

# SCOTTISH *swimming* everyone can swim!

## **TEACHER AND COACH CODE OF CONDUCT**

**A responsible sports coach or teacher helps the development of individuals through improving their performance. This is achieved by:**

- Identifying and meeting the needs of individuals
- Improving Performance through a progressive programme of safe, guided practice measured performance and/ or competition
- Creating an environment in which individuals are motivated to maintain participation and improve performance.

**Teachers and Coaches should comply with the principles of good ethical practice listed below. A licensed teacher or coach must at all times:**

- Abide by the Scottish Swimming and Club Child Protection policies and procedures
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and treat everyone equally within the context of their sport.
- Place the wellbeing and safety of the performer above the development of performance. Coaches and teachers hold follow all guidelines laid down by the sports governing body and hold appropriate insurance cover.
- Develop and appropriate working relationship with performers (especially children), based on mutual trust and respect. Coaches and teachers must not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward. In particular, coaches and teachers must not use their position to establish or pursue a sexual or improper relationship with an athlete or someone close to them.
- Encourage and guide performers to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.
- Hold relevant, recommended, up to date and nationally recognised governing body coaching or teaching qualifications.
- Ensure that activities they direct or advocate are appropriate for the age, maturity, experience and ability of the individual.
- Clarify, at the outset, with performers (and where appropriate with their parents) exactly what is expected of them and what performers are entitled to expect from their coach and teacher. A contract may sometimes be appropriate.
- Co-operate fully with other specialists (e.g. other coaches, teachers, officials, sport scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interests of the performer.
- Always promote the positive aspects of their sport (e.g. fair play) and never condone rule violations or the use of prohibited substances.
- Consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.