



RLSS UK
Safeguarding

RLSS UK Poolside Mobile Phone Policy

Author: Lee Heard and Richard Flavell supported by Safe LTD

Date: 26 April 2023

File Name: RLSS UK Poolside Mobile Phone

© Copyright Statement

This document is confidential and shall not be used by anyone other than authorised employees of the Royal Life Saving Society (UK) RLSS UK, nor used or disclosed outside the RLSS UK (or its affiliates) without the express written permission of the Chief Executive. All title to and copyright in this document is retained within the RLSS UK.

Control Sheet

Document Review

| Name | Title |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Representatives of | S.E.D.A.G |
| | |
| | |
| | |

Document Approval

| Name | Title | Department | Signature | Date |
|------------------|------------------|------------|---|------------|
| Lee Heard | Charity Director | Charity |  | 12/04/2023 |

Version History

| Version | Amendment/Reason | Date |
|-------------|------------------|------------|
| v1.0 | Initial document | 12/04/2023 |
| | | |
| | | |

Associated Documents

| Document | Version |
|---|---------|
| RLSS UK Adult at Risk Safeguarding Policy and Procedures | V1.0 |
| RLSS UK Child Safeguarding Policy and Procedures | V1.0 |

Review dates

This document should be reviewed in line with the details in section 8 and updated to reflect relevant changes.

Contents

| | |
|--|---|
| RLSS UK Poolside Mobile Phone Policy | 1 |
| 1.0 Policy Introduction | 4 |
| 2.0 Guidance for Swimmers, Team Managers, volunteers and Parents | 4 |

1.0 Policy Introduction

The Royal Life Saving Society UK acknowledges that mobile devices are now widely used within daily life. This includes the increasing athlete use, especially when accessing music in preparation for performance sport.

Custom and practice is being witnessed by young participants on the world aquatic stage. The aim of this policy is to embrace the changing technological environment, promoting safe and appropriate practice by establishing clear guidelines for acceptable use of mobile phones and other mobile devices whilst on poolside.

This guidance is for recognised lifesaving sporting events only.

2.0 Guidance for Swimmers, Team Managers, volunteers and Parents

It is recognised that smart phones, tablets and other mobile devices contain a variety of functions that can be susceptible to misuse. Misuse may include the taking and distribution of images, exploitation and bullying. For example, the inappropriate use of social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and other social media. Please refer to guidelines in the RLSS UK Safeguarding Policies and Procedures for more detail. The RLSS UK Policy can be found [here](#).

RLSS UK recognises the need to ensure the welfare and safety of all young people in RLSS UK activities and events. As part of our safeguarding commitment, we will not permit photographs, video images or other images to be taken on poolside or used without the consent of the parents/guardians/carers and the child or adult at risk.

Misuse of these devices can cause immense distress and upset to individuals which may impact their health and self-confidence.

RLSS UK however recognises that there are uses for technological equipment that can prepare an athlete for performance and are part of their lifesaving experience. It also recognises the practicality of mobile phones for volunteers on poolside.

RLSS UK will allow mobile devices on poolside, however, use of mobile devices for photography is strictly prohibited. Athletes, staff and volunteers who wish to use their mobile device on poolside should declare it for this purpose at event registration. Users will be provided with removable stickers to apply to any part of a device that could be used for photography.

When using a mobile device on poolside, removeable stickers must be applied at all times and if a mobile device is in view, the stickers must be visible to officials and events organisers.

RLSS UK reserves the right to remove a mobile device should the purpose of use not be in line with this policy and the RLSS UK Safeguarding Policy.

If an individual refuses to comply with this policy they will be disqualified/removed from the competition environment.

Any misuse of devices should be reported immediately to the event safeguarding liaison.