



Notice to parents

Two issues arose at last night's gala (21.4.18) at Abbey Stadium that I need to address and ask for your cooperation with please.

The first is parents entering the changing rooms. Parents are not allowed to enter the changing rooms at any time either before, during or after a gala for safeguarding reasons. Only coaches, club officials and poolside helpers are allowed to enter the changing rooms. This is because all of those people be they from Redditch or visiting clubs, will be DBS checked and only DBS checked people are allowed to enter changing rooms or be poolside. We have to remember that there will be swimmers from other clubs present who will not know parents from Redditch.

I appreciate that some parents may be concerned when their young inexperienced child swims in a gala and is perhaps unsure of what to do or where to go,(we have all been there) but there are plenty of properly trained and experienced Redditch SC staff to guide and advise them through that process.

I would encourage parents to advise their child(ren) to speak to our poolside helpers, Team Managers or coaches if they are unsure about anything.

We are always looking for additional help poolside and if parents would like to assist the club and swimmers poolside at galas they would be most welcome. Any volunteer would have to be DBS checked which I can arrange and then they will be trained in poolside duties, Team Managers role, timekeeping etc. We can't have enough volunteers.

The second issue that has arisen again is parents dropping off their child and not being at Abbey to collect them on time. If parents are not able to stay for galas or training, which is quite understandable in some circumstances, then I would ask that a club official is informed and parents ensure that someone poolside is in possession of a contact number for parents in case an issue arises where contact with parents is needed. This is especially important with the younger swimmers. I want to avoid the situation where children are left waiting for collection at the end of a gala or training and no club official is aware. That may be putting the swimmer at risk.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Malcolm Ross
Chair and Welfare Officer Redditch Swimming Club
22nd April 2018