

## **MODEL CLUB BY LAWS**

**Developed for use by Swimming Clubs affiliated, or intending to affiliate with,  
Swimming NSW Limited.**

**These By Laws should be utilised in conjunction with the Model Club Constitution  
developed for use by swimming clubs.**

**Any questions regarding this document, or the associated Model Constitution, should  
be directed to the Swimming NSW office on 9763 5833.**

# BY-LAWS OF GOSFORD STINGRAYS SWIMMING CLUB INCORPORATED

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. STATUS OF BY-LAWS

#### 1.1 Power to Make By-Laws

These By-Laws are made by the *Gosford Stingrays* Swimming Club Incorporated under Clause 28. They are binding on all Members. In the event of a conflict between these By-Laws and the Constitution, the Constitution will prevail.

#### 1.2 Definitions and Interpretation

The definitions in the Constitution apply to these By-Laws. In addition, the following definitions apply:

“**Clause**” means a clause of the Constitution.

“**Competitions**” means and includes:

- (a) any championship organised or conducted by the Club;
- (b) any championship, competition, series or meeting sponsored by or conducted by or on behalf of the Club.

“**Disciplinary Tribunal**” means the disciplinary tribunal of the Company constituted under By-Law 5.

“**Swimmer**” means an Individual Member who competes at Club or higher level.

# MEMBER BY-LAWS

## 2 MEMBERSHIP AND FEES DUE TO THE CLUB

### 2.1 Membership Classification

- (a) Swimming Member, is a full fee paying member who swims at club events and/or competes for the Club
- (b) Junior Swimming Member, is a full fee paying member who swims at club events and/or competes for the Club and is under the age of 18. Junior Swimming Members must have a parent or guardian as a life member, swimming or non swimming Member of Gosford Stingrays Swimming Club
- (c) Non Swimming Member, is a member who does not swim at club events and/or compete for the club.
- (d) Life Member, is a member who has been granted Life membership of Gosford Stingrays Swimming Club as per Clause 5.2 of the Constitution
- (e) Second Claim Member, (as defined by Swimming NSW) is a member of another club affiliated to the governing body who has had their application of Second Claim Membership approved by the Board of Gosford Stingrays
  - (i) All Second Claim Membership applications are required to demonstrate a benefit to Gosford Stingrays Swimming Club
  - (ii) Second Claim Members are ineligible to vote on any issue or to be nominated for, appointed to or occupy any Board or Committee position, as defined in the Constitution of Gosford Stingrays Swimming Club Incorporated and these By-Laws.
  - (iii) Second Claim Members under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian as a life member, swimming member, non swimming member or second claim member of Gosford Stingrays Swimming Club

### 2.2 FEES DUE TO THE CLUB

- (a) Fees payable in accordance with Clause 7 will be payable by all Members as defined in By-Law 2(b), provided that fees will not be payable in respect of a Life Member;
- (b) The annual registration fees payable to the Club in respect of each Individual Member will consist of a SAL and SNSW component which includes registration and insurance cover and a Club administration fee as determined by the Committee from time to time.
- (c) All registration fees are due on the first day of October in each year.
- (d) The Committee may refund any fee which, in its opinion is warranted.
- (e) Second claim members will be charged a service fee not less than the club administration fee as applies to swimming members.

### **3. DISCIPLINARY BY-LAW**

#### **3.1 Establishment of Disciplinary Tribunal**

The Committee shall establish a Disciplinary Tribunal to deal with all disciplinary actions and matters under Clause 11. A disciplinary action and matter must be solely and exclusively resolved by the Disciplinary Tribunal

#### **3.2 Composition of Disciplinary Tribunal**

- (a) A Disciplinary Tribunal of three (3) persons shall be appointed by the Committee for the purpose of hearing disciplinary actions and matters under Clause 11.2. The Committee shall also appoint a member of the Disciplinary Tribunal as chair who in the opinion of the Committee is competent in dealing with disciplinary matters.
- (b) The Committee may call for applications to the Disciplinary Tribunal.
- (c) No Committee member or a family member dealing with a matter relating to a member of that family shall be a member of the Disciplinary Tribunal.
- (d) Three (3) members of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall constitute a quorum.

