



# Safeguarding and Welfare Policy for Infinity Boat Club

## Introduction

Infinity Boat Club is committed to providing a safe, positive, and enjoyable environment for all members, volunteers, and visitors. This Safeguarding and Welfare policy outlines our approach to protecting children, young people, and adults at risk from harm, abuse, or neglect.

This policy complies with guidance from [British Rowing Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy](#), the Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU), and relevant UK legislation.

**Note:** The Term 'Child' and 'Young Person' describe any person under the age of 18. References to 'parents' should be read as parents and carers inclusively.

## Scope

This policy applies to all who take part in our activities, coaches and volunteers, and parents, guardians and carers. It covers activities on and off the water, including training sessions, competitions, social events, and digital/online communications.

## Our Statement

Our organisation acknowledges the duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and complies with best practice and British Rowing requirements.

Infinity Boat Club recognises that the welfare and interest of children and young people are paramount in all circumstances.

We aim to ensure that all children:

- Have a positive and enjoyable experience of sport at Infinity Boat Club in a safe and child centred environment
- Are protected from abuse whilst taking part in rowing or outside of the activity

We acknowledge that some children are more at risk of abuse, particularly those with protected characteristics, for example, a child with a disability, or of a particular race, religion or belief, ethnic background, sex, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, or those in care. Children who are at risk of feeling or being isolated due to their ability are also considered to be at risk of being more vulnerable. We take reasonable and appropriate steps to safeguard their welfare.

## Key Principles

- The welfare of children and adults at risk is paramount.
- All individuals have the right to participate in rowing in a safe and inclusive environment.
- All suspicions or allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately.
- Everyone has a responsibility to safeguard others.

## Roles and Responsibilities

### Club CEO

- Ensure safeguarding is embedded in club culture.
- Approve and review the Safeguarding and Welfare Policy annually.

### Club Welfare Officer (CWO)

- Act as the main safeguarding contact.
- Maintain confidentiality and records.
- Liaise with British Rowing and external agencies.
- Promote safe recruitment, training, and best practice.

### Coaches and Volunteers

- Adhere to safeguarding best practices.
- Maintain appropriate boundaries.
- Complete required training.
- Report concerns immediately.

## Members

- Treat others with respect.
- Report any concerns to the CWO.

## Parents/Guardians

- Support the club in implementing safeguarding measures.
- Ensure children understand behaviour expectations.

## Our Policy

### What we'll do:

As part of our Safeguarding and Welfare Policy, we will:

- Promote and prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children and young people
- Value, listen to and respect children
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements and procedures are in operation
- Adopt safeguarding best practice through our policies, procedures, and code of conduct for staff and volunteers
- Ensure everyone understands their roles and responsibilities in respect of safeguarding and is provided with appropriate learning opportunities to recognise, identify, and respond to signs of abuse, neglect and other safeguarding concerns relating to children and young people
- Provide effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support, training, and quality assurance measures so that all staff and volunteers know about our policies, procedures and behaviour codes and follow them confidently and competently
- Ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents or concerns of abuse and support is provided to the individual(s) who raise or disclose the concern
- Ensure that confidential, detailed, and accurate records of all safeguarding concerns are maintained and securely stored
- Record and store information securely, in line with data protection legislation and guidance.

- Prevent the employment or deployment of unsuitable individuals by recruiting and selecting staff and volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made
- Appoint a nominated safeguarding lead, for children and young people, a deputy and a lead trustee/board member for safeguarding
- Develop and implement an effective online safety policy and related procedures
- Share information about safeguarding and good practice with children and their parents via leaflets, posters, group work and one-to-one discussions
- Make sure that children, young people and their parents know where to go for help if they have a concern

The policy and procedures will be widely promoted and are mandatory for everyone involved at Infinity Boat Club. Failure to comply with the policy and procedures will be addressed without delay and may ultimately result in dismissal or exclusion from the organisation.

## Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed a year after development and then every three years, or in the following circumstances:

- Changes in legislation and/or government guidance
- As required by the local safeguarding partnership or British Rowing
- As a result of any other significant change or event.

**Club Welfare Officer: Michele Holdsworth**

**Email: [Welfare@infinityboatclub.com](mailto:Welfare@infinityboatclub.com)**

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