

## **Oxford & Witney Artistic Swimming Club**

### **Equity (Equality and Diversity) Policy Statement**

Oxford & Witney Artistic Swimming Club (OWASC) is committed to treating everyone equally regardless of their age, level of ability or disability, gender (including gender reassignment), marital or civil partnership status, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation or any other relevant characteristic.

OWASC will ensure that equality is incorporated in all aspects of its activities and also recognises and adopts the Sport England definition of Equality and Diversity in sport:

Sport England believes sporting opportunities should be open to all and are committed to:

- Developing a culture that enables and values everyone's full involvement.
- Creating an environment in which everyone has opportunities to play, compete, officiate, coach, volunteer and run community sport.
- Overcoming potential barriers for those wishing to play sport, particularly if they are from groups who are currently under- represented in sport.

*Sports equity is about fairness in sport, equality of access, recognising inequalities and taking steps to address them. It is about changing the culture and structure of sport to ensure that it becomes equally accessible to all members of society, whatever their age, ability\*, gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality or socio-economic status. (\* ability/disability)*

The organisation also seeks to fulfil the Swim England /ASA's Equality and Diversity Policy objectives which states:

*'Swim England /The Amateur Swimming Association ("ASA") and its subsidiaries are fully committed to the principles and practice of equality of opportunity in all its functions: as an employer, membership organisation, awarding body, in its training and development of teachers and coaches; involvement with officials and administrators; as an advisor to swimming pool designers and operators and as a facilitator of the aquatic disciplines by all its members. It is responsible for ensuring that no job applicant, employee, volunteer, member, service user or person within its jurisdiction (together "Stakeholders") are unlawfully discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation (together the "Protected Characteristics under the Equality Act 2010") or any other irrelevant characteristic.'*

*'Swim England considers the aquatic disciplines to provide "sport for all". They can and should be made accessible to everyone, to the greatest extent possible.'*

The Club is committed to everyone having the right to enjoy their sport in an environment free from threat of discrimination, intimidation, harassment and abuse.

All Club members have a responsibility to challenge discriminatory behaviour and promote equality of opportunity.

The Club will deal with any incidence of discriminatory behaviour seriously, according to the club disciplinary procedures.

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## Safeguarding Policy Statement

Oxford & Witney Artistic Swimming Club is committed to providing an environment in which all children participating in its activities have a safe and positive experience.

In order to achieve this OWASC agrees to:

- Adopt and implement Wavepower the Swim England Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures in full.
- Recognise that all children participating in activities regardless of their age, gender, race, faith, sexual orientation and ability have the right to enjoy their involvement in our sports in a safe environment and be protected from harm.
- Ensure that all individuals who work or volunteer with children in our organisation provide a positive, safe and enjoyable experience for children.
- Appoint a Welfare Officer with the necessary skills and training as outlined in Wavepower who will take the lead in dealing with all child safeguarding matters raised within the organisation.
- Ensure that the Welfare Officers' name and contact details are known to all staff, members and parents/guardians of members that are under 18.
- Ensure that all individuals who work with children in the organisation have undertaken the appropriate training, have had the relevant DBS checks and adhere to Wavepower and the Regulations of our sports.
- Ensure that all individuals who will be working or will work with children in either a paid or voluntary role have been recruited in accordance with the Safe Recruitment Policy contained in Wavepower.
- Ensure that all individuals who work with children in the organisation have received the appropriate training for their role and been provided, understand and adhere to the requirements of the Codes of Conduct and Wavepower.
- Provide all members of the organisation and parents/guardians of members under 18 with the opportunity to raise concerns in relation to a child's welfare in a safe and confidential manner.
- Ensure that all child safeguarding matters, whether they be concerns about child welfare or protection, are dealt with appropriately in accordance with the guidance for reporting and action in Wavepower.
- Ensure that confidentiality is always maintained and in line with the best interests of the child.
- Ensure all information relating to child safeguarding matters are held safely and securely.