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Southsea Motor Club Safeguarding Policy



Recognised
Club

Policy prepared by Rowan Corney – November 2023

Agreed and Approved by the Committee – November 2023

Signed  Name SHANE DENNIS Date 21/11/23

Next review: October 2026

Southsea Motor Club Safeguarding Policy

1. Southsea Motor Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of all children involved in Southsea Motor Club from harm. Southsea Motor Club confirms that it adheres to the Motorsport UK Safeguarding Policy and the procedures, practices and guidelines and endorse and adopt the Policy Statement contained in that document and any successor policy.

This policy aims to:

- Clearly demonstrate our commitment to safeguarding children and young people.
- Promote consistent good practice that delivers a safe and positive environment for children and young people
- Provide all staff and volunteers with the necessary information to enable them to meet their safeguarding responsibilities as set out in Government legislation and guidance.

2. This Policy applies to

- Volunteers (e.g. Scrutineers, Marshals, Clerks of the Course, Event Secretaries)
- Children in the club environment (this can include ones who aren't members themselves but are related to the members who may attend events)
- Adults at risk
- Parents and carers of the children in the club environment

3. This policy covers any event organised by Southsea Motor Club, or motorsport activities in which the club's members are participating.

4. The Key Principles of the Safeguarding Policy are that:

- The welfare of the child is, and must always be, paramount to any other considerations.
- All participants regardless of age, gender, ability or disability, race, faith, culture, size, shape, language or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse or harm.
- All allegations or suspicions of abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly, fairly and appropriately.
- Working in partnership with other organisations, statutory agencies, parents, carers, children and young people is essential for the welfare of children.
- Children have a right to expect support, and personal and social development delivered by appropriately recruited, vetted and managed club member(s) in relation to the child's participation in motorsport, whether they are competing, volunteering or officiating in the community or professional areas of the sport.

5. Southsea Motor Club recognises that all children have the right to participate in sport in a safe, positive and enjoyable environment whilst at the same time being protected from abuse, neglect, harm and poor practice. Southsea Motor Club recognises that this is the responsibility of everyone involved, in whatever capacity, at the club.

6. Southsea Motor Club will implement and comply with the Motorsport UK [Safeguarding Children Policy](#)

7. The Club Safeguarding Officer is Keith Shepherd . If you witness or are aware of an incident where the welfare of a child has been put at risk you must, in the first instance,

inform the Club Safeguarding Officer. They will then inform the Motorsport UK Safeguarding Team. If an incident involves the Club Safeguarding Officer you should inform a member of the club committee and the Motorsport UK Safeguarding Team. All concerns relating to the welfare or safety of an individual, especially a child should be reported as soon as possible. Reports can be made via the Safeguarding Referral Form accessible from the Motorsport UK website. To do this go to www.motorsportuk.org > The Sport > Safeguarding > Sharing a concern and complete the form.

When a report is made to the Safeguarding Officer, the Club Safeguarding Officer will follow the appropriate reporting procedure depending on the type of incident reported to them. This is documented on the Motorsport UK website under The Sport > Safeguarding > Sharing a Concern [here](#).

If there are immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please call 999 or contact your local authority.

8. All members of Southsea Motor Club who work with children in Regulated Activity must undertake an Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check in accordance with Motorsport UK policy.

9. Southsea Motor Club will ensure that all its members, whether they are volunteers, parents, competitors or officials will comply with the Child Safeguarding Policy as issued by Motorsport UK. In summary, the following are NOT acceptable and will be treated seriously by the club and may result in disciplinary action being taken by the club or Motorsport UK, plus may be reported to the police where necessary:

- Working alone with a child.
- Consuming alcohol whilst responsible for children.
- Providing alcohol or age restricted items to children or allowing its supply.
- Smoking in the presence of children.
- Humiliating children.
- Inappropriate or unnecessary physical contact with a child.
- Participating in, or allowing, contact or physical games with children.
- Having an intimate or sexual relationship with any child developed as a result of being in a 'position of trust.'
- Making sexually explicit comments or sharing sexually explicit material.
- Bullying and cyber-bullying
- Cyber abuse
- Peer on peer abuse
- Abuse by a person in a position of trust
- Poor practice

This list is not exhaustive and each incident will be treated on a case-by-case basis. See Appendix 2 for details on Categories of Abuse, and Appendix 3 for Definitions of Abuse

10. Race With Respect Within motorsport, a socially-minded standard of behaviour is expected from everyone within the motorsport community. By participating in a Motorsport UK event or Club, in any capacity, you are agreeing to follow the values of the governing body's Respect Code. This can be found on the Motorsport UK website [here](#).

11. Southsea Motor Club will ensure that its volunteers will receive the support and training considered appropriate to their position and role.

