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**Appropriate Swimwear Policy**

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Approval: RP

**1. INTRODUCTION**

This document sets out the policy for appropriate swimwear to be worn within Fullwell Cross Leisure Centre. It is essential that all personnel dealing with members of the public abide by this policy.

**2. COMPANY POLICY**

This policy has been designed to protect the Company, its employees and customers of the facilities provided by Vision R C & L. The policy communicates the principles by which the Company and its employees operates and provides a framework to ensure that services are delivered in a good, safe and reputable manner through high calibre personnel.

Vision R C & L has a duty of care to provide a safe, friendly environment where all members of the public can take part in activities with confidence whether for fun, developmental, social or educational purposes.

The values derived from different backgrounds; racial, cultural, religious and linguistic are recognised by Vision. Their equality of opportunity is understood, embraced and supported by Vision.

**3. APPROPRIATE SWIMWEAR**

The swimwear market is subject to constant developments and as a result classification of suitable swimwear needs to be constantly reviewed. There are competitive swimmers that opt to wear complete head and body suits, and to accommodate religious and cultural beliefs some female and male users insist on wearing clothing that covers the majority of their body, legs and arms.

Male swimmers may wish to wear long baggy shorts, covering from navel to knee. As long as the shorts are hygienic and safe, they do not become sodden when wet and restrict leg movement, then they should be acceptable. Denim shorts are never acceptable at any length.

Female swimmers may wish to wear shorts over their costumes, this should be acceptable as long as the shorts meet the same criteria as any male swim shorts. Some female swimmers may wish to cover more of their legs and arms; the wearing of a tight fitted t-shirt and leggings underneath traditional swimwear should be acceptable as long as the fabric does not become sodden, cause drag or restrict movement in anyway.

Some Muslim women are opting to wear specially designed modest swimwear that provides full body, arm and leg covering as well as often a head covering. This is suitable for bathers as long as it falls within the following criteria:

- It is designed specifically for purpose i.e. by manufacturers such as Burkini, Speedo Hasema
- It is made from suitable fabric
- It is reasonably close fitting without trailing fabric
- Any overcoat/dress/tunic finishes above the knee
- Any head covering is a fitted hood type as opposed to a scarf style.

Examples of suitable modesty swimwear can be seen on below.

At no time can any form of underwear be considered as suitable swimwear.

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