

# BELLINGHAM BAY SWIM TEAM PARENT SUPERVISION POLICY

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## PURPOSE

The following guidelines are designed to maintain personal privacy as well as to reduce the risk of misconduct in locker rooms, changing areas, and deck space.

## MONITORING

### General Policy Considerations

As patrons of the Arne Hanna Aquatic Center, swimmers are expected to follow the rules and regulations of the facility:

- (a) No food or drink allowed within 6 feet of the pools.
- (b) Patrons must shower before entering swimming pools.
- (c) All patrons must walk at all times in locker room and pool deck areas.
- (d) No street shoes are allowed within six (6) feet of pools.
- (e) Proper swimming attire must be worn.
- (f) All children age six (6) and under are required to have an adult in the water, within arms reach at all times regardless of swimming ability.
- (g) Incontinent patrons must either wear a swim diaper or plastic pants with elastic waist and leg bands.
- (h) Only one diver will be allowed on the diving board including stairs at a time and may only bounce once on diving board.
- (i) Divers must dive straight off the end of the diving board only.
- (j) There is no swimming in the dive tank while the diving board is in use.
- (k) Swimmers must be at least forty-eight (48) inches tall to go down the water slide regardless of swimming ability.
- (l) Swimmers must ride feet first only on the water slide.
- (m) One person is permitted on the slide at a time.
- (n) Smoking is not permitted in the facility.
- (o) Floatation aids may be permitted with adult supervision and subject to lifeguard discretion.
- (p) Swimmers must be sixteen (16) years of age to go in the hydrotherapy pool.
- (q) Towels are not provided; please be sure to bring your own.
- (r) Absolutely no glass or porcelain items of any kind are permitted on pool deck, including breakable presents.
- (s) The Arne Hanna Aquatic Center will not be responsible for lost or stolen articles.
- (t) Rentals may not flow into another swim session, food and clean up must occur during your rental time.

(u) The Arne Hanna Aquatic Center reserves the right to refuse admittance to the pool, or to expel from the pool any person who, in the judgment of the supervisor, is not desirable due to misconduct or who constitutes a health hazard to other participants in the program.

(v) All fees are payable in advance unless special arrangements have been approved through the Aquatics Manager and listed on the rental contract.

### **Prior to Practice**

BBST has staggered practices, with different groups arriving and departing throughout the day. It is therefore not practical to constantly monitor locker rooms and changing areas over this extended course of time. Coaching staff and facility staff are not responsible for the monitoring of swimmers outside of practice times. Parent supervision is required for all swimmers outside of practice times.

The Washington State Health Department regulation states that children 6 and Under cannot be in the building or be alone in the locker without an adult.

Parents with 6 and Under swimmers must walk their swimmer into the building and make sure they are suited up and ready to jump in the water before they get to practice. Once practice begins, that is the sign that you have turned your swimmer over to us for supervision during that practice session. Coaches cannot be in the locker rooms with the swimmers. If your swimmer needs to change after practice, please have arrangements made for the supervision of your child in the locker room. Changing is not allowed on the deck and must be done in either the public locker room or family changing rooms.

In the case that an adult other than the child's parent or guardian is assuming responsibility for the supervision of a swimmer: We discourage those adults from entering locker rooms and changing areas unless it is truly necessary. In those instances, it should only be a same-sex adult. If this is necessary, the swimmer's parents are required to let the coach or administrator know about this in advance.

### **During Practice**

Coaches and staff make every effort to recognize when an athlete goes to the locker room or changing area during practice and competition and, if they do not return in a timely fashion, we will check on the athlete's whereabouts. If it is necessary for a coach to enter the locker room, he or she will only enter the same-sex locker room and will enlist another adult to accompany him or her. In the case that another adult cannot be found, the coach will then notify a staff member upon entering the locker room.

### **After Practice**

BBST has staggered practices, with different groups arriving and departing throughout the day. It is therefore not practical to constantly monitor locker rooms and changing areas over this extended course of time. Coaching staff and facility staff are not responsible for the monitoring

of swimmers outside of practice times. Parent supervision is required for all swimmers outside of practice times.

With so many swimmers using the locker room at once, swimmers are expected to maintain a reasonable noise level, and behave respectfully. BBST is not the only group using the locker rooms and parents are required to monitor their swimmer once practice is finished. Coaching staff is not responsible for monitoring swimmers after practice.

Showers, locker, private bathrooms are on a first come, first serve basis. Swimmers are expected to wait their turn for use of all facilities. Swimmers are also expected to be aware of the limited space and shower promptly.

Any issues that may arise should be directed to the coaching staff to be dealt with appropriately. Parents are not to confront swimmers who are not in their charge.

#### **USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER MOBILE RECORDING DEVICES**

Cell phones and other mobile devices with recording capabilities, including voice recording, still cameras and video cameras increase the risk for different forms of misconduct in locker rooms and changing areas. The USA Swimming Athlete Protection Policies prohibit the use of such devices in the locker room or other changing area:

***305.3** Use of audio or visual recording devices, including a cell phone camera, is not allowed in changing areas, rest rooms or locker rooms.*