



Sydney Stingers Water Polo Club

Membership Pack 2

**Club Charter, Code of Conduct
and Member Expectation**

January 2017

Contents

1.	<u>Club Charter</u>	3	
	a) <u>Mission Statement</u>		3
	b) <u>Vision</u>		3
	c) <u>People</u>		3
	d) <u>Culture</u>		3
	e) <u>Commitment to Excellence</u>		3
2.	<u>Code of conduct</u>	4	
	a) <u>Club Executives shall:</u>		4
	b) <u>Club members shall:</u>		4
	c) <u>Club members shall not:</u>		4
	d) <u>Violation of the Standards of Conduct may result in:</u>		5
3.	<u>Club Member Expectations</u>	6	
	a) <u>Member Attendance</u>		6
	b) <u>Player Engagement</u>		6
	c) <u>Fundraising Event Participation</u>		6
	d) <u>Club Uniform</u>		7

1. **Club Charter**

a. **Mission Statement**

Our Mission is to provide an inclusive, friendly environment to learn and play Water Polo, train and socialise.

b. **Vision**

To have a positive profile within the Sydney GLBT community; to consistently have high performing Executive members, Administrators, Coaches, Managers, Umpires and Players; to provide quality Coach, Umpire, Manager and Player development and mentoring programmes; provide skilled, dedicated and willing volunteers and to ensure the club is financially sustainable.

c. **People**

People are the most important asset in our Club. The people make the club what it is today – without great people we do not have a great club.

d. **Culture**

To provide an environment where all members can feel comfortable and welcome and where they can be themselves without judgement.

e. **Commitment to Excellence**

We are committed, collectively and as individuals, to strive for excellence at all times. The Club commits to providing our members with processes to improve their game performance through training, player development and mentoring programmes and will provide opportunities for all players to develop to the best of their ability. We welcome everyone regardless of experience, however to play Water Polo it requires strong swimming skills and endurance. The club therefore encourages new and beginner players to join and actively develop and improve all skills as required.

2. Code of conduct

The Code of Conduct shall serve as a guideline for how individuals are expected to behave when participating in Sydney Stingers Waterpolo sponsored or endorsed activities. All members of the Club will conduct themselves in a manner compatible with that of the Code of Conduct outlined below. When Sydney Stingers members participate in an event sponsored or endorsed by the Club, the participant indicates, by their registration in the event, they agree to represent their Club in a way that does not detract from the reputation of the Club they are representing, and to act morally, professionally, courteous at all times and display sportsmanship-like behaviour, before, during and after any competition or event.

Guidelines of conduct include, **but are not limited to** the examples outlined below.

a. **Club Executives shall:**

- Lead by example at all times.
- Act in the best interests of the Club and the players.
- Positively reinforce the actions of players.
- Be honest with yourself and players.
- Create an enjoyable environment in which to play the game.
- Develop team respect for players, coaches and officials.
- Give all players the opportunity to participate in the game
- Insist on fair play and discipline.
- Be reasonable on the demand on players' time, energy, enthusiasm and acknowledge effort

b. **Club members shall:**

- Play by the rules of the game.
- Play for enjoyment.
- Enjoy the sport and the engagement of the game and your team members.
- Be committed to your team. Attend all practices and matches.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team – your team's performance will benefit and so will you.
- Be a good sport – cheer all good plays whether they are by your team or by the other team.
- Co-operate with your coach, team-mates and opponents – without them there would be no game.
- Treat all players as you would like to be treated.
- Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
- Show respect, courtesy and manners to everyone concerned at all times.

c. **Club members shall not:**

- Strike, attempt to strike or otherwise physically abuse any team member, opposing player, spectator, coach or official.
- Provoke an opponent or intentionally engage in or incite participants and/or spectators to engage in abusive or violent action.
- Use obscene gestures, profanity or disrespectful language towards any other team member or bystander.
- Act inappropriately when wearing the club uniform or representing the club brand.
- Disrespect other team members based on race, sex, orientation or personal attribute.
- Intentionally deface, steal, damage or misuse club equipment.

d. **Violation of the Standards of Conduct may result in:**

- A formal warning (3 warnings result in suspension)
- Suspension from the game/match/season;
- Forfeiture of an individual award/s;
- Suspension from the tournament/event;
- Ejection from the Club.

3. Club Member Expectations

What is expected as a Sydney Stinger:

a. **Member Attendance**

Water Polo is a team sport and for the benefit for all members of the club, attendance is required. Playing Water Polo is a big personal commitment for each member and the Club appreciates that individuals become sick, have holidays, have prior arrangements and simply just need a rest, these are all valid reasons not to attend however as Water Polo is a team sport, without players in the pool, it's difficult for other members to fully engage with the game. When all members come together as a team, it makes the experience that much more enjoyable for all who play.

If team members do not turn up to the games or to practice, it makes it difficult for your other team mates to benefit in the pool and it means that those who do turn up have to work harder to cover those who have not turned up.

If you're not registered with NSW Water Polo or you're unable to play a game (for whatever reason), it would be great to have your support on the Tuesday nights either on the sideline; helping out with the scoring table or to support your team mates during the games.

b. **Player Engagement**

Water Polo is a team sport and for the benefit for all members of the club, attendance is required and we request that all members attend all practices and matches.

If you're registered to play with NSW Water Polo then the expectation is that you attend the games each Tuesday night.

Each member is required to listen to their Game captain actively during games, practices and matches and be accepting to constructive feedback while training. While playing a match, listen to your Game Captain and take direction/instruction as suggested/recommended.

Water Polo is a physical contact sport and is challenging and rewarding, enjoy the game and the engagement of your team mates. Each member is required to work equally hard for themselves as well as for your team – your team's performance will benefit and so will you.

Never disrespect or talk back to a referee or game official. Each member shall be a good sport at all times – it's important that we cheer all good plays whether they are by your team or by the other team. Always co-operate with your coach, team-mates and opponents – without them there would be no game.

Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player. Be committed to your team and show respect, courtesy and manners to everyone concerned at all times.

c. **Fundraising Event Participation**

The Club organises two (2) fundraising events each year; a community fundraiser and a community event.

Club fundraising directly benefits all members and it's the Club's request that all members participate (where possible) in these two events and assist with ticket sales and the communication of all events through their social media platforms and connections.

The Fundraising events allow the club to heavily subsidise the Club's operating costs which directly affects each member's annual membership fee. The more effort each member puts into raising funds at each event will assist with reducing/offsetting the Club's operating expenses and directly impacts member's benefits within the Club.

d. **Club Uniform**

Club members will have the opportunity to purchase a club uniform during a uniform production run. It is each member's responsibility to ensure the uniform is clean. Members are requested to wear the uniform when representing the club at games and Stingers branded events or community social activities.

The Club uniform should be worn with pride at all times.

Any member who is acting inappropriately while wearing the club uniform will be either asked to leave the event or remove the Club's uniform to ensure the Club's brand or reputation is not tarnished.