coach swimming all in their own time. Coaches and volunteers (who are giving up their free time) enjoy the poolside experience if they feel that swimmers are paying attention, are following the rules and are polite and respectful. Additionally, swimmers and their parents/carers also expect to be treated fairly and with respect.

TSC expects Coaches, parents/carers, swimmers, and volunteers to adhere to the Codes of Conduct, available at [www.tiverton-swimming.co.uk](http://www.tiverton-swimming.co.uk) and provided to all members upon joining.

At the Club, we will not tolerate abusive, intimidating, or aggressive behaviour or violence toward any persons, i.e., members of the club, (including swimmers, Coaches, and volunteers), other pool users and staff working at **Exe Valley Leisure Centre** (such as Reception staff and Lifeguards). Swimmers represent the club every time they are at training or attending events and are expected to act accordingly. *A respectful manner is expected of all members of the club.*

All members are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the following documents, which are provided upon joining and are also available on the website ([www.tiverton-swimming.co.uk](http://www.tiverton-swimming.co.uk))

- TSC Poolside training etiquette
- TSC Child Collection Policy
- TSC Parent & Members/Child Code of Conduct

**Disciplinary action will be invoked where persistently disrespectful behaviour occurs and has been reported to the club.**

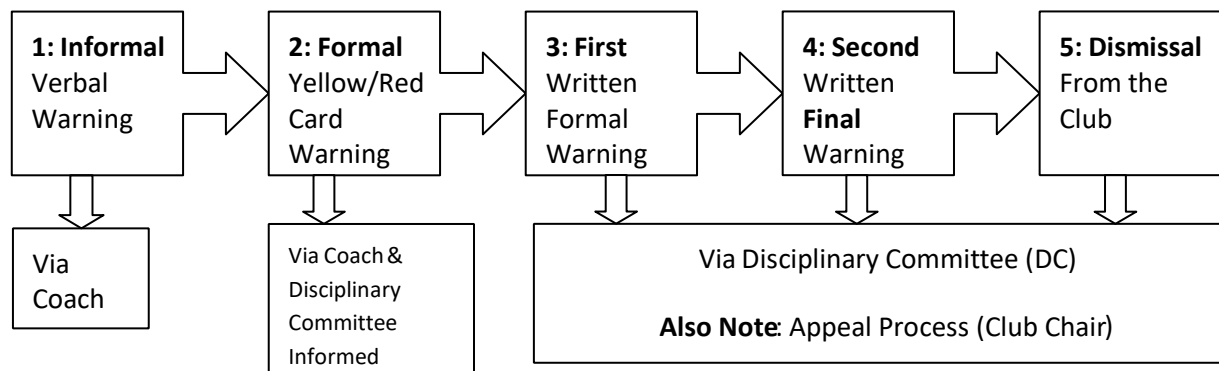
Respectful behaviour is also expected from all members when posting on social media any comments that can be associated to Tiverton Swimming Club or its members, teachers, officials, and coaches.

This document is based upon guidance and information provided via the NSPCC Safeguarding in Sport (used in Swim England Safeguarding courses). Additional bibliography is indicated at the end of this document.

TSC – Disciplinary Procedure – Reviewed 01/2021 - club developed guidance.

## Procedure for managing swimmers' poor behaviour (in training and at galas)

The procedure aims to clarify how persistent poor behaviour will be managed in a fair and equitable way. Incidents will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, in general terms (assuming no interim resolution) the process will consist of:



Any Disciplinary process will be overseen by the \*Disciplinary Committee (DC) to maintain fairness and to ensure that accurate records are maintained.

*\*The DC is a committee subgroup consisting of the Secretary, the Membership Secretary & the Welfare Officer.*

N.B. Any Appeal process will be overseen by the Club Chairperson (See Appeal Process Below)

### 1. Informal Verbal Warnings

In the first instance Coaches (and poolside assistants etc) will endeavour to manage minor instances of poor behaviour on 'poolside' using verbal warnings, discussing first with the swimmer (and parent/carer if necessary) why the behaviour is not acceptable, what the expected standards are and what appropriate corrective action is required.

### 2. Formal Yellow & Red Card Procedure

In the circumstances that the swimmer repeatedly ignores verbal warnings and/or standards of behaviour deteriorate, Coaches will use a "yellow and red card" formal procedure. This may take the form of actual cards or verbal warnings of the same.

- For persistent poor behaviour, the swimmer will be issued a **yellow card**. At this point the swimmer will be asked to sit on poolside. It is at the Coaches' discretion as to the length of time (but no longer than 10 minutes) and the event shall be documented on an incident report form (see Appendix 1).
- If the poor behaviour continues again after the swimmer has returned to the pool, then a **red card** will be issued. **The swimmer will be asked to leave the pool and get changed.** If the parent /carer is unavailable the swimmer shall wait poolside for collection and the incident shall be documented on an incident report form (see Appendix 1), with copies sent to the Welfare Officer and Club Secretary (see section on Record Keeping).
- At this stage, the swimmer's parent/carer will be informed by the Coach as to why their swimmer has been removed from the training session/competition, either via written communication or in person., The

swimmer will then return to the next training session, in most circumstances this will be deemed to have resolved the issue and the incident will not be discussed further.

- At the next session, further repeats of unacceptable behaviour will result in an immediate **red card** issued and the swimmer being asked to leave the session/event (again waiting on poolside until parent is available for collection)
- The Disciplinary Committee will be informed if this happens and stage 3 will be invoked.

