***Please Action ASAP and at the latest by 22 March 2024***

As the Okehampton Otters Welfare Officer I need to ensure that all people involved with Otters annually complete a confirmation that they have read, understood and comply with the relevant Swim England Codes of Conduct to their role(s).

A new Swim England Safeguarding Policy (Wavepower) was issued in January 2024 and this has prompted a reconfirmation of the Codes of Conducts with anyone involved with Otters.  <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/wavepower-child-safeguarding-for-clubs/>

Mobile Phones

A main amendment which I would like to highlight to you all is it is prohibited to use any mobile phone or device in a changing area during Swim England regulated activity (training and competitions).  Therefore, all mobile phones should be kept in a bag whilst in the changing room.  Coaches can use phones once poolside for taking of registers and monitoring training.  Any questions please ask or refer to the safeguarding policy for clarification.  There are a few exemptions so if you think you or your child may fall into this category please refer to the safeguarding FAQ page. <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/wavepower-faqs/>

Adults

I would be grateful if you would please read the appropriate attached Code of Conduct(s) and then complete the form <https://forms.gle/3yZcQGVaaEJmSDhR9> to confirm you have read, understood and will comply with the applicable code of conduct(s) to your role(s).

As my role as Welfare Officer, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that you should be mindful of what you say, being respectful and ensure that the language you use while poolside and within ear shot of coaches, committee members, volunteers, parents, swimmers is appropriate and kind.  As a club we should be endeavouring to be a positive environment for young people and adults to volunteer, train and be trained.

Under 18 Athletes

Please ensure that each Under 18 swimmer member reads, understands, and will comply with the attached Under 18 Athlete Code of Conduct.

Then complete this form <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSchITr9xmKhFuv7ae3Gy-krNKlBMquuY6-t_e1S3zjjkjJSkQ/viewform?usp=sf_link>) to confirm your child has read, understood and will comply with the Under 18 Athlete Code of Conduct.

Please complete a new form for each under 18 swim club member.

Any queries or problems please feel free to contact me.

Many thanks

 Allyson Bales

Welfare Officer

Okehampton Otters