

# Cornish Pilot Gig Association

## Policy for Safeguarding and Protecting Children



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*'The Welfare of the child is Paramount'*

## **Policy for Safeguarding and Protecting Children**

The Children Act 1989 defines a child as a person under the age of eighteen (18) for most purposes

### **Introduction:**

**Every Child Matters** was published by the government following the Laming report into the death of Victoria Climbié.

It set out five outcomes which it sets out to achieve for all children. These are:

- Being Healthy: enjoying good physical and mental health and living a healthy lifestyle
- Staying safe: being protected from harm and neglect
- Enjoying and achieving: getting the most out of life and developing skills for adulthood
- Making a positive contribution: being involved with the community and society and not engaging in anti-social behaviour
- Economic well being: not being prevented by economic disadvantage from achieving their full potential

### **Child Protection in Sport Unit: Standards for Safeguarding & Protecting Children in Sport.** The standards have been developed

- to help create a safe sporting environment for children and young people and protect them from harm
- to provide a benchmark to assist those involved in sport to make informed decisions
- to promote good practice and challenge practice that is harmful to children

Every person who takes part in gig rowing has the right to do so in a safe and enjoyable environment, free from judgment and abuse.

The abuse of children, young people and the vulnerable can occur in any environment e.g. home, school and sports clubs. People the child knows and trusts commit the majority of child abuse. Children also disclose abuse to people they know and trust. This could be a member of any of our clubs.

These Policy and Guidance documents apply to all rowers, coaches, volunteers, employees and anyone involved in rowing within the Cornish Pilot Gig Association. All of these people have a duty of care to safeguard the welfare of children and prevent their abuse.

The CPGA is committed to helping everyone in the gig rowing community accept their responsibility to safeguard children from harm and abuse, and to help them to do so.

All CPGA clubs, competitions and associated officials must follow the policies defined in this document, and incorporate them into their constitutions and rules.

## **Policy Statement:**

The CPGA is committed to:

- ensuring the safety and well-being of all young people, children and vulnerable adults and those responsible for their care within the affiliated and associated clubs.
- taking all reasonable steps to protect all club members from discrimination, degrading treatment, harm, bullying or harassment of any form and respecting their differences, feelings, wishes and rights.
- making the welfare of children paramount. This may well supersede the needs and rights of those adults working with them.
- respecting and actively promoting the inclusion of all people regardless of age, gender, sexuality, racial origin, disability, religion or culture - while recognising that children and families from minority group backgrounds may face additional barriers to accessing help and reporting concerns in respect of safeguarding issues.
- taking seriously all suspicions and allegations of poor practice or abuse and responding swiftly and appropriately to them in accordance with current procedures.

## **How will we do this?**

The CPGA is committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of all children, young people and vulnerable adults within its affiliated and associated clubs, and those responsible for their care, by:-

- valuing them, listening to and respecting them.
- involving them in decisions which affect them.
- expecting all affiliated clubs to
  - nominate a suitable person to be a Welfare Officer, who is on the Management Committee of the club.
  - make sure their children and young people are aware of how and where help can be found within their clubs, by publicising contact details of the Club Welfare Officer and NSPCC on posters, leaflets and club website where relevant.
  - recruit volunteers safely, ensuring all necessary checks are made.
  - respond quickly and appropriately to any allegations/concerns of abuse or inappropriate behaviour by anyone including parents, club members, volunteers.
  - share information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving children and their parents/carers appropriately.
- ensuring that the CPGA management:
  - provide all members involved in the coaching of children and young people support through induction, resources and training with Safeguarding and Child Protection workshops.
  - provide ongoing support as needed from the CPGA Welfare Officer.
  - provide regular updates on Government Guidance and legal procedures to clubs as appropriate and timely.
  - adopt a Code of Conduct for all affiliated members.
  - provide effective management and support by monitoring the work of affiliated clubs in terms of this Policy and its procedures.

- monitor and adapt this Policy at regular intervals to ensure that procedures are current and up to date.

### **Other documents:**

CPGA Junior Pack for clubs (to be compiled)\*\*

British Rowing Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy July 2010

Criminal Records Bureau checks. Guidance for volunteering. HM Govt. (due to be updated Oct 2009, but deferred to 2012)

Physical Contact and Young People in Sport guidelines CPSU (Child Protection in Sport Unit) 2005

Standards for Safeguarding & Protecting Children in Sport: CPSU (NSPCC)

### **See also CPGA Policy statements on:**

1. Equity
2. Bullying (to be written 2012)
3. Code of Conduct
4. Safeguarding Vulnerable groups (to be written 2012)

### **CPGA Guidance documents:**

- G1 Terms and abbreviations in use
- G2 The role of the Club Welfare Officer
- G3 The role of the CPGA Welfare officer
- G4 Indicators of Good and Poor practice within clubs
- G5 Code of Conduct for Parents/Guardians, and Consent form
- G6 Code of Conduct for children and young people
- G7 Text and e-mail messaging – Safeguarding guidelines
- G8 Physical contact and young people in rowing
- G9 Safeguarding and photography/video
- G10 Classifications and indicators of abuse
- G11 Receiving, Recording and Reporting suspicions and allegations of abuse + forms
- G12 Procedure for recruiting volunteers & CRB checks + forms
- G13 Useful contact details
- G14 Transport and trips away + forms
- G15 Working with Local Child Safeguarding Boards (LSCBs)

Date of policy Review: October 2012