#### **3.3 Notice of Alleged Breach**

- (a) Where the Committee is advised or considers that a Member has allegedly:
  - (i) breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of the Constitution, the By-Laws, the Policies and the rules or any resolution or determination of the Committee; or
  - (ii) acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the Objects and interests of the Club and/or swimming; or
  - (iii) brought the Club or swimming into disrepute,the Committee shall notify the chair of the Disciplinary Tribunal.
- (b) The chair of the Disciplinary Tribunal shall, as soon as practicable upon receipt of notice in accordance with By-Law 3.3(a), serve on the Member a notice in writing:
  - (i) setting out the alleged breach of the Member and the grounds on which it is based;
  - (ii) stating that the Member may address the Disciplinary Tribunal at a hearing to be held not earlier than fourteen (14) and not later than twenty eight (28) days after service of the notice;
  - (iii) stating the date, place and time of that hearing;
  - (iv) informing the Member that he do one or more of the following:
    - (A) attend that hearing; with parent/guardian if under the age of 18
    - (B) give the Disciplinary Tribunal, before the date of the hearing a written statement regarding the alleged breach.

### **3.4 Disciplinary Tribunal Procedures**

- (a) At a hearing of the Disciplinary Tribunal held in accordance with By-Law 3.3(b)(ii), the Disciplinary Tribunal shall:
  - (i) give to the Member every opportunity to be heard;
  - (ii) give due consideration to any written statement submitted by the Member; and
  - (iii) by resolution determine whether the alleged breach occurred.
- (b) The Club and the Member shall not be entitled to legal representation at the hearing of the Disciplinary Tribunal.
- (c) The Disciplinary Tribunal shall hear and determine the alleged breach in whatever manner it considers appropriate in the circumstances (including by way of teleconference, video conference or otherwise) provided that it does so in accordance with the principles of natural justice. The purpose of the hearing shall be to determine whether the alleged breach occurred.
- (d) If the Disciplinary Tribunal considers that the alleged breach occurred, it may impose any one or more of the penalties set out in By-Law 3.5.
- (e) If the Disciplinary Tribunal considers that the alleged breach did not occur, the matter shall be dismissed.
- (f) Each party shall be responsible for their own costs associated with the Disciplinary Tribunal hearing. The Disciplinary Tribunal has no power to award costs to a party.

### **3.5 Penalties**

If the Disciplinary Tribunal considers that the alleged breach occurred, the Disciplinary Tribunal may impose any one or more of the following penalties:

- (a) impose a warning;
- (b) fine the Member;
- (c) where there has been damage to property, direct that the Member pay compensation to the relevant organisation which controls or has possession of the property;
- (d) cease funding granted or given to them by the Club from a specified date;
- (e) suspend for a specified period and/or terminate any rights, privileges and benefits provided to that Member by the Club;
- (f) reprimand the Member;
- (g) suspend the Member from membership of the Club for a specified period;
- (h) expel the Member from the Club;
- (i) any other such penalty as the Disciplinary Tribunal considers appropriate.

### **3.6 Appeal from Decision of Disciplinary Tribunal**

- (a) Any Member, the subject of an adverse finding in proceedings in accordance with By-Law 3 may appeal to The Association committee in relation to that adverse finding.
- (b) Such appeal shall be dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary procedure set out in Association by-laws, policies or rules.

## **COMMITTEE BY-LAWS**

### **4. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE**

The composition of the Committee as required by Clause 21 may consist of the following:

- (a) Office Bearers, being;  
President, Vice President(s), Secretary, and Treasurer
- (b) Other members;  
3 other members
- (c) The Committee shall comprise of 7 members and form the “Board” as defined in the Constitution of Gosford Stingrays Swimming Club Incorporated

### **5. ELECTION PROCEDURES FOR COMMITTEE**

- (a) Where there is more than one nomination for any position, a ballot for that position shall be held. Where there are nominations for the positions of office bearer and Committee, the positions of the office bearers shall be determined first.
- (b) The Annual General Meeting shall appoint at least two tellers for each ballot.
- (c) Members shall record their vote by placing a mark (cross or tick) opposite the name of the candidate(s) of choice for that office.
- (d) On the count of votes in respect of any position, the candidate(s) who has received the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to that position(s).
- (e) In the case of an equality of votes for any position it shall be resolved by lot to eliminate the unsuccessful candidate(s).
- (f) If a ballot paper is not completed in accordance with By-Law 5(c) the ballot paper shall be deemed to be informal.
- (g) The result of the ballot shall be declared at the Annual General Meeting. The declaration of the poll by the chairperson shall include the following information:
  - (i) the number of Members eligible to vote;
  - (ii) the number of votes received; and
  - (iii) the number of votes declared valid.
- (h) All ballot papers for the annual elections are to be destroyed after the declaration of the poll.

