



Waitemata Synchro Club – Internet and electronic communications policy

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This policy is formulated in order for Waitemata Synchro Club (WS) to fully uphold its commitment that all members respect the rights, dignity and worth of others, and to refrain from all forms of abuse, harassment or discrimination. This policy governs the use of electronic communication, social media, and the use of other electronic devices and is in line with the SSNZ code of conduct for New Zealand competitors relating to media issues.

Waitemata Synchro Club recognises that internet use and social media use is a normal and everyday part of life, and a powerful and important communication tool between the synchro community, locally and internationally. However, it is not an appropriate tool for issuing formal complaints. Complaints should be dealt with via the Waitemata Synchro Club Dispute procedures.

Swimmers, parents and coaches are entitled to have a personal opinion and express that on social media in private groups, but posts that cause harm to any party inside or outside the synchro community will not be tolerated.

In the event of this arising Waitemata Synchro Club's dispute resolution process should be followed.

General rules of internet and electronic communications policy.

1. All communications pertaining to:
 - a) Waitemata Synchro Club,
 - b) any member or associates of the club,
 - c) the wider community of Synchro New Zealand,whether in a personal capacity or as representative of Waitemata Synchro Club must be governed by the overriding principles of respecting others and refraining from all forms of abuse, harassment or discrimination encompassed in the Waitemata Synchro Club Code of Conduct agreement.
2. An athlete is entitled to make public comment or communication with the Media in relation to their own personal performance in training or competition during the term of this agreement, as long as it complies with the principals mentioned in the Code of Conduct, but may not make or endorse any public statement having, or designed to have a negative effect on Waitemata Synchro Club, any member or associate of the club, or the wider synchro community.
3. Athletes, coaches and officials must comply with the communications / media policy of SSNZ while competitions are being held or on SSNZ team training periods.
4. The spokesperson on any matters concerning the Waitemata Synchro Club team (or individuals who form part of this team) participating at any event is the Head Coach, then Team manager (although he or she may delegate responsibility for this to any other official of the team).
5. The use of cell phones and other electronic devices by athletes is prohibited during Waitemata Synchro Club training times and restricted during Waitemata Synchro



Club trips away (including but not restricted to training camps, competitions or similar). The restrictions for Waitemata Synchro

Club trips are as follows:

- a) All athlete's cell phones, electronic gaming devices, lap tops and other electronic communication devices will be held by the team manager for the duration of the trip.
- b) External communication with athletes will be through the team manager at contact details which will be provided to families and care-givers before the trip.
- c) At the discretion of the coach athletes may have access to their devices for limited periods when they are not required to partake in other activities.
- d) Exceptions to these restrictions will be evaluated on a case by case basis by the Waitemata Synchro coach and team manager.

In the Event of a Breach of the Code of Conduct

In the event of any breach of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Waitemata Synchro Club Dispute resolution policy (and appeal process if necessary) should be followed.