SU Men’s and Women’s Water Polo Club Code of Conduct

All in the SU Men’s and Women’s Water Polo Clubs (SUWPC or Club(s)) must understand what we stand for and expect in our code of conduct. Importantly, this does not refer to particular offences in the water polo pool (such as a brutality or disrespect charges) as those often draw their own sanctions (although may be relevant based on the nature and frequency of incident(s)), but rather goes to the actual behaviour we deem appropriate and also not in the spirit of our Club.

This document is the Club Code of Conduct. All Club participants acknowledge the Code of Conduct as part of registering and playing for the Club. This applies to Players, Coaches, Officials, Parents and other Associates of the Club and will be governed by (non-conflicted members) of the Men’s or Women’s Executive Committees (as appropriate), including if relevant imposing disciplinary action for situations the Executive Committee deem to be breaches of the Code of Conduct.

Players (and Coaches, Officials, Parents and other Associates where relevant) will abide by the following:

- **Role Model / Uniform** - Be an active and proud member of the SUWPC, acting as a role model and mentor for other members of the Club. Wear the Club uniform at all official matches and functions (if appropriate). Act in a responsible manner at Club events and functions and always promote the Club in positive way.

- **Respect** - Act with respect and courtesy to all participants of the Club and affiliate organisations at all times. Participants of the Club include appointed Coaches, managers, Club members, Executive Committee members and most importantly you must show respect and support for your own team members and opposing teams. Participants of affiliate organisations including SU Sports, WPNSW, WPA, water polo tournament and match officials including referees and table judges and other teams, clubs and their officials. All members of the Club should refrain from using offensive and disrespectful language at all times.

- **Responsibility** - Requirement to take responsibility for actions that breach the Code of Conduct and acknowledgement that the Executive Committee of the Club may seek to impose disciplinary action it deems appropriate over and above sanctions that may be imposed by WPNSW, WPA or other sporting bodies.

- **Authority** - Whilst representing the Club, adhere to the directions of the team Coach, team manager and Club Executive Committee members at all times.

- **Availability** - Be available for selection for competition matches SUWPC enters including but not limited to National Water Polo League, WPNSW Metropolitan Summer and Winter Competitions, Australian University Games, NSW State (including Col Smee) and National Championships.

- **Attendance** - Attend organised training sessions including but not limited to water polo specific skills and team tactic sessions, swimming conditioning sessions, strength and conditioning sessions. Be punctual and perform at all sessions in a manner to provide you and your Club mates the best possible opportunity to reach your potential.
• **Communication** - Communicate in a timely manner with Coaches and managers on any difficulties with attending certain training sessions, matches and competitions. The status of any injuries also needs to be communicated openly and honestly to Coaching staff. Rehabilitation programs should be committed to should they be necessary.

• **Social Media** - Use social media responsibly and not make any public or media comment which is detrimental to the interests of the Clubs or Club participants. All Players, Coaches, Officials, Parents and other Associates where relevant must:
  - ensure communication at all times conforms to the values set out in this Code of Conduct, is dignified and in good taste, and not contain vulgar or obscene words or images;
  - not imply that any personal comments are endorsed in any way by the Clubs or falsely represent any other person;
  - not participate in social media networks in such a way that harasses, defames, discriminates or treats unfairly or inappropriately any stakeholder of the Clubs;
  - not communicate frustration at a referee or Official, Player, team-mate, Coach, competitor or sporting body via social network channels;
  - not speak for or post images on behalf of or related to the Clubs’ business operations, marketing campaigns, facilities, membership, Players, Coaches or Officials or media coverage without the express prior approval of the Club Media Officer;
  - not use the Club logo without the express prior approval of the Club Media Officer;
  - not give out personal details, locations, confidential information or other content including images the Player, Coach or Official does not have permission to publish;
  - only represent their own views and not impersonate others;
  - be responsible for obtaining, where applicable, the consent of any other persons appearing in any still or moving images posted; and
  - if using social network forums in any way in relation to the Clubs or water polo, to add value and promote the Clubs, Players, Coaches or Officials in a positive way.

• **Support Staff** - Appointments with SU Sports or Club support staff must be attended as directed by Club Coaches. They may include but are not limited to strength and conditioning Coaches, dieticians, sports psychologists and physiotherapists.

• **Club Functions** - Do your best to be available to attend and assist with SUWPC and SU Sports functions that are organised from time to time including but not limited to the Club Presentations Event, team dinners, SUWPC fundraising events such as the Annual SUMWPC Blue & Gold Water Polo Lunch and SU Sport Blues Dinner.

• **SU Orientation Week** - If you are currently studying at SU, assist with the organising of Orientation Week on behalf of the SUWPC, as requested by the Club or SU Sports.

• **National League Squad Members and SU Sports Elite Training Program Members** - Be available to attend SUWPC training, development and/or junior team training sessions, as requested by the SUWPC Coaching staff.

• **Scholarship Holders** - Where you are a SU Sports Scholarship Holder, you should fully commit to the SUWPC and SU Sports programs and complete the full tenure and responsibilities of the SU Sports Scholarship Program.
• **Financial** - Ensure all financial obligations to SUWPC and SU Sports are met and reconciled. If a member wishes to leave the Club, SUWPC and SU Sports must be reimbursed for all financial benefits and other support provided to the member.

• **Alcohol** - Adhere to team Coach, Club Executive Committee and team manager's directions at all times. **Players U18 years of age or representing SUWPC in teams L18, M18 or below are not permitted to consume or have in their possession alcohol when representing SUWPC including at Club functions, competitions and on tours.** For players 18 years or older, and not representing SUWPC in teams L18, M18 or below, if consuming alcohol during the season and particularly at Club functions, competitions, and on tours, in the absence of any specific instructions from Club Coaches and management, any consumption of alcohol must be done responsibly.

• **Issues / Concerns** - Any concern should be raised privately with a Club Coach, team manager or Executive Committee member.

• **On Tour** - Players should ensure team Coaches and / or team manager are aware of player's whereabouts at all times. Players are not to be disruptive to other players or cause disturbance or damage at team accommodation or elsewhere. Players should look after each other as a group.
Reminders for SUWPC Players, Coaches, Officials, Parents and other Associates

- **Play by the rules.**
- **Never argue with an official** - if you need clarification, have your captain, Coach or manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- **Control your temper** - verbal abuse of officials, sledging other players or deliberately distracting or provoking opponents is not permitted.
- **Work equally hard for yourself and your team** - your team’s performance will benefit — so will you.
- **Be a good sport** - applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- **Show respect to and acknowledge opponents and officials** - (e.g. shake hands before and after the game and say things like ‘good luck’, ‘thanks for the game’, ‘thanks ref’, ‘three cheers for...’).
- **Cooperate with your Coach, team mates and opponents** - without them there would be no competition.
- **Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit** - not just to please parents and Coaches.
- **Play fair** - no verbal abuse of officials, sledging other players (including vilification) or deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent.

**PLAYER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I __________________________ (player name) acknowledge that I have received a copy and read the SUWPC Code of Conduct and that I agree to be bound by the Code of Conduct.

__________________________  ________________
Signed by Player                  Date

**PARENT/GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

I/We acknowledge that I/we have received a copy and read the Code of Conduct and agree that my son/daughter will be bound by the Code of Conduct.

__________________________  ________________
Signed by Parent/Guardian       Date

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Name