## **6. COMMITTEE MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **6.1 Committee Members**

Committee members shall:

- (a) guide any standing committees to which they may be assigned on all matters affecting the Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and rules or any previous decision of the General Meeting or the Committee;
- (b) act honestly, independently and with due diligence in all decision making;
- (c) ensure that the resources of the Club are effectively and efficiently managed to fulfil the Objects;
- (d) contribute to the development of the Clubs strategic and business plans;
- (e) attend any assigned committee and act as the Committee adviser in the formulation of committee work plans;
- (f) present recommendations and reports of any assigned standing committee to the Committee.

### **6.2 President**

The President shall:

- (a) promote the image of the Club at all times and lead the pursuit of the Objects and carry out such duties as requested by a General Meeting and the Committee;
- (b) be responsible for the leadership and overall administration of the Club;
- (c) represent the Club on external bodies as determined by the Committee; and
- (d) coordinate the Committee activities and ensure that the Committee properly undertakes its governance role.

### **6.3 Vice President**

The Vice President shall assist the President in carrying out their duties and shall attend to such matters as the President may, from time to time, request.

### **6.4 Secretary**

- (a) The Secretary of the Club must, as soon as practicable after being appointed as secretary, lodge notice with the Association secretary and SNSW of their address and contact details.
- (b) The Secretary must ensure full and accurate minutes of all members in attendance, questions, matters, resolutions and other proceedings of each Committee meeting and General Meeting are entered in the Club's minute book.

## **6.5 Treasurer**

The Treasurer of the Club must ensure:

- (a) that all money due to the Club is collected and received and that all payments authorised by the Club are made;
- (b) that correct books and accounts are kept showing the financial affairs of the Club, including full details of all receipts and expenditure connected with the activities of the Club; and
- (c) as soon as practicable after the end of each financial year, a statement containing the following is prepared:
  - (i) the income and expenditure for the financial year just ended, and
  - (ii) the Club's assets and liabilities at the close of the year.

## **7. OFFICERS**

### **7.1 Appointment of Officers Generally**

- (a) The Committee may appoint the following officers:
  - (i) equipment officer;
  - (ii) publicity officer,
  - (iii) delegate to the Association up to 4 persons max
  - (iv) Registrar
  - (v) Race Secretary
  - (vi) Other positions as required
- (b) Applications shall be invited for the positions specified in By-Law 7.1(a) as determined by the Committee.
- (c) Applications for officer positions specified in By-Law 7.1(a) may include a précis submitted by the applicant of their background, experience and qualifications pertinent to the position.
- (d) The Committee may at any time terminate the appointment of any person appointed to an officer position and any such person may resign from such position by letter delivered to the Secretary.

### **7.2 Equipment Officer**

The equipment officer shall be responsible for the following:

- (a) report disposition or acquisition of the Club equipment to the Secretary for updating of the asset register;
- (b) cause the transporting of equipment owned by the Club from any place of safe custody storage as directed by the Committee;
- (c) ensure that all equipment owned by the Club is maintained in good order, and periodically report to the Committee on the condition of the equipment and recommend maintenance, repairs or replacement thereof; and



- (d) provide a capital expenditure budget item for inclusion in the annual budget.

### **7.3 Publicity Officer**

The publicity officer shall be responsible for the following:

- (a) promotion of the objects of the club
- (b) submission by way of press releases of club results, club activities and upcoming events to media outlets
- (c) compilation and distribution of club newsletters
- (d) Manage the clubs online web page and electronic media

### **7.4 Registrar**

The Registrar shall

- (a) Maintain accurate records of the clubs current and financial members
- (b) Manage membership applications, renewals and transfers
- (c) Maintain records on club members Working with children checks where required
- (d) Provide membership updates at each general meeting

### **7.5 Race Secretary**

The race secretary shall be responsible for the following

- (a) Accept race entries and compile start sheets for club events. Results will be recorded for the provision of awarding prizes as determined by the committee.
- (b) Enter club relay teams at required meets as provided by the selection Committee
- (c) Accept and process manual race entries for meets accepting Meet Manager entries as required
- (c) Forward any correspondence received to the committee in a timely manner
- (d) Upkeep the files for all the club members swimming results on the provided software system

## **8. STANDING COMMITTEES**

- (a) Standing committees specified in By-Law 8(l) shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting for a one year term.
- (b) Every person appointed, unless ceasing to hold office in consequence of death, resignation or removal from office, will continue to hold office until the completion of their respective term or the appointment of the new standing committee.

