

 **Acceptable Use of Mobile Phone Policy.**

**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 HASC.

**Scope:**

This policy applies to Swimmers, Parents and all 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 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. For example the inappropriate use of platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and other social media.

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 mobile phones must not be used under any circumstances. These areas are considered to be the most vulnerable and sensitive.

**Changing Rooms -this extends to away meets**

**Showers- this extends to away meets**

**Toilets- this extends to away meets**

**Poolside – for away meets, use is at coache’s discretion and/or inline with the policy of the host club.**

There is a Zero tolerance policy in place with regards to the use of mobile phones/similar devices in these areas.

**Inappropriate Use:**

Members:

. Using derogatory or obscene language whilst using a mobile or

. using their device to engage in personal attacks, to harass or to post private information or images of another individual, or

. Use their device in a mobile free area whilst attending or representing the club will face disciplinary action.

Policy updated September 2016

Issued by HASC Management Committee and Welfare Officer

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