

Summary of Cransley Sailing Club Welfare Policy



It is the policy of the Cransley Sailing Club to safeguard children and young people taking part in boating from physical, sexual or emotional harm. Cransley Sailing Club will take all reasonable steps to ensure that, through appropriate procedures and training, children participating in training and coaching activities do so in a safe environment. We recognise that the safety and welfare of the child is paramount and that all children, whatever their age, gender, disability, culture, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, social status or sexual identity, have a right to protection from abuse.

Cransley Sailing Club actively seeks to:

- Create a safe and welcoming environment, both on and off the water, where children can have fun and develop their skills and confidence.
- Support and encourage recognised training centres, affiliated clubs and class associations to implement similar policies.
- Recognise that safeguarding children is the responsibility of everyone, not just those who work with children.
- Ensure that RYA-organised training and events are run to the highest possible safety standards.
- Be prepared to review its ways of working to incorporate best practice.

We will:

- Treat all children with respect and celebrate their achievements.
- Carefully recruit and select all employees, contractors and volunteers.
- Respond swiftly and appropriately to all complaints and concerns about poor practice or suspected or actual child abuse.

This policy relates to all employees, contractors and volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults in the course of their Club duties. It will be kept under periodic review. All relevant concerns, allegations, complaints and their outcome should be notified to the RYA Safeguarding Co-ordinator.

For the purposes of this policy anyone under the age of 18 should be considered as a child. All members of the Club should be aware of the policy.

Club Welfare Officer

The Club Welfare Officer is: Caroline Hughes

Telephone: 07787 131698

Recruitment

The RYA Training Principal will be responsible for recruitment of staff & volunteers for training and coaching activities. For any position of paid employment, the Application form and Request for References in Forms 1 & 2 will be used.

Volunteers

All Club volunteers, those instructing, coaching or supervising young people, whose role brings them into contact with young people will be asked to apply for an Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure (and Barred List check if appropriate). The Club's Training Principal will coordinate the completion of these applications with the RYA Safeguarding Co-ordinator.

Good Practice

All members of the Club should follow the good practice guidelines. Those working with young people should be aware of the guidance on recognising abuse. These documents are included in the full Welfare Policy and are available on the Club's website.

The Club has introduced the RYA Code of Conduct for all members, volunteers and visitors.

Adults are requested not to enter the showers and changing rooms at times when children are changing before or after junior/youth training or racing. If this is unavoidable it is advised that they are accompanied by another adult.

Although RYA Clubs have a duty of care to their members, and particularly to young people who cannot take full responsibility for their own safety, parents/guardians of under-16s are responsible for their children's welfare and behaviour when at Cransley Sailing Club, or must designate another adult to take that responsibility.

The Club will seek written consent from the child and their parents/carers before taking photos or video at an event or training session or publishing such images. Parents and spectators should be prepared to identify themselves if requested and state their purpose for photography/filming. If the Club publishes images of children, no identifying information other than names will be included. Any concerns about inappropriate or intrusive photography or the inappropriate use of images should be reported to the Club Welfare Officer.

Concerns

Anyone who is concerned about a young member's welfare, either outside the sport or within the Club, should inform our Club Welfare Officer immediately, in strict confidence. The Club Welfare Officer will follow the RYA procedures.

Any member of the Club failing to comply with the Safeguarding and Child Protection policy may be subject to disciplinary action following a decision taken by the Club Training Principal with the Club Safeguarding Officer and Commodore.