- (c) Nominations shall be invited for the positions on standing committees specified in By-Law 8(l) at least forty five (45) days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting and the closing date for nominations shall be at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. A list of nominees shall be included on the agenda paper for the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) Nominations for positions on standing committees may include a précis submitted by the nominee, of their background, experience and qualifications pertinent to the position.
- (e) The Committee may at any time terminate the appointment of any standing committee and any such person may resign from a standing committee by letter delivered to the Secretary.
- (f) A member of any standing committee who is absent from three consecutive meetings without explanation acceptable to the Committee shall be declared to have vacated such standing committee membership and the Committee shall appoint another member in his place.
- (g) A quorum for a meeting shall be fifty percent plus one (50% + 1) of the voting members on each standing committee.
- (h) The President shall be ex-officio member of all standing committees.
- (i) Each standing committee shall receive and consider all matters, correspondence and proposals which are referred to it by the Committee and which fall within the scope of the functions of the standing committee as stated in these By-Laws.
- (j) All standing committees shall:
  - (i) identify and minimise areas of risk within the standing committee's area of responsibility;
  - (ii) contribute to the administration of all phases of their particular facet of the sport within the rules and policy limits, delegated to the standing committee;
  - (iii) refer any undecided policy items to the Committee for determination;
  - (iv) where necessary work in conjunction with other standing committees within the Club;
  - (v) if so decided by the standing committee invite a person to attend a meeting to speak on a specific matter;
  - (vi) subject to the approval of the Committee, have the power to co-opt additional members as deemed necessary; those members will be entitled to voice without vote;
- (k) The standing committee secretary shall:
  - (i) in consultation with the standing committee chairman issue, through the Secretary, notices convening meetings;
  - (ii) cause accurate minutes to be kept of all meetings;
  - (iii) deliver to the Secretary within seven days, in the format approved by the Committee, a copy of all minutes, reports and recommendations arising from standing committee meetings for reference to and consideration by the Committee; and

- (iv) cause all standing committee correspondence to be directed through the Secretary.
- (l) Subject to the Constitution there shall be a standing committee for the following:
  - (i) a selection committee;
  - (ii) a competition committee
- (m) The composition of each standing committee and the duties and terms of reference relating to each standing committee are set out in By-Laws 9 to 10.

## **9. SELECTION COMMITTEE**

- (a) The selection committee shall comprise of three (3) Individual Members elected at the Annual General Meeting;
- (b) On every occasion when a team is to be selected to represent the Club, the Committee shall notify the selection committee of its requirements. The selection committee shall by a specified time submit to the Committee a list of names of Individual Members totalling the number required by the Committee and graded in such a manner as the selection committee, in the absence of any direction from the Committee, considers appropriate to the type of team or squad required. The selection committee may further, at its discretion, recommend an increase or decrease in the team complement. The Committee shall have the right to adopt the recommendations in whole or part. It may reject any recommended Individual Member but shall not add to the list without a prior recommendation from the selection committee.

## **10 COMPETITION COMMITTEE**

- (c) The functions of the competition committee shall be to:
  - (i) review the competitive swimming programme of the Club at the completion of each year and recommend to the Committee alterations where necessary;
  - (ii) carry out at the request of the Committee any duty related to the conduct of Club meets; and
  - (iii) generally comply with the provisions of By-Law 8.
- (d) The membership of the competition committee shall be:
  - (i) a Committee member appointed by the Committee who shall be the Chairman;
  - (ii) two (2) suitably qualified Members elected at the Annual General meeting in accordance with By-Law 8
- (e) The chair shall have a deliberative as well as a casting vote; each other member shall have one (1) vote.
- (f) The operation of the competition committee shall be as agreed by the competition committee members from time to time.

## **11. Club Captains**

- (i) One male and one female club captain will be elected at the AGM by the Junior swimming members of Gosford Stingrays on a first past the post voting system.

- (ii) Acceptance of nomination must be received 14 days prior to the AGM.
- (iii) To be eligible to stand for the position of club captain the nominee must be 14 years or older and below 18 years at the time of the AGM.
- (iv) The duties of a Club Captain are
  - (a) provide feedback from the swimming members to the committee.
  - (b) Lead by example and provide support and encourage for all swimmers
  - (c) Provide peer leadership and assist with the running of swimming events on club nights and targeted meets.

