

Merton Pisces Swimming Club



Guidelines for Membership

Club Objectives

Merton Pisces Swimming Club provides swimming coaching for children in Merton, Sutton and surrounding areas of South West London. The Club offers a guided age-group youth programme for children aged 5 years and upwards, from the child who is just beginning to swim to the most competitive and skilled swimmer. The Club's mission is to develop the character traits, technical skills and enthusiasm that will enable each swimmer to realize their sporting potential. Each member of Merton Pisces learns the values of sportsmanship, team work & respect. The experience of swimming with the Club will provide physical, emotional and intellectual skills that will last a lifetime.

Swimmers Responsibilities

- To pay attention & try hard.
- To wear the club costume and hat.
- Not to disrupt lessons or interfere with the training of other swimmers.
- To treat all members, swimmers and staff with respect.
- To act responsibly at all times and not indulge in acts of horseplay or actions which may cause accident & injury.
- To always set a good example whilst representing the club.

Parents Responsibilities

- Please make sure that all fees of any type are made promptly.
- If swimmers' fees are not paid, we regret we will have no alternative but to exclude swimmers from the water. If you have a genuine difficulty paying fees, please do not hesitate to speak to coaching team who will be happy to discuss this in confidence.
- A swimmer will not be allowed to participate if they do not have the club costume and hat. If for some reason this is not possible please speak to the coaching team before entering the pool.
- To bring swimmers to the session on time and check that the session is to proceed before leaving. Parents should not simply drop off and leave but accompany their children into the building. (except where asked not to please read COVID-19 instruction form.)
- To arrive in time to collect their children at the end of the session. If for some reason this is not possible, then please notify the head coach as soon as you can.
- To encourage their swimmers and ensure that they follow their coach's advice.
- To ensure that their children behave in a manner that does not interfere with another member.
- To advise the coach ASAP if your swimmer cannot participate when selected for a gala.
- Any siblings accompanying parents and swimmers are the responsibility of the adult concerned.
- Please remember that the club has over one hundred & fifty+ members. At times the club's objectives and needs may conflict with your own wishes. When this does happen, please bear in mind the club's overall objectives when discussing the situation with the coaching team.
- To work positively to resolve any disputes that their son or daughter may have with another member. If the two parties concerned and their parents are unable to arrive at a reasonable solution, such disputes should be taken up in writing with the coaching team..

Coaches Responsibilities

- To start sessions on time
- On matters of discipline, the coach has absolute discretion and swimmers proving to be disruptive may be asked to leave the pool and remain on the poolside until the session ends. The coach also has the discretion to ban a disruptive member, swimmer from subsequent sessions and activities.
- Coaches will not allow swimmers out of the pool area (toilet breaks excepted) until the end of any session without prior arrangement with parents.
- To give at least two weeks notice of selection for a gala or an event
- Coaches will make time to discuss coaching/swimming issues with parents.
- The coaches and club will endeavour to provide parents with regular updates on their child's progress and advise on any swimming related problems.

The club constitution ([available on our website](#)) covers all rules and regulations and should be read before joining.

Sections from the constitution that are most applicable to members:

2 Objectives

2.1.1 The Club is committed to treating everyone equally within the context of its activity and with due respect to the differences of individuals. It shall not apply nor endorse unlawful or unjustified discrimination and shall act in compliance with the protections afforded by the Equality Act 2010

2.3.2 The Club shall in accordance with Swim England Regulations adopt Swim England's Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures ("Wavepower"); and shall recognise that the welfare of children is everyone's responsibility and that all children and young people have a right to have fun, be safe and be protected from harm.

3 Membership

3.4 Any person who wishes to become a member of the Club must read the club guidelines before submitting a signed application to the Secretary (and in the case of a junior swimmer the application must be signed by the swimmer's parent or guardian). Election to membership shall be determined by the Head coach, but other person(s) authorised by the Executive Officers may make recommendation as to the applicant's acceptability.

3.7 The Club may refuse membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the sport into disrepute, or, in the case of a swimmer, being unable to achieve the entry standards as laid down and provided by the Club to the applicant for membership.

3.8 Once a membership has been agreed that member must abide by all rules and regulations. Before you can swim your fees must be paid and the wearing of the club costume and hat is compulsory. If either of these are not done you will not be able to swim.

4 Subscription and Other Fees

4.3 Any member whose subscription is unpaid by the date falling 14 days after the due date for payment may be suspended by the Treasurer or Head coach from some or all Club activities from a date to be determined by the Treasurer or Head coach and until such payment is made.

5 Resignation

5.1 A member wishing to resign membership of the Club must give to the Secretary written notice of his/her resignation. A member's resignation shall only take effect when this (Rule 5.1) has been complied with.

5.2 The member who resigns from the Club in accordance with Rule 5.1 above shall not be entitled to have any part of the annual membership fee or any other fees returned and must return all club equipment.

6 Expulsion and Other Disciplinary Action

6.1 The Executive Officers Committee shall have power to expel a member when, in its opinion, it would not be in the interests of the Club for the individual to remain a member. The Club in exercising this power shall comply with the provisions of Rules 6.3 and 6.4 below.

6.2 Upon expulsion the former member shall not be entitled to have any part of the annual membership fee refunded and must return any Club equipment or external body's trophy or trophies held forthwith. Clubs in exercising this power are required to comply with the provision of Rules 6.3 and 6.4 below.

6.5 The Head coach & Executive Officers of the Club may temporarily suspend or exclude a member from particular training sessions and/or wider club activities, when in their opinion, such action is in the interests of the Club. Where such action is taken the incident or matter will thereafter be dealt with in accordance with the appropriate Judicial Regulations.

13 By-Laws

13.1 The Executive Officers Committee shall have power to make, repeal and amend such by-laws as they may from time to time consider necessary for the wellbeing of the Club which by-laws, repeals and amendments shall have effect until set aside by the Executive Officers Committee or at a General Meeting.

18 Acknowledgement

18.1 The Members acknowledge that these Rules constitute a legally binding contract to regulate the relationship of the members with each other and the Club.

I acknowledge receipt of the rules of Merton Pisces Swimming Club and confirm my understanding and acceptance that such rules (as amended from time to time) shall govern my membership of the Club. I further acknowledge and accept the responsibilities of membership upon members as set out in these rules.