



# ESSA Water Polo Code of Conduct 2019 onwards

Patron: HRH Duke of Cambridge

**Boys/Mixed U13 (Year 7- 8); Boys/Mixed U15 (Year 7-10);  
Boys U18 (Year 9-13)  
Girls only U13 (Year 7 - 8); Girls only U15 (Year 7-10);  
Girls only U18 (Year 7-13)**

*For ease of identification purposes these age groups are known in ESSA as  
Junior - U13, Intermediate - U15 and Senior - U18.*

## CODE OF CONDUCT

- Behaviour and personal conduct must always be of a high standard and reflect favourably on the sport, The School and the ESSA.
- Respect should be shown at all times to match referees and officials.
- Language in public or relevant group situations including competition must always be appropriate and socially acceptable.
- The players should be made aware and reminded by school staff of their responsibilities as ambassadors for their school and the sport as a whole when at competitions.
- Staff coming with a team should have some knowledge of the rules of the sport.

In addition it is expected that all Players and Staff and/or Coaches when attending any event shall:

- Comply with the code of conduct, rules and laws of the game and within the guidelines set out by ESSA. Behave without discrimination on the grounds of race, language, religion, birth or social status as set out in the equal opportunities policy.
- Respect the basic human rights, worth and dignity of each member.
- Not encourage players, volunteers, officials or parents to violate the rules of the tournament or the sport.
- Observe the authority and the decisions of all officials.
- Encourage all players to obey the spirit of the rules and laws both in and out of the pool.
- Treat other competitors and teams with respect, in victory and defeat.
- Player exclusion for brutality to another player is an automatic removal from the game and from the tournament. They will then miss the next game the player's team

competes in that is under ESSA direction. The School will then decide their own course of action and sanctions with their pupil. ***This will run over into the next school year if necessary.***

- Player exclusion for offensive behaviour is an automatic removal from the game and a one match ban. ***This will run over into the next school year if necessary.***

#### **COACHES ARE REMINDED THAT:**

- Only a Head Coach can stand and move to 5m WHEN HIS TEAM ARE IN POSSESSION, at all other times to be behind the goal line.
- Other coaches must remain seated at all times.
- Substitutes should be seated.
- It is NOT the responsibility of the coach to provide a running commentary of the game by continually shouting/directing his/her players.
- ESSA encourages positive attacking play.
- Time wasting is now covered by the laws of the game and would result in a penalty to the opposing team.
- A coach who receives a red card will leave the poolside immediately. For the team's next match, the coach will not be permitted to be involved in either the warm up or game itself.
- Inappropriate behaviour breaching the ESSA Code of Conduct will result in the incident being reported to their school. The School, through the Headmaster or Head Teacher, will decide their own course of action on the individual or team with the use of sanctions at their disposal.
- ESSA retain the right at all times to exclude a school or one of its teams from its competitions at any time where the Code of Conduct has been breached.

***ESSA Honorary Water Polo Secretary, 2021 Onwards***