

United Parent Protocols

In addition to the Swimming NZ Parent Code of Conduct, United has the following protocols that parents and guardians are expected to follow.

1. Be a positive role model and set the right example. Show respect, courtesy, and good sportsmanship to others, including other parents, coaches, officials, administrators, and other teams
2. Respect the aims and objectives of the club and support your child by:
 - allowing them to turn up on time for practice and competitions
 - ensure they have the right equipment
 - understand what competitions they have coming up and ensure they are entered on time
3. Allow the coaches to coach. Unlike many clubs, United allows parents to be poolside during training, subject to their presence not interfering with the training:
 - by distracting or issuing instructions to swimmers
 - talking to the coaches. If you would like to discuss something with a coach, please wait until after training has finished and make a time with the coach
4. Be positive about the club and other members and be constructive when required. If you have any concerns, these should be addressed to the coach in private or to a member of the committee.
5. Get involved and demonstrate teamwork with other club members. There are many ways that you can get involved and support your swimmer and your club:
 - Learn the rules of competitive swimming
 - Volunteer to help with various functions of the club such as additional duties at meets, fund raising, organising events, and assisting at training camps and away meets

Being involved can be very rewarding and is a great way to get to know other team members

6. Do your fair share at meets. Meets cannot run without the support the assistance of parents and guardians. It is United policy that a parent or guardian from each swimming family is available if required to assist at meet that their swimmer is entered into. This includes arriving at the correct time to assist with these duties. This policy is set out below under [Parent Duties at Competitive Meets](#)
7. [Become a qualified technical official](#). It is the club's policy that each swimmer's family will have a qualified technical official over a specified timeframe and that the level of qualification will increase over time.

8. Know and follow meet etiquette. Each meet will have its own rules, but some common ones are:
 - Parents are not allowed on pool deck unless they are team manager or officiating – this includes not going into the team area even if your swimmer has finished their races
 - Let the coaches coach. Do not give your swimmer instructions, that is the coach's job
 - Let the managers manage. Do not give your swimmer instructions about when to go to marshalling, that is the manager's job
 - Scratchings and protests are to be done by the team manager (see more information at this link - [Competition Meet Protocols](#))
 - Never enter into a dialogue with an official unless it is in the capacity as a team manager, and in which case follow the meet protocols
 - Support all encourage all swimmers, not just your own swimmer
 - Ensure your swimmer arrives on time and does not leave until the end of the session, unless agreed with the coach and the team manager is informed
9. Ensure your swimmer is appropriately nourished for training and at swim meets
10. Be enthusiastic and supportive. Provide a positive and encouraging environment for your swimmer. Parents should not impose any personal ambitions on their child – a recent article by British Swimming asked the question whether you are a “Pressure Parent”