



Macclesfield and District Canoe Club

Child and Vulnerable Groups Safeguarding Policy

All club coaches, helpers and officials must read and adhere to the MADCC child and vulnerable groups/adult protection policy, and must read and adhere to the BCU policies listed below which are adopted as part of the safeguarding policy.

[SPC- P1](#) : British Canoeing Safeguarding Children Policy (04.03.15)

[SPC- P2](#) : British Canoeing Safeguarding Whistle Blowing Policy (06.07.16)

[SPC- P3](#) : British Canoeing Anti-Bullying Policy (16.03.16)

[SPC- P4](#) : British Canoeing Disclosure Policy (01.07.16)

British Canoeing Code of Ethics ([Ethics Link](#)) (Sept 2016)

If the above links do not work, these documents and additional guidance can be found at:-

<https://www.britishcanoeing.org.uk/guidance-resources/safeguarding/policies-guidance-and-templates/>

The Club will follow the guidance of the MADCC policy in the event of any concerns or allegations.

Macclesfield and District Canoe Club is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all its members.

We **all** have a duty with respect to Safeguarding and Protecting Children to ensure children can participate and enjoy our sport with the highest possible standards of care. These standards apply also to vulnerable groups. All members should show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of others, and conduct themselves in a way that reflects the principles of the Club. All coaches and helpers should have a clear understanding of operating within an appropriate code of ethics, aware of what their 'duty of care' is and how this relates to their position in providing activities and being responsible for others.

We believe that taking part in Paddlesport should be a positive and enjoyable part of children's lives and to achieve this we have the following aims:

- Club coaches and helpers should follow the BCU Code of Ethics
- All coaches and adults helpers /Volunteers having contact with children and venerable adults within the club will be required to undertake a DBS check. The Club will ensure that no one fulfilling a role that meets the eligibly criteria for a Disclosure check will be deployed until a satisfactory check has been returned.
- All Club members are made aware of the Club Code/s of Conduct

- The Club will obtain written medical details of young paddlers which will be made known to coaches, where deemed appropriate and/or necessary.
- The club will encourage and support helpers/volunteers to gain qualifications and assist Coaches to stay up-dated.
- The Club will identify a person whose role it is to deal with any issues concerning Child Protection and Harassment (Club Welfare Officer) and notify this person to all members. Anyone with concerns with respect to Child Abuse or Harassment should contact that person. If that person is unavailable they can contact the Club Chairman or the BCU Child Protection /Harassment Officer.
- MADCC will investigate any claims concerning inappropriate behaviour made by any member of the club.
- Parents/carers of juniors/vulnerable adults who are taking part in club activities such as those involving paddling during the night, or other circumstances deemed appropriate by the club committee, will be
- asked to complete a consent form before such activities can be undertaken.

Good Practice for coaches and helpers:

- Coaches and adult helpers should try, whenever possible, to be within sight others whilst coaching children or vulnerable adults.
- If a paddler requires physical support, coaches/helpers should ask the paddler's permission and, if appropriate, explain what they are doing to the paddler and to their parent or carer.
- Whenever possible, parents/carers will be asked to take responsibility for their children in assisting them to change clothing. If this is not feasible, coaches/helpers should, whenever possible, supervise such situations in pairs.
- Ensure that the nature and intensity of training does not exceed the capacity of a child's/vulnerable person's immature growing body and ability.
- Follow the club guidelines for photography and video and use of social media.
- Whenever possible, a male and a female adult coach/helper should supervise mixed sex groups of juniors/vulnerable adults participating in club trips/events.
- Where there are mixed teams/groups away from home, they should always be accompanied by an adult male and female coach/helper.
- Coaches and adult helpers should not allow physically inappropriate games or language to take place during club activities or events.
- If it is necessary to do things of a personal nature for a child/vulnerable adult, make sure you have another adult accompanying you. Get the consent of the parent/carer

and if possible the child/vulnerable person. Let them know what you are doing and why.

- If you accidentally hurt a child - You should report such an incident immediately to another Club Coach/official and make a written note of it. You should also inform the child's parents/carers, preferably in person.
- Ensure that any claims of abuse by a child/vulnerable person are taken seriously and that it is dealt with by people who know what to do.
- Club members who feel that safeguarding issues cannot be resolved satisfactorily within MADCC are advised to contact the British Canoe Union (contact details below).

If abuse is suspected the first point of contact is the:

Pat Davison: MADCC Club Welfare Officer

Other contact numbers are:

- Cheshire East consultation service 0300 123 5012
- British Canoe Union (England) child protection officer (24h): Mobile: **07734 453430**. Email: **childprotection@britishcanoeing.org.uk** (For use by professionals and people wishing to report incidents outside of office hours)
- Public Protection Unit Referral Unit: 01244 613606/05
- Police Child Protection Unit: 0845 4580000
- NSPCC Helpline: Tel: 0808 800 5000
- Childline: Tel:0800 1111 www.childline.org.uk (Free national 24 hour helpline for children)
- Kidscape: Tel: 0207 730 3300 www.kidscape.org.uk (An organisation committed to help prevent child bullying)

Other useful contacts

- MADCC Chairman: Alan Armstrong
- British Canoeing Lead Safeguarding Officer (England): Kimberley Walsh
Tel: 0115 896 8817 Email: kimberley.walsh@britishcanoeing.org.uk (For enquiries and guidance about British Canoeing Safeguarding policies, documents and processes)
Postal Address: Child Protection, British Canoe Union, National Water Sports Centre, Adbolton Lane, Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham, England, NG12 2LU
- BCU Child Protection Support Officer: Keith Hampton Tel: 07740 820113 (For BCU coaches, volunteers and staff where an allegation has been made against them and they require support).

- For DBS eligibility and Post Office application enquiries Helen Laywood:
Tel: 0115 896 8840 Email: helen.laywood@britishcanoeing.org.uk
- MADCC will review this Policy annually.

Definitions:

Vulnerable Group Definition

“A person who is, or may be, in need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation”

Duty of Care

“The duty which rests upon an individual or organisation to ensure that all reasonable steps are taken to ensure the safety of any person involved in any activity for which that individual or organisation is responsible”

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