### **3. Formal Disciplinary Procedure (First Written Warning)**

The Club seeks to avoid formal actions unless necessary and this will be deemed as a last resort when informal procedures have proved ineffective and/or the behavioural issue is an extreme incident warranting immediate action.

The Welfare Officer at this stage would seek support and advice from the Swim England, unless already having done so earlier in the process.

If conduct does not improve and further instances are brought to the Committee's attention, the swimmer will be **issued with a fixed term suspension and the first written formal warning** will be sent to parents/carers. During this time, the swimmer will be unable to take part in any activity organised by The Club. Fees for this period will still be payable and no rebate will be given.

*Please note: Serious breaches of reasonable behaviour (for example, fighting, bullying, vandalism, inappropriate photography, or any other excessive bad behaviour during attendance at training or a club event) may at the discretion of the relevant Coach (with support from the Committee), lead to instant suspension of the swimmer from The Club, even if stages 1 and 2 have not occurred. This suspension will remain in place until a disciplinary sub-committee can be convened, where a decision will be made on the individual concerned and relevant action required.*

### **4. Formal Disciplinary Procedure (Second Written Final Warning)**

The swimmer may then return to training after the period of suspension ends. If the swimmer's behaviour continues to be unacceptable, then the Coach will report to the Committee who will undertake to issue a second written final warning potentially leading to **(Stage 5)** the permanent expulsion of the swimmer from the club.

*Please note: depending upon the severity of the behaviour, the Committee may bypass or invoke the above procedure(s) at any stage.*

## **Record keeping**

All Coaches, volunteers, parents/carers, and swimmers are encouraged to report incidents to the Coaches and Teachers, Welfare Secretary and/or a Committee member as soon as is reasonably practicable so that the Welfare Secretary is fully aware, and that records are maintained.

All yellow or red card events will be detailed on an incident form by the relevant Coach or volunteer and the relevant parent/carer informed by telephone/e-mail and/or by face-to-face discussion.

Details of completed incident forms shall be forwarded to the Welfare Secretary (as part of the DC) at the end of the session. Incident forms will then be discussed at the next DC meeting and support and monitoring will begin.

Completed copies of incident forms and records of such discussions and decisions will be held by the Welfare Secretary in a confidential manner. The contents of such discussions are to not be shared with anyone outside of the DC, except for the relevant Coach who will be immediately informed of the discussion outcome and actions. Swim England may become involved in more serious incidents.

As a club, we will try to deal with all matters before they become serious and we would encourage swimmers and parents/carers to discuss any concerns, however small they seem, with the Welfare Secretary, their Coach or Teacher or any Committee member.

Appeals or complaints about the Behaviour Management and Disciplinary procedure should be verbally discussed as soon as possible. However, if the complainant feels that a verbal discussion is not sufficient, they should write a formal complaint to the Welfare Secretary.

## **Associated Documents:**

Accident/Incident Book

## **Right to Appeal**

All swimmers, parents/carers, club members, team managers and coaches have the right to appeal against any decision made under this procedure.

Any appeal shall be made in writing to the Chairperson, within 14 days of the penalty being given, stating the swimmers name and details of the appeal. This will then be formally discussed at the next DC meeting and the individual will be informed of the decision made by the Chair. Such action may be overridden by the Swim England complaints procedure.

Membership of Tiverton Swimming Club indicates acceptance that you have read the relevant Codes of Conduct, Club Constitution and the completion of the Club membership application form indicates that you accept to be bound by the same. All members are required to sign the Codes of Conduct when joining TSC and return signed copies are collated by the Membership Secretary.

All documents in relation to individual Disciplinary cases are retained for a period of 12 months following the conclusion of the procedure or any appeal process.

## **Sources of Information:**

Swim England Code of conduct and Code of Ethics (Parents, Coaches and Swimmers)

TSC Club Constitution Section 6 - Expulsion and other Disciplinary action

TSC Child Collection Policy

Swim England Guidelines for handling Internal Club disputes

Wave Power 2020-23 Managing Challenging Behaviour

APPENDIX 1

<b>TIVERTON SWIMMING CLUB BEHAVIOUR INCIDENT FORM</b>						
DATE (of form completion):						
INCIDENT DATE (if different):						
LOCATION OF INCIDENT:						
NAME OF PERSON REPORTING INCIDENT:						
CONTACT DETAILS: (if not known to Club)						
RELATIONSHIP TO PERSON(S) BELOW e.g., Coach, Parent Helper etc						
PERSON(s) AFFECTED (circle):	Swimmer	Parent	Other (please state)			
NAME:						
CONTACT DETAILS: (if not known to Club)						
SQUAD (If swimmer):						
ABOUT THE INCIDENT (circle):	1 <sup>st</sup> yellow card	1 <sup>st</sup> red card	2 <sup>nd</sup> (or more) Red card	Other (please state)		
DESCRIBE THE INCIDENT (continue over leaf if necessary):						
REMEDIAL (IMMEDIATE) ACTION TAKEN (continue over leaf if necessary):						
PARENT INFORMED? (circle)	Yes	No	HOW INFORMED: (circle)	Direct Verbal	Email	Telephone

**PLEASE SEND (OR HAND TO) COMPLETED FORMS TO THE CLUB SECRETARY**

<b>FOR COMMITTEE USE ONLY</b>			
DATE of receipt:		Received by:	Position:
Initial Action (circle)	First Red & Yellow cards Circulated to DC and filed	Second (or more) Red card Circulated to DC for disciplinary consideration	Other
Pending Action:			