



# MPUMALANGA

Province Swimming / Provinsie Swem  
Non-Profit Organization No. 031-811-NPO



## GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT

Upon registration as a member of Mpumalanga Province Swimming (MPS) and by signing the Swimming South Africa (SSA) Capitation Form, all members unconditionally accept and pledge commitment to the provisions and undertakings stipulated in the "CODE OF CONDUCT".

The General Code of Conduct is contained in the MPS By-Laws and applies to all capitated individual members of MPS and SSA, be they competitors, coaches, office bearers or officials.

In addition to the aforementioned, all Coaches, Swim Instructors, Teachers & Volunteers are also bound by the *Coaches, Swim Instructors, Teachers & Volunteers Code of Conduct*, which is also included in the MPS By-Laws.

Each individual member shall:

### 1. CONDUCT

- 1.1 Ensure and maintain the highest level of professionalism in the sport, whether in or out of administration, competition, officiating or within or without the borders of Mpumalanga and/or South Africa, whether as an amateur or a professional, or at any time whatsoever whilst in membership with MPS.
- 1.2 Conduct themselves in a proper and professional manner, so as not to bring anyone, including the individual member, the Republic of South Africa, MPS and SSA, the team management, sponsors, or any entity associated with the sport, into disrepute or censure, and at all times shall act in the interests of the sport in accordance with the directives of MPS and the team management, where applicable.
- 1.3 Conduct themselves in such manner, which will ensure optimal fitness, health and performance, as well as to perform to their best ability at all times.
- 1.4 Comply with all decisions and instructions given and made by MPS, its duly appointed and authorized representatives, officials and/or proxies.
- 1.5 Comply with the rules and regulations of any event organizer in which the individual member is participating.
- 1.6 Use their best endeavors to ensure compliance with this Code of Conduct, acknowledging that adherence hereto is vital to the maintenance and promotion of aquatics as a code governed by MPS in and outside Mpumalanga or South Africa.
- 1.7 Refrain from any unsportsmanlike behavior towards fellow members, competitors, guests, officials, administrators or any other person.



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- 1.8 Shall not in any way act or participate during an event in such a manner which constitutes any form of cheating; thereby agreeing to the principles of fair play at all times.
- 1.9 Refrain from vandalism of private or public property. Any costs incurred as a result of any act of vandalism by a member will be recovered in full from the member prior to any future participation in any MPS or other SSA sanctioned events.

## **2. MEDICAL**

- 2.1 Undergo such medical or other testing as may reasonably be required by SSA, World Aquatics, IOC, MPS, Competition organizers, or a duly appointed authority, in order to determine whether the member has transgressed any provision regarding banned or prohibited substances.
- 2.2 When selected to represent any team associated with MPS and/or SSA, whether on an international, national, provincial, regional or local basis, or the like, shall agree to achieve and maintain their optimal fitness and health in order to perform to the best of their ability.
- 2.3 At all times, make a full declaration to MPS and/or SSA of any factors, which may affect their performance due to physical, mental or any other reason whatsoever.
- 2.4 Agree to conduct themselves in such a manner so as not to endanger their health, fitness or wellbeing, and agree to ensure that their health and wellbeing is maintained at all times before, during and after a tour, training camp and/or competition.
- 2.5 Responsible for advising MPS and/or SSA and the Team Management of any medication with regard to allergies or the treatment of any illness.
- 2.6 Not take or use any type of medication without first consulting MPS and/or SSA and the Team Management while traveling with the team or during competition.
- 2.7 Agree to advice any private or family medical practitioner of the need to use medication not listed under the list of prohibited or banned substances as determined by World Aquatics and/or the International Olympic Committee (IOC), whether during training or competition season.

## **3. DOPING CONTROL**

- 3.1 Be solely responsible for noting the conditions of doping control as set by World Aquatics, SSA and the like.



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- 3.2 Not to take any prohibited or banned substance as determined by World Aquatics and/or the International Olympic Committee (IOC), or any organizer, and in this regard, confirm that any such transgression, whether intentional, negligent or innocent, constitutes a breach of the MPS General Code of Conduct, as a consequence of which the member shall be liable to the appropriate sanction.
- 3.3 Be responsible for submitting all doping control forms, in triplicate, within the stipulated time period.
- 3.4 As a registered member of MPS and SSA, any competitor may be subjected to random drug doping tests if, when and where required. Any trace of illegal substances will result in automatic disqualification and could lead to a temporary or permanent ban from competitive swimming. Refusal by any member to attend a random drug doping test will be regarded as an admission of guilt and subject to immediate disqualification or suspension.

