



## Lane Share Policy

Document No 052 Rev 2

### ASA statement on adults and children sharing lanes in training

The ASA recommend that senior swimmers aged 18 and upwards and children should train in separate lanes. The ASA recognise that children and senior swimmers aged 18 and upwards may train together in the same lane if they are of a like standard AND physical size, but additional consideration to child safeguarding must be undertaken by the club. The ASA do not consider that children under 14 should share training lanes with adults.

Where separate lanes are impractical, it is vital that the club adopt a critical appraisal of the swimmers in the water and complete a careful risk assessment to ensure that the sessions are incident free. During competition warm ups involving senior swimmers and children under 14, promoters should make provision to allow different age groups to warm up at different times or allocate separate lanes to each age group.

When lane sharing is unavoidable coaches and clubs are required to conduct a thorough risk assessment of their training activities paying particular attention to the mix of swimmers in each lane and considering the following factors:

1. Is there suitable lane supervision at club sessions involving children? (i.e. under 18s)
2. The age and sex of the swimmers in line with ASA guidance below.
3. The relative sizes and abilities of the swimmers.
4. The individual swimmers lane discipline and precision of their strokes.
5. Introducing a lane etiquette guide e.g. re overtaking.
6. The presence of lifeguards.
7. The width of each training lane.
8. The number of swimmers in each lane.
9. Whether the session is open to spectators.
10. Ensure the club have an identified and publicised process by which concerns can be raised and an identified child Welfare Officer.

A risk assessment form has been generated to mitigate the risk of adults and children sharing lanes. This is available on request from the Welfare Officer (tascwelfare@outlook.com)