



## **RVRC Anti Bullying Policy**

This policy should be reviewed and updated annually

Name of organisation/club:	RVRC
This policy was last reviewed on:	19 Nov 2024
Date of next review:	Nov 2025
Named Safeguarding Officer:	Hazel Tonge
Contact information:	<a href="mailto:RVRCMEMBERSHIPSEC@GMAIL.COM">RVRCMEMBERSHIPSEC@GMAIL.COM</a>

The organisation or club will:

- Recognise its duty of care and responsibility to safeguard all participants from harm
- Promote and implement this anti-bullying policy
- Seek to ensure that bullying behaviour is not accepted or condoned
- Require all members of the organisation/club to be given information about, and sign up to, this policy
- Take action to investigate and respond to any alleged incidents of bullying
- Encourage and facilitate children and young people to play an active part in developing and adopting a code of conduct to address bullying
- Ensure that coaches are given access to information, guidance and/or training on bullying

**Each participant, coach, volunteer or official will:**

- Respect every child's need for, and rights to, a play environment where safety, security, praise, recognition and opportunity for taking responsibility are available
- Respect the feelings and views of others
- Recognise that everyone is important and that our differences make each of us special and should be valued
- Show appreciation of others by acknowledging individual qualities, contributions and progress
- Be committed to the early identification of bullying, and prompt and collective action to deal with it
- Ensure safety by having rules and practices carefully explained and displayed for all to see
- Report incidents of bullying they see – by doing nothing you are condoning bullying

## **Bullying**

- All forms of bullying will be addressed
- Everybody in the organisation/club has a responsibility to work together to stop bullying
- Bullying can include online as well as offline behaviour
- Bullying can include:
  - physical pushing, kicking, hitting, pinching etc
  - name calling, sarcasm, spreading rumours, persistent teasing and emotional torment through ridicule, humiliation or the continual ignoring of individuals
  - posting of derogatory or abusive comments, videos or images on social network sites
  - racial taunts, graffiti, gestures, sectarianism
  - sexual comments, suggestions or behaviour
  - unwanted physical contact
- Children with a disability, from ethnic minorities, young people who are gay or lesbian, or those with learning difficulties are more vulnerable to this form of abuse and are more likely to be targeted

## **Support to the child**

- Children should know who will listen to and support them
- Systems should be established to open the door to children wishing to talk about bullying or any other issue that affects them
- Potential barriers to talking (including those associated with a child's disability or impairment) need to be identified and addressed at the outset to enable children to approach adults for help
- Children should have access to Helpline numbers
- Anyone who reports an incident of bullying will be listened to carefully and be supported
- Any reported incident of bullying will be investigated objectively and will involve listening carefully to all those involved
- Children being bullied will be supported and assistance given to uphold their right to play and live in a safe environment which allows their healthy development
- Those who bully will be supported and encouraged to stop bullying
- Sanctions for those bullying others that involves long periods of isolation, or which diminish and make individuals look or feel foolish in front of others, will be avoided.

## **Support to the parents/guardians**

- Parents/guardians should be advised on the organisation/club's bullying policy and practice
- Any incident of bullying will be discussed with the child's parent(s)/guardians
- Parents will be consulted on action to be taken (for both victim and bully) and agreements made as to what action should be taken
- Information and advice on coping with bullying will be made available

- Support should be offered to the parent(s) including information on other agencies or support lines

### **Useful contacts**

- NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000
- CPSU (Child Protection in Sport Unit) [www.thecpsu.org.uk](http://www.thecpsu.org.uk)
- ChildLine 0800 1111 / [www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)
- Kidscape [www.kidscape.org.uk](http://www.kidscape.org.uk)
- Anti-Bullying Alliance [www.antibullyingalliance.org](http://www.antibullyingalliance.org)
- BEF Safeguarding Officer 02476 698871
- Information taken from the Child Protection in Sport Unit Website
- BHS Safeguarding Team 02476 840746

Based on BHS Anti Bullying Policy

<https://www.bhs.org.uk/media/sj4dgnnv/antibullying-template-policy-032019.pdf>