

Thame Swimming Club Policy

Facebook and Social Networking Policy

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Thame Swimming Club (TSC) recognises that the use of networking sites is a growing phenomenon and is increasingly used as a communication tool choice by young people and more recently by adults. Any Social networking sites are information sharing facilities only and does not replace the TSC website.

1.2 With the development of our own Facebook page, it has highlighted that whilst these technologies provide exciting opportunities, they are accompanied by dangers and negative consequences, if abused by users.

1.3 This policy will set down guidelines for acceptable use, not only for our own Facebook page, but all on-line social networking communications as they relate to TSC.

2. TECHNOLOGIES

2.1 This policy includes (but is not limited to) the undernoted technologies:-

- Personal blogs/websites
- Twitter
- Facebook
- My Space
- Bebo
- You Tube
- Instagram
- Snapchat
- Tumblr
- Flickr
- And any other social networking sites

3. ACCEPTABLE USE

3.1 The following rules must be adhered to by all users:-

3.2. Safety i) You or your child will not bully, intimidate, or harass any user. ii) You or your child will not post any photographs, videos or make comments that may be hurtful, untrue and upsetting or may be used by other people in a way you did not intend or want. iii) You or your child will not post content that is hateful, threatening, or pornographic; incites violence; or contains nudity or graphic or gratuitous violence.

3.3. Protecting Other People's Rights

i) We respect other people's rights, and expect you to do the same. ii) You or your child will not write any derogatory, humiliate or offensive comments in relation to TSC or any other swimming club. iii) You or your child will not post comments criticising or verbally abusing swimmers, coaches, officials or Members of TSC or any other swimming Club. iii) You or your child will not post photographs on the TSC Facebook page that is in breach of the Club's Photography Policy. iii) You or your child will not post content or take any action on TSC Swimming Club Facebook that infringes or violates someone else's rights or otherwise violates the law.

3.4 TSC Facebook Registration

i) You will not provide any false information to TSC facebook, or create an account for anyone other than yourself without permission. ii) You will not allow your child to use TSC facebook if they are under 13 years of age.

3.5. Consequences of Actions

i) All should be aware that posting messages, comments or any media on a social networking site that breaches the above requirements will breach this policy. ii) Any individual found to be in breach of this Policy may face disciplinary action in accordance with the Club's Disciplinary Procedures.

4. MANAGEMENT OF TSC FACEBOOK PAGE

4.1 To ensure that the site is used in good spirit and to the benefit of the Club, TSC Facebook page will be managed by several members of the committee and monitored by The Welfare Officer.

4.2 Swimmers and their family (aged over the age of 13 years) will be allowed to join the Facebook group providing all requested questions are answered satisfactorily.

4.3 Swimmers or family members will be removed from the Facebook group if they leave the club.

5. SOCIAL NETWORKING SERVICES, SOCIAL MEDIA AND SPORT: GUIDELINES FOR SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

5.1 ASA Child Protection Guidelines (Wave power) are available to download from the ASA website, www.swimming.org

5.2 A user guide for parents and swimmers for Twitter, is available to view at www.swimming.org.

6. WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE CONCERNS

6.1 As a user of a social networking site, whether you are a child or an adult, you may at some time have a concern about what you are seeing or being told about by another user.

6.2 The nature of these concerns may vary but should these concerns be connected to TSC then please contact: The Welfare office or The Chairman.

- 6.3 Alternatively, depending on the nature of your concerns, a list of agencies that you can contact, anonymously if you wish, where you or your child can raise such concerns has been provided below:-
- Swimline Child Protection Helpline: 0808 100 4001
- www.childline.org.uk 0800 1111
- The NSPCC helpline 0800 800 5000 or www.nspcc.org.uk for adults concerned about the welfare or safety of a child.