



Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult Procedures and Guidance

Introduction

Warrington Dolphins is fully committed to safeguarding the well-being of its members. All members should show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of others, and conduct themselves in a manner that reflects this.

The Club is affiliated to the BDLSA and the ASA and takes guidance from both associations child and vulnerable adult protection policies and procedures in meeting its duty of care.

Who is a vulnerable person?

Within the swimming, particularly open-water, vulnerable persons may be:

Children who are under 18

Adults with certain learning or physical disabilities or mental health difficulties

Swimmers- particularly those who may have become confused or disorientated as a result of the cold

All those who are in need of, or who are receiving, emergency first aid or medical treatment, or rescue from the water.

It is the intention of the Club to help vulnerable persons (whether children or adults) to protect themselves whilst undertaking Club activities.

BLDSA and ASA Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policies

BDLSA Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy http://bldsa.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/UvuYBM-BLDSA_Child_Vulnerable_Adult_Protection_Policy_FINAL_2008.pdf

ASA Child Safeguarding Policies and Procedures 'Wavepower' <http://www.swimming.org/asa/clubs-and-members/safeguarding-children/>

All club committee members, coaches, helpers and officials working should read the guidance of both policies.

It should be noted that the ASA 'Wavepower' policies and procedures is primarily concerned with the welfare of child members swimming mainly in pool sessions and events. Whilst the BDLSA principally relates to the protection of vulnerable person, children or adults, engaging in outdoor long distance swimming activities. Where there are specific conflicts or differences between the policies and procedures guidance, the Committee will adopt those which it considers to be most befitting the Club activities and interest of its members.

DBS Checks and Safeguarding training

Any person with a core role within the Club who may have unsupervised contact with vulnerable persons or access to personal data, is expected to undertake an enhanced disclosure and barring service check (DBS). Those with a core role includes committee members, safeguarding officers, event organisers, first aid officers, safety boat crew.



There is also an expectation for such persons to undertake approved, appropriate and regular safeguarding training. Currently the training accessed is 'Safeguarding and Protecting Children'. Additionally, the Club safeguarding officers attend 'A time to Listen' training. Both courses are provided by Swim North West. Other training is also deemed to be appropriate if it is considered to have been provided by a reputable organisation and has been quality assured.

Club officials with particular responsibility for the protection of children and vulnerable adults

Club Safeguarding (Welfare) Officer

Barbara Harding

Responsible for putting safeguarding procedures and guidance in place and ensuring these are implemented and regularly reviewed, ensuring that relevant club officials, event organisers and coaches have a DBS check and access appropriate safeguarding training, providing guidance and advice and acting on any areas of concern or poor practice.

The safeguarding officer is the first point of contact for club officials, members or parents for any issues regarding safety and welfare concerns.

Assistant Club Safeguarding (Welfare) Officer

Karen Hodgkins

Responsible for assisting the safeguarding officer in carrying out her responsibilities and for deputising in her absence.

The Club will seek to ensure that a 'named' person responsible for safeguarding will be available at all of its outdoor swimming events.