**Wigtown Bay Coastal Rowing Club (SCI049939) Safeguarding Policy**

Wigtown Bay CRC is affiliated to the Scottish Coastal Rowing Association. The SCRA safeguarding procedures have adopted those of the British Rowing Association. The British Rowing Association incorporates safeguarding procedures in a Codes of Conduct and welfare policy. We subscribe to the importance of a Code of Conduct however this safeguarding policy highlights the key attitudes and actions needed to safeguard the most vulnerable.

**Overarching principles**

* Everyone who participates in coastal rowing is entitled to do so in a safe and enjoyable environment
* We are committed to encouraging everyone in coastal rowing to accept their responsibility to safeguard children and vulnerable adults from harm and abuse.
* This policy and procedure shows the steps in place to ensure that children and vulnerable adults are protected, that concerns are reported, listened to and acted on appropriately.

**Safety – PVG registration**

* WBCRC Board of Trustees have a designated safeguarding officer.

In 2021/22 Vikki Reay-Martin is the designated safeguarding officer.

* WBCRC promotes PVG registration for club volunteers.
* All those who coordinate activity for children under 16 and vulnerable adults shall be PVG registered.

WBCRC’s SCIO constitution recognises that members 16 years and older are empowered with full voting rights. For position of trust legislation the particular vulnerability to peer and hierarchical pressure and imbalance of power is recognised in legislation for those 16 and 17 years old. Young people and children under 16 years are fundamentally subject of child protection legislation.

 **Safe Practices - In general**

* All those who take part in activities for which the club requires insurance, including public liability insurance shall be club members; this could be temporary membership. Club membership need not involve cost to the individual.
* In order to safeguard children, WBCRC obtain written permission from those entitled to give it, and the young person, for membership and for them to take part in any club activity.
* If a young person is to be on the water with other young people there will be adult supervision.
* A young person taking part in activities with the club shall have an adult designated by the person entitled to give written permission, with specific responsibility for supervision of that young person.
* In line with good practice for child physical development, outlined in British Rowing, WBCRC shall not have smaller members, or those under 15 years training with large single oars. Guidance shall be followed to promote children having the opportunity to develop healthy bone structure and musculature.

**Concerned about the conduct of a club member/volunteer?**

Anyone who has a concern about the conduct of a volunteer or club member with regards to adults or children can contact the trustees directly via wigtownbaycoastalrowing@gmail.com

Please give details of the person about whom you have your concerns, the concerning conduct, where and when it took place, and whether the person/people against who the conduct was directed are aware of the report being made.

The trustees will respond to your concerns, make enquiries, and act in line with the club Codes of Conduct.

If conduct is reported that may be criminal, or may reach the threshold for local authority intervention it shall be reported without delay to the police and or the local authority.

All details shall be shared at that time.

**Child Abuse**

The NSPCC provides definitive guidance on various types of child abuse.

Child abuse includes emotional abuse, bullying, physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, cyber bullying, child trafficking, grooming, criminal exploitation and gangs, female genital mutilation, and online abuse. [NSPCC What is Child Abuse?](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/)

Reporting child abuse in Dumfries and Galloway; contact 03033333001 and ask for Children’s MASH

**Adult Abuse**

Dumfries and Galloway’s Warning Signs that an Adult may be subject of abuse.

You might notice that an adult is:

* not dressed or eating properly or not getting medical treatment
* scared, withdrawn or uncomfortable around certain people
* asked to do things or touched in a way they don't like.
* being hit, shaken or hurt or has unexplained cuts and bruises
* giving away money or possessions, confused about their money or is being made to change a will

Reporting a concern for a vulnerable adult in Dumfries and Galloway; contact 03033333001 and ask for the duty social worker.

Out of hours contact 01387 273660 or email socialworkoutofhours@dumgal.gov.uk