



Appendix 11 - Child Protection Policy and Procedures Rev:02/18

Policy Statement

As defined in the Children Act 1989, for the purposes of this policy anyone under the age of 18 should be considered as a child. The policy also applies to vulnerable adults.

It is the policy of RTRC to safeguard children and young people taking part in boating from physical, sexual or emotional harm. The RTRC will take all reasonable steps to ensure that, through appropriate procedures and training, children participating in RTRC 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, race, religion or belief, social status or sexual identity, have a right to protection from discrimination and abuse.

The RTRC actively seeks to:

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

We will:

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

Club Welfare Officer:

The Club Welfare Officer is: Mandy Davis gophervw@yahoo.co.uk tel no 07909772032

Volunteers Recruitment:

All RTRC volunteers whose role brings them into regular contact with young people will be asked to provide references. Depending on the activity and where/when appropriate staff may be required to apply for an enhanced DBS check with Barred List check if appropriate.

Good Practice:

All RTRC members and volunteers should follow the good practice guidelines (Appendix 1) and agree to abide by the code of conduct (Appendix 7). Those RTRC members or volunteers working with young people should also be aware of the guidance on recognising abuse (Appendix 2).

Adults are requested not to enter showers or changing rooms at times when children are changing. If this is unavoidable we recommend that they are accompanied by another adult.

RTRC will seek consent from parents/carers before taking photos or video of a child at a session or publishing such images. This consent is sought as part of the junior and/or RTRC family annual membership form. Parents and spectators should be prepared to identify themselves if requested and state their purpose for photography/filming. If RTRC 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 members welfare, either outside RTRC or within RTRC, should inform the Club Welfare Officer immediately, in strict confidence. The Club Welfare Officer will follow the attached procedures (*Flowcharts 1 and 2*).

Any member of RTRC failing to comply with the Safeguarding policy or any relevant Codes of Conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.