



Safeguarding Protection Policy – Summary

GWSC Club Safeguarding Officer is:

Sara Collard

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Phone: 07712 898955

Grafham Water Sailing Club follows the guidelines which have been produced by the RYA to enable adults and young people to enjoy the sports of sailing, windsurfing and power boating in all their forms, in a safe environment.

GWSC is committed to safeguarding, from physical, sexual or emotional harm, neglect or bullying, everyone taking part in its activities. We recognise that the safety, welfare and needs are paramount and that all persons, 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.

The club recognises that safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone. GWSC with the RYA actively seeks to:

1. Create a safe and welcoming environment, both on and off the water, where everyone can have fun and develop their skills and confidence.
2. Run RYA-organised training and events to the highest possible safety standards.
3. Treat everyone with respect and celebrate their achievements.

It is important to develop a culture within your organisation where both children and adults feel able to raise concerns, knowing that they will be taken seriously, treated confidentially and will not make the situation worse for themselves or others.

Publishing articles, photos and videos in club newsletters, on websites, in local newspapers etc is an excellent way of recognising people's achievements and of promoting your organisation and the sport as a whole. However, it is important to minimise the risk of anyone using images in an inappropriate way. Before taking photos or video, obtain consent from the parents/carers for their images to be taken and used

Report any concerns to the GWSC Safeguarding Officer who will take control of the matter. Make a record of anything the person has said and/or what has been observed, if possible with dates and times. You may be upset about what the person has said or you may worry about the consequences of your actions. Don't worry, the club will take control and help.

Always:

1. Stay calm – ensure that the person is safe and feels safe.
2. Show and tell the person that you are taking what he/she says seriously.
3. Explain that you will have to tell someone else to help.
4. Make a record of what the person has said as soon as possible after the event, using their own words.
5. Refer to matter to the club's Safeguarding Officer.