Signed  Date 21/11/23

Appendixes:

Appendix 1:

Contact details

Club Safeguarding officer
Keith Shepherd
01489328195

Motorsport UK Safeguarding team
Email: safeguarding@motorsportuk.org

Motorsport UK Compliance Officer
Jennifer Carty
Email: Jennifer.Carty@motorsportuk.org

Motorsport UK Head of Safeguarding
Linda Medicott
Email: Linda.medlicott@motorsportuk.org

Motorsport UK General Secretary
Joel Cohen
Email: Joel.cohen@motorsportuk.org

Appendix two

Four categories of abuse:

Physical abuse

Physical abuse is a form of abuse which may involve hitting, shaking, throwing, poisoning, burning or scalding, drowning, suffocating or otherwise causing physical harm to a child. Physical harm may also be caused when a parent or carer fabricates the symptoms of, or deliberately induces, illness in a child (this used to be called Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy, but is now more usually referred to as fabricated or induced illness).

Emotional abuse

Emotional abuse is the persistent emotional maltreatment of a child such as to cause severe and persistent adverse effects on the child's emotional development. It may involve conveying to a child that they are worthless or unloved, inadequate, or valued only insofar as they meet the needs of another person. It may include not giving the child opportunities to express their views, deliberately silencing them or 'making fun' of what they say or how they communicate. It may feature age or developmentally inappropriate expectations being imposed on children. These may include interactions that are beyond a child's developmental capability, as well as overprotection and limitation of exploration and learning, or preventing the child participating in normal social interaction. It may involve seeing or hearing the ill-treatment of another. It may involve serious bullying (including cyber bullying), causing children frequently to feel frightened or in danger, or the exploitation or corruption of children. Some level of emotional abuse is involved in all types of maltreatment of a child, although it may occur alone.

Sexual abuse

Sexual abuse involves forcing or enticing a child or young person to take part in sexual activities, not necessarily involving a high level of violence, whether or not the child is aware of what is happening. The activities may involve physical contact, including assault by penetration (for example, rape or oral sex) or non-penetrative acts such as masturbation, kissing, rubbing and touching outside of clothing. They may also include non-contact activities, such as involving children in looking at, or in the production of, sexual images, watching sexual activities, encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways, or grooming a child in preparation for abuse (including via the internet). Sexual abuse is not solely perpetrated by adult males. Women can also commit acts of sexual abuse, as can other children.

Neglect

Neglect is the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
- protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care givers) or
- ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs

Indicators of abuse

Physical signs define some types of abuse, for example, bruising, bleeding or broken bones resulting from physical or sexual abuse, or injuries sustained while a child has been inadequately supervised. The identification of physical signs is complicated, as children may go to great lengths to hide injuries, often because they are ashamed or embarrassed, or their abuser has threatened further violence or trauma if they 'tell'. It is also quite difficult for anyone without medical training to categorise injuries into accidental or deliberate with any degree of certainty. For these reasons, it is vital that staff are also aware of the range of behavioural indicators of abuse and report any concerns to the designated safeguarding

lead CSO/DSO who will inform the Head of Safeguarding. It is the responsibility of staff to report their concerns. It is not their responsibility to investigate or decide whether a child has been abused.

A child who is being abused, neglected or exploited may:

- have bruises, bleeding, burns, fractures or other injuries
- show signs of pain or discomfort
- keep arms and legs covered, even in warm weather
- be concerned about changing in front of others
- look unkempt and uncared for
- change their eating habits
- have difficulty in making or sustaining friendships
- appear fearful or withdrawn
- avoid eye contact
- be reckless with regard to their own or other's safety
- self-harm
- frequently miss sessions, arrive late or try to leave activities before they are scheduled to end
- show signs of not wanting to go home
- display a change in behaviour – from quiet to aggressive, or happy-go-lucky to withdrawn
- challenge authority
- become disinterested in their studies or training
- be constantly tired or preoccupied
- be wary of physical contact
- be involved in, or particularly knowledgeable about drugs or alcohol
- display sexual knowledge or behaviour beyond that normally expected for their age
- acquire gifts such as money or a mobile phone from new 'friends'

Individual indicators will rarely, in isolation, provide conclusive evidence of abuse. They should be viewed as part of a jigsaw, and each small piece of information will help the CSO/DSO Head of Safeguarding to decide how to proceed.

Appendix three

Definitions of abuse. This is not an exhaustive list

Child sexual exploitation: A form of Child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or groups of people take advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child into sexual activity in exchange for something the victim needs or wants and/or for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may be sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation can also take place through the use of technology.

Peer-on-peer abuse: Children and young people can be taken advantage of or harmed by adults and by other children. Peer-on-peer abuse is any form of physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse, and coercive control, exercised between children and within children's relationships (both intimate and non-intimate).

Neglect: Ongoing failure to meet the basic needs of children and/or adults at risk. Neglect may involve; failing to provide adequate food, shelter including exclusion from home or abandonment, failing to protect them from physical and emotional harm or danger, or the failing to ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment. It may also include neglect of or unresponsiveness to, basic emotional needs. In an activity setting, it may involve failing to ensure that children and/or adults at risk are safe and adequately supervised or exposing them to unnecessary risks.

Grooming: Grooming is defined as developing the trust of an individual and/or their family for the purposes of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation or trafficking. Grooming can happen both online and in person.

Radicalisation: The process by which a person comes to support terrorism and forms of extremism leading to terrorism. Anybody from any background can become radicalised. The grooming of children and/or adults at risk for the purposes of involvement in extremist activity is a serious Safeguarding issue.