## **4. DRESS CODE**

- 4.1 Accept that MPS shall have the sole discretion to determine what clothing shall be worn during the duration of competitions, training camps and functions.
- 4.2 Comply with the dress code determined by MPS, including, but not limited, to the wearing of the appointed uniform and/or clothing and/or kit for travelling, training and competition and for designated functions, awards, ceremonies, etc.
- 4.3 Wear clothing, kit, etc. that has been approved by MPS or the event organizer.
- 4.4 Appear at all presentations, television interviews, etc. in the clothing provided by MPS and/or as directed by MPS or team management.
- 4.5 Be responsible for all clothing and equipment sponsored by MPS, and shall be personally responsible for the replacement of the same clothing and equipment at his/her own cost.
- 4.6 Will be neatly clothed at all times.

## **5. TEAM REPRESENTATION**

- 5.1 Any member selected to represent MPS or members accompanying selected teams will abide by the rules, regulations and arrangements of the appointed team management.
- 5.2 A competitor selected to represent his/her province is expected to make herself/himself available and to follow team protocol at all times.



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- 5.3 No competitor is permitted to withdraw from any event or race without the approval of the Team Manager and subject to acceptable medical reasons.
- 5.4 Team members will sit together at any team event and support fellow team members.
- 5.5 Team members will wear appropriate team attire or swimwear at all times when representing MPS. The use of official team wear is compulsory when receiving medals or attending any awards ceremony.

## **6. TRAVEL/ACCOMMODATION OF MPS TEAMS**

- 6.1 Accept and agree that MPS, where applicable, will undertake all travel and accommodation bookings.
- 6.2 Be expected to settle all outstanding World Aquatics financial obligations one week before the member/team's departure.
- 6.3 Be responsible, if approved by MPS, for any deviations from the original schedule set by MPS with regards to travel, costs, etc.
- 6.4 Accept the decision of the team management with respect to mode of travel, accommodation arrangements, etc. when applicable.
- 6.5 Be personally responsible for all additional expenses, such as private telephone calls, room service, etc.
- 6.6 Travel to and from competitions in accordance with the manner and directions of MPS and/or its duly authorized or appointed representatives, and in this regard, shall as far as is practically possible, travel together as a team.
- 6.7 Agree that at all times, whilst travelling to and from and while on tour, or meetings, to stay in the accommodation provided by MPS, and further agree to be subject to and comply with all directions and orders of MPS, its duly authorized representatives, team officials and the proxies.
- 6.8 Be responsible for advising MPS and the team management of any religious or dietary objections/needs.
- 6.9 Any alternative travel or accommodation arrangements by a member must be approved by the MPS Executive prior to departure.



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## **7. MINORS**

- 7.1 In the case of minors, their parents and/or legal guardians of any team member, shall agree in writing that MPS and/or its duly authorized representatives shall have the authority of in loco parentis to exercise any control over such minor team member, in the interest, health and wellbeing of the member, MPS, the sport, other team members and any other authorized persons.
- 7.2 Any member suspecting any practice or incident of child abuse taking place, as outlined in the MPS Child Protection - and Safeguarding Policy, are obliged to report such a case or suspicion without delay to MPS.

## **8. BEHAVIOUR**

- 8.1 Unless authorized by MPS and/or its duly authorized representatives, the members shall not some, consume alcohol or imbibe any substances banned by MPS, SSA, World Aquatics, IOC, organizers, or any substance declared illegal by any due authority.
- 8.2 Act in accordance with the directions and in the interest of sponsors as approved by MPS and to provide the sponsors with the appropriate exposure whilst a team member, or at any time whilst receiving any benefit from such sponsor. In this regard, members agree to, as is reasonably required, appear in advertisements for such sponsors for no remuneration, unless authorized by MPS.
- 8.3 Not advertise, be associated with, or endorse any product or service which is illegal, immoral, or contrary to the interests of any official sponsor of MPS or its events or competitions and/or any products, services, promotions, commercials, advertisements, or the like which are not sanctioned by MPS or its events, products, services, promotions, commercials, advertisements or the like not sanctioned by MPS.
- 8.4 Not display any mark or logo at any time, which is not that of the MPS official sponsor or approved by MPS; provided all signage or logos on swimming attire are subject to World Aquatics General Rule 6 read with World Aquatics By-Law 7. No body advertisements in any form are permitted at any swimming event.
- 8.5 Accept that the use of abusive language, rowdy behavior, discrimination of any kind, as well as any form of physical or emotional abuse will not be tolerated.
- 8.6 Accept that no act or behavior associated with any form of discrimination, harassment, abuse or victimization aimed at any member will be tolerated.