## **12**

### **CHILD PROTECTION AND SUPERVISION**

- (a) The supervision of members under the age of 18 is the responsibility of their parent or guardian. If a parent or guardian is not present that responsibility must be given to and accepted by another responsible adult who is in attendance at the Club event.
- (b) Gosford Stingrays shall comply with SAL and Swimming NSW recommendations regarding child protection.

# SWIMMING BY-LAWS

## 13 LAWS AND RULES GOVERNING GOSFORD STINGRAYS SWIMMING CLUB

The technical laws of FINA as set out in the handbook of FINA with regard to swimming shall (where practicable) be applicable and binding on all competitions held in the Club.

## 14 ELIGIBILITY

- (g) A person who is not an Individual Member or Life Member shall not nominate for, nor hold office except the office of patron, vice patron and auditor.
- (h) A person elected patron or vice patron who is not an Individual Member or Life Member, shall be deemed to be a Member whilst holding such office. The holding of office shall not entitle a person to compete in a meet unless such person is otherwise duly eligible to compete.

## 15 FORFEIT OF FEES AND PRIZES FOLLOWING DISQUALIFICATION

Where a Swimmer is disqualified or suspended in respect of an event, all fees paid and prizes won by such Swimmer shall be forfeited. The Committee will have full power to confiscate any prize and redistribute or deal with the matter at its discretion.

## MISCELLANEOUS BY-LAWS

### 16 PATRONS

Such persons as shall be invited annually by the Committee to grant their patronage and subject to their concurrence, the Committee will submit the names to the Annual General Meeting for endorsement.

### 17 SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD

- (i) The Club shall recognise outstanding service to the Club by an Individual Member who shall be eligible to receive the service excellence award provided that the nominated member has given at least ten years outstanding service to swimming.
- (j) Candidates for the award may be nominated by any Member.
- (k) The criteria is not based on length of service alone but shall also include the scope of the nominee's contribution beyond the norm of ordinary duties of office.
- (l) Nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary by 31 March each year on the approved nomination form and shall include swimming specific qualifications.
- (m) The Committee will determine from the nominations the recipients of the service excellence award. No more than five service excellence awards will be awarded in any one year.
- (n) The service excellence award will be presented to the recipient at an Annual General Meeting.

### 18 COLOURS & BADGE

- (a) The colours and badge of the Club shall be as determined at a General Meeting.
- (b) The colours of the Club will be Teal.
- (c) The badge of the Club shall be a navy blue stingray with yellow border. The badge shall not be made or worn without written permission of the Committee.

### 19 AVAILABILITY OF AMENDED PAGES

Where an addition to, amendment or rescission, wholly or in part, is made to the Constitution, By-Laws, Policies or rules, updated copies of the relevant pages shall be available on request to the Members within two calendar months of any such addition to, amendment or rescission of, whether wholly or in part or otherwise shall be posted on the Clubs website.

## **COMPETITION BY-LAWS**

### **20 CHAMPIONSHIPS, CLUB POINTSCORE AND OTHER SWIM MEETS**

The Committee shall determine the order of events and the duration of the Championships, point-score events and such other swim meets as it determines from time to time, giving as much notice as possible to Members. The Committee shall also determine annually the format for the conduct of the Championships Meet for the ensuing year. PROVIDED THAT, the format so determined shall be advertised at the time of calling entries for the Meet.

### **21 CHAMPIONSHIP AND POINTSCORE CONDITIONS OF ENTRY**

- (a) The Committee may approve qualifying times (if any) for entry to championship and pointscore events and other conditions of entry as appropriate to the meet.
- (b) All entrants in the Club Championship and point-core events shall abide by and be subject to the By-Laws and the SNSW general rules, swimming rules, by-laws, policies, and published procedures as applicable.

### **22 CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FORM, AGE DETERMINATION**

- (a) The Club Championship entry and age determination shall require:
  - (i) an entry for a Championship event shall be made at the direction of the Committee, either electronically, on the official Club form or card provided or any other method approved by the committee, which shall include the entrant's best time for the distance, in accordance with the conditions of entry, showing the meet and date when the time was established, being equal to or better than the qualifying time approved for this event (if any), current registration number, and in the case of an age event, date of birth; and
  - (ii) an entrant in an Age Championship shall be of the specific age on the first day of the meet series and if the Committee so desires, shall produce a certificate of registration of birth or other satisfactory evidence of date of birth signed by the parent or guardian of the entrant.

### **23 EMERGENCY POWERS**

Under special circumstances the Committee may cancel or suspend all or any Championships as set out in By-Law 20.