Bullying: Repeated behaviour intended to intimidate or upset someone and/or make them feel uncomfortable or unsafe, for example, name calling, exclusion or isolation, spreading rumours, embarrassing someone in public or in front of their peers, threatening to cause harm, physically hurting someone or damaging their possessions.

Cyberbullying: The use of technology to harass, threaten, embarrass, humiliate, spread rumours or target another person. By definition it occurs among children. When an adult is the victim, it may meet the definition of cyber harassment or cyberstalking. Bullying as a result of any form of discrimination: Bullying because of discrimination occurs when motivated by a prejudice against certain people or groups of people. This may be because of an individual's ethnic origin, colour, nationality, race, religion or belief, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation or disability. Actions may include unfair or less favourable treatment, culturally insensitive comments, insults and 'banter'.

Poor practice: This is behaviour that falls short of abuse but is nevertheless unacceptable. It is essential that poor practice is challenged and reported even where there is a belief that the motives of an individual are well meaning. Failure to challenge poor practice can lead to an environment where abuse is more likely to remain unnoticed. Incidents of poor practice occur when the needs of the child and/or adult at risk are not afforded the necessary priority compromising their welfare, for example, allowing abusive or concerning practices to go unreported, placing them in potentially compromising and uncomfortable situations, failing to ensure their safety, ignoring health and safety guidelines, giving continued and unnecessary preferential treatment to individuals.

Hazing: Any rituals, initiation activities, action or situation, with or without consent, which recklessly, intentionally or unintentionally endangers the physical or emotional well-being of Vulnerable Groups.

Infatuations: Vulnerable Groups may develop an infatuation with a member of Staff who works with them. Such situations should be handled sensitively to maintain the dignity and safety of all concerned. Staff should be aware, that in such circumstances, there is a high

risk that words or actions may be misinterpreted and that allegations could be made against Staff. Staff should therefore ensure that their own behaviour is above reproach. A member of Staff who becomes aware that a Child or Adult at Risk may be infatuated with him/ her, or with a colleague, should discuss this at the earliest opportunity with the Club Safeguarding Officer (CSO) (or Motorsport UK's Head of Safeguarding).

Domestic violence: Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged sixteen or over, who are or have been intimate with partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass but is not limited to psychological, physical, sexual, financial, emotional abuse and so called 'honour' based violence.

Fabricate or induced illness: Fabricated or Induced Illness is easiest understood as illness in a child which is fabricated by a parent or person in loco parentis. The child is often presented for medical assessment and care, usually persistently, often resulting in multiple medical procedures. Acute symptoms and signs of illness cease when the child is separated from the perpetrator.

Private fostering: A privately fostered child is a child under 16 (or 18 if disabled) who is cared for by an adult who is not a parent or close relative where the child is to be cared for in that home for 28 days or more. Close relative is defined as "a grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt (whether of the full blood or half blood or by marriage or civil partnership) or step-parent". A child who is Looked After by a local authority or placed in a children's home, hospital or school is excluded from the definition. In a private fostering arrangement, the parent still holds Parental Responsibility and agrees the arrangement with the private foster carer. A child (as per definition above) placed with a host family for 28 days or more is in a private fostering arrangement and therefore Clubs with host families should inform and work with their local authority ensuring that they meet legislative and local procedural requirements.

Child Criminal Exploitation: County lines is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs into one or more importing areas within the UK, using dedicated mobile phone lines or other form of "deal line". They are likely to exploit children and adults at risk to move and store the drugs and money and they will often use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons. Child Criminal Exploitation is common in county lines and occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, control, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18. The victim may have been criminally exploited even if the activity appears consensual. Child Criminal Exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology. Criminal exploitation of children is broader than just county lines and includes for instance children forced to work on cannabis farms or to commit theft.

'Honour-Based' Violence: violence (HBV) encompasses crimes which have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or the community, including Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), forced marriage, and practices such as breast ironing. All forms of HBV are abuse.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM): FGM is the collective name given to a range of procedures involving the partial or total removal of external female genitalia for non-medical reasons. In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the practice is a criminal offence under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003. The practice can cause intense pain and distress and long-term health consequences, including difficulties in childbirth. FGM is carried out on girls of any age, from young babies to older teenagers and adult women. Many such procedures are carried out abroad and staff should be particularly alert to suspicions or concerns expressed by a girl of any age about going on a long holiday during the summer vacation period.

A Forced Marriage: is a marriage in which one or both spouses do not (or in the case of some adults with learning or physical disabilities or children, cannot) consent to the marriage and duress is involved. Duress can include physical, psychological, financial and sexual pressure. A Forced Marriage is different from an arranged marriage, which is a marriage entered into freely by both parties, although their families take a leading role in the choice of partner. The Antisocial Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 made it a criminal offence (which can result in a sentence of up to 7 years in prison) to force someone to marry. Children may be married at a very young age, and well below the age of consent in the UK which would make it unlawful in relation to a UK citizen. Relevant Club staff receive training and should be particularly alert to suspicions or concerns raised in relation to a young person who is being taken abroad and may be anxious or prevented from returning to the UK.