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## Safeguarding Policy

The protection of children, young people and vulnerable adults while participating in any sport is of the highest importance. They should be able to take part in a fun, safe environment and be protected from harm.

### **What does this mean to me?**

It is important that all members know what their responsibilities are and read and sign a declaration that they have understood the riding club's Codes of Conducts and Policies and agree to abide by them along with any accompanying associates/spectators. Codes of Conduct and Policies are available to read on the website or with the Secretary at events.

### **Definitions**

#### **A child is defined as:**

Children are defined in the Children Act 1989 as people under the age of 18 years. For the purposes of this Policy the legal definition applies.

The Department for Education defines Safeguarding and Child Protection as:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

## **Statutory Framework**

In order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, Rother Valley Riding Club will act in accordance with the following legislation and guidance:

### England & Wales

- Children Acts 1989 & 2004
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) 1989
- The European Convention on Human Rights 1950
- Police Act 1997
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE, 2018)
- Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006
- Sexual Offences (Amendments) Act 2003
- Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Care Act 2014 - implemented March 2015
- Information Sharing Advice - March 2015
- What to do if you're worried a child is being abused. - March 2015
- Procedures set out by the local Safeguarding Children Boards

## **Members, Competitors and Associates Conduct (Overview)**

### **PLEASE READ FULL CODE OF CONDUCTS**

Everyone should always set a good example when attending events and respect the rights and dignity of all participants, associates and spectators. Participate within the event rules and accept the officials' and judges' judgements. Under no circumstances will the Club tolerate any bullying, voicing of any forms of extremism, or exploitation.

### **Physical Contact**

During the course of clinics and training sessions there may be times in which appropriate physical contact will happen between the instructor and their pupil(s) as part of teaching, improving and furthering their skills.

### **Photography and Images**

No rider should be videoed or photographed without consent.

No pictures or videos should be shared, used for marketing purposes or posted on line without consent (parent or guardian consent if under 18).

The Riding Club will have approved Photographers at events and these will be publicised with the Secretary.

## **E-Safety**

Many members, volunteers and instructors already use sites such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and you have a responsibility to ensure that you have permission from any persons in the images you want to share on these forms of media before doing so.

## **What to do if you are concerned about the Welfare of a Child, Young Adult or Vulnerable Adult**

If you have any concern regarding inappropriate behaviour, safety or the welfare of a child, young person or vulnerable adult, you must report it to your Safeguarding Officer – Mrs Rosemary Redford or Chairperson – Mrs Mary Gillam as soon as possible or the event organiser who will be able to assist you with your concerns. The Safeguarding Officer will investigate the concern.

## **Safeguarding Officer Role or Nominated Official at Event**

The Role of your Club's Safeguarding Officer is to have a good knowledge of their sport and be aware of any particular hazards/dangers. They will be available to support participants, taking time to listen to any concerns, issues or fears and respond appropriately and in accordance with Safeguarding procedures. They will be responsible for taking any concerns forward to the Police or Local Authorities if deemed necessary.

## **Event Organiser**

The Event Organiser will support and advise the Club Safeguarding Officer when dealing with any issues around safeguarding, and ensure that the venues are safe and enjoyable environments for the participants and everyone involved. They will also ensure that all officials and volunteers are fully briefed.

The Policies have been created to support our Riding Club and all its members, ensuring that all members enjoy their sport equally and to protect children, young adults and vulnerable adults. Please see individual Policies for full details and members responsibilities.

