

SOUTHEND CANOE CLUB

Safeguarding Policy (Adults)



1. Introduction

Southend Canoe Club is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all members. All members should show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of others, and conduct themselves both on and off the water in a way that reflects the principles and policies of the Club.

Taking part in Paddlesport should be a positive and enjoyable experience for all and should take place in a safe environment. The welfare of vulnerable adults is paramount and it is everybody's responsibility to protect vulnerable adults from harm.

A key difference between safeguarding children and adults is an adult's right to self-determination. Ultimately, an adult may choose not to act at all to protect themselves

The Club promotes good practice in paddlesports and related activities in order to reduce situations for the abuse of children or vulnerable adults and to protect Volunteers and others.

The Club takes responsibility for ensuring appropriate supervision and safety on the water. The Club has a responsibility to safeguard and promote the interests and wellbeing of vulnerable adults, to take all reasonable steps to protect them from harm, discrimination, or degrading treatment and to respect their rights, wishes and feelings. Where practical the club will take steps to use safe and appropriate use of social media to communicate with any potential vulnerable person but this is expected to be with the knowledge of and close supervision of their known responsible adult. All club members would be expected to act in accordance our Equality Policy (and not discriminate, bully or harass).

The Club will use the Paddle UK Policy and Procedures (see page 2 for policy links) for child and vulnerable adult protection as guidelines but is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing of all its members without discrimination irrespective of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race or colour, religion or belief, social status, sex and sexual orientation.

If any Club member suspects any form of child/vulnerable adult abuse or feel that as a child they have been abused in any way or wish to raise an incident, they are strongly encouraged to report this to Club Welfare Officer / Chair or any member of the committee.

If no one from the committee is available and the situation is critical, see other contacts below

2. Incident Reporting Procedure

If a concern is raised or an allegation is made against an individual, the Welfare Officer (or in their absence the Club Chair) should speak to the parties concerned with a witness present and keep a record of the meeting, and report as required to British Canoeing.

Depending on the circumstances, it may be considered appropriate for the person(s) who is the subject of the allegation to be suspended from the club while the incident is investigated.

Confidentiality will be maintained at all times with information only being shared as necessary to resolve the issue.

3. Useful Contacts:

SCC Welfare Officer Richard Moore

Email: sccoachingessex@gmail.com

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SCC Co/Chairs Toby Dando / Richard Moore

Email: tobydando71@gmail.com

Paddle UK Safeguarding Lead (For anyone wishing to report a Safeguarding incident or concern).

Susan Hicks, on 01158655354 Email safeguarding@paddleuk.org.uk.

(If calling out of office hours, leave a message and your call will be responded to as soon as possible the next working day.)

ESSEX

Telephone: 0345 603 7630 | online reporting: [safeguarding portal](#)

SOUTHEND

Telephone: 01702 215008 | email: accessteam@southend.gov.uk

THURROCK

Telephone: 01375 511000 | email: Thurrock.First@thurrock.gov.uk

If you are in mental health crisis please contact NHS 111 option 2.

If someone needs immediate medical attention or is at risk of immediate harm or danger call emergency services, 999 or 112.

4. External Resources:

Paddle UK Safeguarding Policies:

[Microsoft Word - P6 Paddle UK - SAFEGUARDING ADULTS POLICY - June 2024 - PD Review.docx](#)

[Safer-Together-Strategy.pdf \(paddleuk.org.uk\)](#)

DECLARATION

Southend Canoe Club hereby adopts and accepts this policy as a current operating practice regulating the actions of members.

Version	Date	Reason for update	Approval	Next Review
1.0	October 24	Original		October 25