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## **9. MEDIA**

- 9.1 Not make, comment, issue, authorize, offer or endorse any public criticism or statement having or designed to have an effect prejudicial to the best interest of the sport, MPS, SSA, team members, other competitors, organizers, or any other person or body whatsoever. In this regard, members are only permitted to comment about their own personal performances and prospects.
- 9.2 Whilst as a member of a team or a competition, not to act as a journalist, contributor to articles, or give interviews to the print or electronic media without having obtained the prior written permission from MPS.
- 9.3 Shall be entitled to undertake interviews to the media as arranged by MPS; subject to the provisions of Section 9.1.
- 9.4 Members undertake to obtain accurate information and/or statistics from MPS prior to submission of any newspaper article for publication purposes.
- 9.5 Members undertake and agree not to use any form of social media to harass or victimize any fellow member, administrator or official and will immediately refrain from such acts of harassment or victimization upon request; failing which will result in immediate suspension from all activities of MPS and/or immediate suspension of membership. Harass in this will include the sharing or sending of any information, messages, threats, statistics, images etc. to a recipient, in which instance the recipient expressly requested the sender to refrain from such actions or to remove the recipient from the sender's contact list.

## **10. DISCIPLINE**

- 10.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein or in the MPS Constitution, MPS and/or its duly authorized representatives, shall have the power to hold a summary disciplinary enquiry over any team member, and to terminate such a team member's membership and/or participation in any tour, training camp or team, and any damages suffered by it and/or its sponsors as a result of such termination.
- 10.2 Any member has the right to appeal against any decision of the disciplinary action.

## **11. INDEMNITY**

- 11.1 Once the individual member has been selected to represent MPS in any capacity, he/she expressly agrees that MPS shall not, in any circumstances whatsoever, be under any liability whatsoever for any loss, damage or injury of whatsoever kind arising directly from any act, neglect or default on the part of MPS and connected with he or she's membership of the team.





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- 11.2 Hereby indemnifies, and will at all times hereafter sufficiently indemnify and keep fully indemnified, MPS and its appointed Team Officials from all actions, suits, proceedings, claims, demands, costs and expenses whatsoever, which may be taken or made against MPS or incurred or become payable by injury and hereby agree (without obligation upon MPS to do so) that MPS may act as the agent in incurring such expenses, and/or do whatsoever is reasonably necessary for his/her benefit in connection with or arising out of any such loss, damage or injury.
- 11.3 It is incumbent upon members to familiarize themselves with the contents of this Code. Failure to do so will in no way constitute or cause any member to be exempted from the provisions of this Code of Conduct.
- 11.4 Any breach of any provision of this Code shall be deemed to be a serious offence in terms of the MPS Constitution and, as a consequence will be subject to sanction as provided by the MPS Constitution.

## 12. ACCEPTANCE BY COMPETITOR AND PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN

- 12.1 Competitors will not be registered unless the Declaration by the Competitor and Parent/legal guardian is completed and signed.
- 12.2 No times will be recorded for any unregistered competitor.
- 12.3 No clearance will be given to any unregistered competitor.

This Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with the Laws of South Africa.

### DECLARATION

I \_\_\_\_\_ (member/competitor),  
\_\_\_\_\_ (ID) hereby confirm that I have studied the contents of  
the MPS General Code of Conduct and herewith agree to commit myself to the provisions,  
rules and regulations stipulated in the MPS General Code of Conduct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
COMPETITOR (ABOVE AGE OF 16)

\_\_\_\_\_  
LEGAL GUARDIAN/PARENT 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
LEGAL GUARDIAN/PARENT 2

**NOTE: Parent/Legal Guardian to sign Code of Conduct on behalf of competitors below the age of 16**