

IFSTA Swimming Teaching Code of Practice Standard



The Swimming Teaching Code of Practice Standard established by the International Federation of Swimming Teacher's Associations (IFSTA). This comprehensive guide has been created to facilitate the involvement of all members, non-members and developing nations in the field of swimming teaching, promoting safety, professionalism, and inclusivity. This standard practice code is designed to ensure a consistent and effective approach to swimming education globally.

1. Safety and Risk Management:

- Prioritize the safety of participants by adhering to established water safety protocols, including dedicated surveillance during lessons.
- Implement and maintain rigorous water quality standards for a safe swimming environment.
- Ensure proper emergency response plans and first aid training for instructors.
- Maintain essential safety equipment for swift responses to potential incidents.

2. Instructor Qualifications and Training:

- Set minimum qualification standards for instructors to ensure competence.
- Promote ongoing professional development through regular training opportunities.
- Enhance instructors' cultural sensitivity and inclusivity skills to cater to diverse learners.

3. Age and Skill-Appropriate Curriculum:

- Design structured lesson plans catering to different age groups and skill levels.
- Implement progressive teaching methods for effective skill development.
- Adapt teaching approaches to meet the needs of individuals with disability.

4. Inclusion and Diversity:

- Foster inclusivity by accommodating diverse cultural practices and beliefs.
- Ensure accessibility for individuals with disability and promote equality.
- Encourage the participation of underrepresented groups, where barriers may exist.

5. Hygiene and Health Guidelines:

- Uphold strict hygiene practices in and around the swimming facility.
- Provide guidelines for recognising and managing common health issues.

6. Community Engagement:

- Engage local communities to raise awareness about the benefits of swimming.
- Collaborate with local authorities and organisations to promote water safety.

7. Infrastructure and Facilities:

- Establish safety standards for pool design, construction, and accessibility.
- Provide guidelines for cost-effective and sustainable maintenance practices.

8. Parent and Guardian Involvement:

- Encourage parents and guardians to actively participate in the learning process.
- Offer resources to support caregivers in facilitating their children's progress.

9. Water Conservation and Environmental Awareness:

- Promote eco-friendly pool management and responsible water usage.
- Raise awareness about protecting natural water resources during swimming activities.

10. Financial Accessibility and Sponsorships:

- Offer affordable swimming lessons to ensure accessibility for all.
- Explore opportunities for sponsorships and partnerships to support swimming programs.

11. Crisis Management and Adaptability:

- Develop strategies to handle unforeseen challenges and emergencies.
- Establish effective communication protocols during crisis situations.

12. Child Protection and Safe-Guarding:

- Implement stringent child protection policies to ensure the safety and well-being of participants.
- Train instructors to recognize and respond to child protection concerns.

13. Promoting Water Safety Education:

- Promote water safety awareness among participants, parents, and communities.
- Integrate water safety education into the curriculum.

14. Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Regularly assess and evaluate instructors' performance and participants' progress.
- Collect feedback to improve the quality of swimming education programs.

15. Insurance:

- Ensure appropriate liability insurance coverage for instructors, facilities, and participants.
- Safeguard against potential risks and liabilities.

16. Complaints & Grievance Management:

- Establish a transparent mechanism to address and resolve complaints and grievances.
- Ensure participants have a platform to voice concerns in a supportive environment.

By adhering to this Swimming Teaching Code of Practice Standard, all members, non-members and developing nations can establish a strong foundation for effective and safe swimming education. The IFSTA encourages all stakeholders to adopt these guidelines to enhance the quality of swimming teaching programs and contribute to the overall well-being of participants.

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