

Safeguarding of Children, Young People and Adults at Risk – A Short Guide and Policies for Club Members

Crawley Wheelers is committed to ensuring that children and young people, under the age of 18, involved in our activities can thrive and flourish in a safe environment and that all children, young people and adults at risk have a fun, safe and positive experience.

What does safeguarding actually mean?

Safeguarding is a term used to describe measures that are in place to protect the health and wellbeing of individuals, especially children and other vulnerable groups, to live free from abuse, harm and neglect.

A child or young person is someone under the age of 18 years.

An Adult at Risk refers to people 18 years or over. An Adult at Risk is someone who has needs for care and support; who is experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect; is unable to protect themselves from the risk or experience of abuse or neglect.

What has safeguarding to do with me?

Government guidance makes it clear that

'Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility'.

Anyone who has a negative experience of sport at a young age is less likely to become a regular long-term participant. By getting safeguarding right for both adults and children, we will ensure safe access to participation in sport and physical activity for everyone.

Crawley Wheelers is an affiliated member of British Cycling and follows the British Cycling Safeguarding policies and procedures

which can be found on their website at <https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/safeguarding>

https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/zuvvi/media/bc_files/safeguarding/British_Cycling_Safeguarding_Children_and_Young_People_Policy_2019.pdf

https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/zuvvi/media/bc_files/safeguarding/British_Cycling_Safeguarding_Adults_Policy_2019.pdf

Crawley Wheelers asks our members to familiarise yourself with Safeguarding policies and good practice.

1. Crawley Wheelers Code of Conduct

Adults should always be aware that age related differences exist and conduct themselves in a manner that both recognises this and prioritises the welfare of children and young people.

2. Anti-Bullying

Crawley Wheelers believes that every effort must be made to eradicate bullying in all its forms. The Club will not tolerate bullying in any of its forms whilst participating in any club activity, event or session.

We welcome riders from all levels and backgrounds and call upon our members to promote acceptance, equality and good practice towards each other as well as the wider community.

3. Information for Parents

The Club believes it is primarily the responsibility of parents/carers to transport their child/children to and from events, activities and club sessions, unless alternative arrangements have been made.

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians with their child/children to ensure that the bikes are roadworthy and safe for the activity they are participating in.

4. Changing Rooms

Wherever possible adults will avoid changing or showering at the same time as children, but parents will be made aware that there will be occasions when adults and children may need to share the facilities. Where a parent/carer does not consent to their child accessing the changing rooms, it is their responsibility to either supervise the child while in the changing rooms or ensure that they do not use them.

5. Social Media and Photography

Think very carefully before contacting a young person via mobile phone, e-mail or social media.

Do not accept children as contacts on social networking sites if you hold a position of trust with children/young people.

In general stick to group communications, copy the communication to a parent and only communicate about organisational matters.

Avoid posting photographs of children and young people on social media unless consent from a parent or guardian has been given.

The Club will remove any images from its website or Facebook page upon request to the Committee, where reasonable.

What should I do if I have a concern?

A concern may involve the behaviour of an individual towards a child or adult whilst at the club or involved in a club activity.

A concern may relate to poor practice or something more serious.

You may be worried that something has happened to a child or adult outside the club, at their home or any other social setting.

Children, young people and adults at risk may confide in adults they trust, in a place where they feel comfortable.

An allegation may range from verbal bullying, to inappropriate contact online, neglect or emotional abuse, to physical or sexual abuse.

If you have a concern, it is not your responsibility to investigate further, but it is your responsibility to act on your concerns and share them.

Pass the information to Rachel Lucas Safeguarding Officer who will follow the club's Safeguarding procedures.

Name: Rachel Lucas
Email Address: safeguardingcw@outlook.com

Other useful contacts:

NSPCC 24-hour helpline Tel: 0808 800 5000

Ann Craft Trust – Safeguarding Adults in Sport and Activity Tel:
0115 951 5400

British Cycling Lead Safeguarding Officer 0161 2742000

If you believe someone may be at immediate risk of harm, call the Police or your local Social Care Department 01403229900 or 03302226664 for emergency out of hours team.