

Changing room behaviour by swimmers

Disappointingly changing room behaviour has been deteriorating for a number of months now with a significant number of incidents of unacceptable behaviour.

Thankfully the incidents have not resulted in any serious injury to swimmers but the incidents have been serious enough to have the capacity to both injure swimmers and damage the reputation of the club reputation and we must act. We have now received complaints from Warwick School, Newbold Comyn and St Nicholas Leisure Centre as well as a number of individual parents.

Examples of unacceptable changing room behaviours include:

- Filling hat or any other container with water and throwing it over or at others
- Climbing on any furniture, for example seats, toilets, cisterns or cupboards
- Throwing or removing from holders toilet tissue emptying bins or throwing water on the floor
- Turning on taps, filling and blocking sinks and flooding changing areas
- Hiding clothing in the changing rooms.

This is of course not a complete list but an illustration of the kinds of things that are not in accord with the club's code of conduct.

I am sorry to have to be so prescriptive here but I think we need to be very clear about what is not allowed and I would ask that you make this very clear to your children in a conversation with them.

Changing room supervision

It is important that all parents understand that we use open changing rooms that are not supervised by the club staff. All club coaches and teachers are checked through the Disclosure and Barring Service DBS (previously the Criminal Records Bureau) as to their suitability to work with children who are below the age of 18. Clearly the changing rooms in all of the facilities we use, are used by adults who are not checked through DBS.

The club would like to make it clear that the responsibility for supervision of their children in changing rooms is a parental one. Further to this, behaviour in changing rooms continues to be the responsibility of parents and unacceptable behaviour whilst always dealt with on a case by case basis will be treated seriously.

I would also remind parents of the contents of the Drop and Collection Policy relating to the responsibility of supervising children before, during and after sessions.