

BOWMOOR SAILING CLUB **SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS** **POLICY**

These guidelines have been produced by the RYA to help our organisation enable children and vulnerable adults to enjoy the sports of sailing, windsurfing and power boating in all their forms, in a safe environment. The original document can be downloaded from the RYA's website, www.rya.org.uk/go/safeguarding , it has been adapted for Bowmoor Sailing Club's use.

Definition of a child

The Children Act 1989 defined any person under the age of 18 as a 'child'. In this document and in day to day communications the terms 'children' and 'young people' are both used, recognising that older teenagers may prefer not to be referred to as 'children' although they are still children in the eyes of the law.

Safeguarding adults

Many of the safeguarding principles in these guidelines also apply to 'vulnerable adults' or 'adults at risk' (Care Act 2014), but the statutory procedures to be followed in the case of a concern are different.

RYA requirements

- RYA Recognised Training Centres (RTCs), including all On Board and Team15 clubs and centres, are required to have a formal safeguarding and child protection policy which is checked as part of their annual inspection. RYA Champion Clubs and Recognised Junior and Youth Class Associations are also required to adopt and maintain a safeguarding and child protection policy.

Principles behind the Policy

- to safeguard children from physical or emotional harm, both on and off the water
- to assure parents that their children are as safe at your organisation as they are when taking part in any other sport or leisure activity
- to raise awareness amongst all of your members, volunteers or employees so that they know what to do if they are concerned about a child, whether the concern relates to:
 - the child's welfare at your site or
 - something happening outside the sport that a child discloses to someone they trust at your club or centre
- to protect coaches, instructors, officials or volunteer helpers by giving them some practical, common sense guidelines to avoid placing

- themselves in situations where they are open to allegations which could seriously damage their lives and careers
- to protect the organisation, by showing that you have taken 'all reasonable steps' to provide a safe environment.

The policy should be adopted by the whole club, and all members should be aware of it, not just those directly involved in children's training and activities. **Safeguarding children and young people is everyone's responsibility** (Statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015).

Code of practice and procedures

These will govern how the organisation runs. This covers:

the safe recruitment of staff/volunteers who will be in contact with children

good practice guidelines to ensure the safety and welfare of children at all times whilst at your site, both on and off the water

handling concerns, reports or allegations

Everyone in the organisation should be aware of the policy and have access to the supporting procedures, and those working with children must be familiar with the procedures.

WHAT TO DO IF CONCERNED ABOUT A CHILD

If you have a concern regarding the safety of a child at Bowmoor Sailing Club please follow the guidelines below.

URGENT CHILD'S LIFE IN DANGER

CALL 999

INFORM THE CLUB
WELFARE OFFICER AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE

NON URGENT

SPEAK TO THE INSTRUCTOR
IN CHARGE OR CONTACT
THE CLUB WELFARE
OFFICER

IF NEITHER OF THE ABOVE
ARE IMMEDIATELY
AVAILABLE USE CONTACTS
BELOW FOR ADVICE AND
INFORM CLUB WELFARE
OFFICER AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE

Please make sure you have as much information as you possibly can

Commodore
07876770513

John Banbrook

commodore@bowmoor.co.uk

Welfare officer
07870557856

Karen Cooke

welfare.officer@bowmoor.co.uk

RYA Safeguarding
02380604104

Jackie Reid

safeguarding@rya.org.uk

Children's Helpdesk Gloucestershire 01452 426565
01452 614184

0800-1700
out of hours

Police
NSPCC

101
0808 800 5000

