



# Beccles Amateur Sailing Club



## Safeguarding Policy Statement and Procedures

For the purposes of this policy and as defined in the Children Act 1989 anyone under the age of 18 should be considered as a child. This policy also applies to vulnerable adults. All members of the Club should be aware of the policy.

### Policy Statement

Beccles Amateur Sailing Club is committed to safeguarding, from physical, sexual or emotional harm, neglect or bullying, children and young people taking part in its boating activities. The club will take all reasonable steps to ensure that, through appropriate procedures and training, children participating in the clubs activities do so in a safe environment. We recognise that the safety, welfare and needs of the child and young adult are paramount and that all children and young adults irrespective of age, disability, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual or gender identity or social status, have a right to protection from discrimination and abuse.

For the purposes of this policy anyone under the age of 18 should be considered as a child. All members of the Club should be aware of the policy.

The Beccles Amateur Sailing Club actively seek to:

- Create a safe environment, both on and off the water, where children can have fun and develop their skills and confidence.
- Recognise that safeguarding children is the responsibility of EVERYONE, not just those who work with children.
- Be prepared to review its ways of working to incorporate best practice.

As a Club we will :

- Treat all children with respect and celebrate their achievements.
- Carefully recruit and select all volunteers.
- Respond swiftly and appropriately to all complaints and concerns about poor practice or suspected or actual child abuse.

### Club Welfare Officer

The designated Club Welfare Officer is: Mary Sparrow

Telephone Number : **01502 712166**

Email Address : [mary@hippersons.co.uk](mailto:mary@hippersons.co.uk)

### Volunteers

Beccles Amateur Sailing Club is a relatively small sailing club, members whose role (eg coaching) brings them into contact with young people are well known and respected members. The Club Welfare Officer and those regularly instructing,



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coaching or supervising young people will be asked to apply for an Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure, with Barred List check if appropriate.

## **Good Practice**

All members of the Club should follow the good practice guidelines attached and agree to abide by the Club Code of Conduct. Those volunteering with young people should be aware of the guidance on recognising abuse (*see Appendix A - What is Child Abuse?*).

It is the policy of the Beccles Amateur Sailing Club that all children 15 years of age or younger shall be under the supervision of a parent or appointed guardian whilst on the club premises, who are responsible for their welfare and behaviour at all times. 16 and 17 years olds can be at the club on their own, but they are still ultimately their parents responsibility.

Beccles Amateur Sailing Club has limited showering and changing room facilities, therefore it is unrealistic to expect adults not to use these facilities at the same time as children. However, a cautious approach should be taken, and adults are requested not to enter the showers and changing rooms at times when children are changing before or after sailing school, training or racing. If this is unavoidable it is advised that they are accompanied by another adult.

Taking photos or videos at the Club or publishing such images is the accepted norm at Beccles Amateur Sailing Club. The Club will seek written consent on the membership form from the child's parents/carers before taking photos or video at an event or training session or publishing such images.

However, all members should be on the lookout for those not familiar to the Club engaged in photography. Parents and spectators should be prepared to identify themselves if requested and state their purpose for photography/filming. If the Club publishes images of children, no identifying information other than names will be included.

We ask that parents join our Facebook Page which is a closed group. Those who do not wish for photographs to be taken of their children are to monitor pictures taken and inform the Club Welfare Officer if their child has accidentally appeared in them.

We also ask that those parents whose children are not to be photographed lookout for those who are taking pictures and kindly ask them to not take pictures of your child(ren).

The Sailing Club is accessible by members of the public due to the public footpath that runs alongside the clubhouse. The Committee and Sailing Club cannot be held accountable for the pictures taken by the public, so we do ask that if you are



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concerned then again, please approach that person and ask them politely not to take photographs of your child(ren).

Any concerns about inappropriate or intrusive photography or the inappropriate use of images should be reported to the Club Welfare Officer.

## **Concerns**

Anyone who is concerned about a young member's welfare, either outside the sport or within the Club, should inform the Club Welfare Officer, Mary Sparrow (Mary) immediately, in strict confidence. The Club Welfare Officer will follow the procedures as outlined in the RYA document Child Protection Policy and Guidelines (a copy is kept in the clubhouse, Safety Manual)

Any member of the Club failing to comply with the Safeguarding policy and any relevant Codes of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary action under the Club Rules.

This policy applies to all contractors and volunteers who work with children or vulnerable adults in the course of their club duties. It will be kept under periodic review.