

KW Water Polo Club Code of Conduct



Members of the KW Water Polo Club represent themselves, the Club, the sport of water polo and their community when they travel to tournaments/events. The Club is striving to protect an image that will make us all proud of our sport and our players. Therefore, all individuals representing/travelling with the KW Water Polo Club will be expected to abide by the following Code of Conduct.

Please Note: The Code of Conduct is in effect from the point of departure until players are returned to the care of their parents/guardians. Infractions of the Code of Conduct may result in a player being sent home early, with that player's family having to assume the full cost of the trip and return fare.

Players must not drink or carry alcoholic beverages, nor use drugs other than those prescribed by a physician. Prescription drugs must be reported to the coaching /managerial staff. However, proper administration of these drugs will be the responsibility of the individual concerned.

Orderly and reasonably quiet behaviour is expected while representing the Club.

All team members are expected to respect each individual's need for rest, study time and personal space. Please consider that not everyone is equally comfortable with human touch, including hugging and kissing. Therefore, athletes, chaperones and coaches shall refrain from touch deemed inappropriate at all water polo events. Players of the opposite sex must further have permission from coaches/chaperones to be in each other's rooms. If permission has been granted, room doors must remain open at all times. Athletes from other teams are not allowed in our player's hotel rooms.

Curfews, as determined by the staff, are set to ensure proper rest for all players. These must be adhered to at all times. Failure to comply may result in that player being scratched from the tournament and in extreme cases sent home at his/her expense.

Appropriate behaviour is mandatory on all team trips. When behaviour is deemed unacceptable by the coaches and chaperones, that player may be scratched from the tournament and sent home at his/her own expense. In extreme cases (i.e. violent or abusive behaviour, theft or vandalism etc.) dismissal from the Club may result should it be deemed necessary in the opinion of the accompanying staff and upon approval by the Board of KW Water Polo.

Players should consider it their responsibility to report any behaviour that does not adhere to the "Code of Conduct to the coaches or chaperones".

Coaches and chaperones have final say at all water polo events regarding the interpretation and enforcement of these rules.

Parent's Code of Conduct

As an Executive, we thank-you for all the support you provide the club's players throughout the year. We really appreciate your presence at practices, fundraising events and tournaments and encourage you to come out and participate. Players need and depend upon your encouragement and positive support at the tournaments. This has always been exemplary. They count on you to role model and uphold the code of conduct of all sports by being positive, encouraging and trusting of referees and coaches to do their jobs.

Your passion and positive attitude is what has made our club have one of the best groups of supporting fans in the province.

As an executive, however, we ask for you to uphold the club's code of conduct, which includes:

- Appropriate, respectful and positive language. Give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.
- Show respect and appreciation for the volunteer coaches and encourage open communication.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse in the sport.
- Respect the officials' decisions and encourage participants to do the same.
- Show respect for the team's opponents, because without them there would be no game.

There may be times, however, when you may not agree with calls (or lack of calls) made by the referees. This is particularly challenging for us as parents when safety becomes an issue. We understand the frustration and concern that results from being unable to do anything from the stands, while watching your child risk possible injury. We need to trust the referees to officiate the games in a fair and safe manner, and trust that the coaches will advocate to protect our players. If you perceive that this does not occur, follow-up after the game with the coach and the Ontario Water Polo Association to help resolve any concerns. As an executive, we also will do our best to work with the OWPA to ensure fair and safe refereeing practices for our players.

The Executive reserves the right to ask that a disruptive spectator be asked to leave the stands. Please ensure that this step will not be required by adhering to the code of conduct. Let's all work together in order to strive to project an image that will make us all proud of our sport and our players.

Change Room Policy

When using change rooms and/or washrooms at any facility, members will:

- Be respectful of all facilities, including proper use of the showers, toilets & sinks, sitting areas and lockers etc. This requires as a minimum that showers are turned off after use, taps are not left running, paper products are not misused and all garbage is placed in the appropriate receptacles.
- Please show respect for all facility staff and other patrons.
- Do not leave clothing and personal items unattended or unsecured. Bring your own lock if you want to leave your possessions in a locker. KW Water Polo and the athletic facilities are not responsible for lost or stolen articles.
- Inappropriate language, boisterous behaviour, excessive spraying/splashing of water, vandalism, graffiti and theft are all absolutely prohibited. Please report theft, damage or maintenance issues to coaches, chaperones and/or facility staff immediately.
- The privacy of others must be respected. Any device that can record, or might appear to be able to record, images or sounds must be turned off and stored away while in the changes rooms. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of any digital or analog device such as still and video cameras or other recording devices and camera/voice recorder-equipped cellular telephones. Any and all use is strictly prohibited. If you need to use your cell phone to make a call, wait until you exit the change room/washroom.
- When travelling with the team, all athletes must further adhere to the rules as set out in the KW Water Polo Club Code of Conduct. Infractions of this policy must be reported to a coach, chaperone or other responsible adult immediately and may be considered by the Board of KW Water Polo as grounds for disciplinary action.
- Remember that you not only represent yourself, but also your family, your club and your community. Please conduct yourself with dignity at all times.