



## **Mobile Phone Policy**

**V1 09.10.18**

### **DEFINITIONS**

Organisation	Northwich Centurions Swimming Club (NCSC)
Members	For the purpose of this document, the term 'Member' relates to employees, volunteers and service providers at Northwich Centurions.
Swimmers	For the purpose of this document, the term 'Swimmer' relates to a swimmer who is an active member of NCSC and Northwich Lifesaving Club.
Mobile:	For the purpose of this document, the term 'Mobile' relates to a handheld device with access to the internet eg. mobile phone or tablet. It also relates to any handheld device which has the capability of taking photographs/videos.

### **Aim**

The aim of this policy is to promote safe and appropriate practice by establishing clear guidelines for acceptable use of mobile phones and other hand-held devices whilst attending or representing Northwich Centurions.

### **Scope**

This policy applies to Swimmers and Members of the club. It relates directly to the appropriate codes of conduct and will therefore be adopted into that code of conduct.

### **Responsibility**

It is the responsibility of all Members and Swimmers of the club to adhere to this policy.

### **Policy Statement**

It is recognised that smart phones, tablets and other handheld devices contain a variety of functions that can be susceptible to misuse. Misuse may include the taking and distribution of images, exploitation and bullying. Misuse of these devices can cause distress to individuals, impact on mental health and self-confidence. Misuse can also impact on every one's right to privacy and confidentiality. It is appreciated that it is difficult to detect when

hand held devices are being used and what functions they may have, therefore the use of all mobile phones or other similar devices irrespective of the devices capabilities will be limited.

### **Mobile Free Areas**

These are 'mobile free' areas within the club setting where mobiles must not be used under any circumstances. These areas are considered to be the most vulnerable and sensitive. There is a Zero tolerance policy in place with regards to the use of mobiles in these areas. If mobiles are found to be used in these areas, the swimmer or member will be immediately removed from the club:

- Changing Rooms - this extends to away meets
- Showers - this extends to away meets
- Toilets - this extends to away meets

Mobile phones are also not permitted at the following swimming events:

- Northwich Centurions Club Sprints
- Northwich Centurions Club Champs
- Arena League

Please note that there is a separate agreement for mobile use at Swim Camp.

### **Discretionary Allowance of Mobiles**

We are aware that some galas are lengthy and swimmers may become bored. Mobiles are therefore permitted at away meets (not Arena League) with the following rules:

- Cameras (both facing and facing away) must be covered up
- All content viewed on the phone must be age appropriate for the user and those around them
- If the host club's policy is for no mobile phones on poolside, this must be adhered to.

Rules on mobile use will be included in all gala information on the NCSC website.

### **Inappropriate Use**

Swimmers or Members will be asked to leave the club if:

- They are found to be using derogatory or obscene language whilst using a mobile or
- They are using their device to engage in personal attacks, to harass or to post private information or images of another individual, or
- They are using their device in a mobile free area whilst attending or representing the club